

Att: Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Hosseini Khamenei,
The Iranian Supreme Leader

Oslo.
08.02.2023


Arrests and suppression of Unions' leaders and activists in Iran

The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO-Norway) representing around 1.000.000 workers in Norway, condemns the Iranian government's brutal suppression of the teachers and other trade union activists in Iran.

Over the years, especially in recent months, the Iranian government's economic policies have created widespread poverty and misery for the public, especially workers. The situation has created inequality and a class divide. Increasing poverty and suppression of living standards has led to public protests. It is unfortunate that instead of responding appropriately and solving the problems, the government has reacted brutally to the legitimate protests. The government response stands out as widespread repression. One part of the crackdown is the attack on and arrest of well-known union activists, teachers, workers, and many other protesting people.

Protests have erupted across the country and reports of security forces using brutal violence are emerging. Several people have recently been executed and killed by live ammunition. We fear for the safety of the trade unions' activists and are deeply concerned about the deterioration of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The independent Iranian, Norwegian and international labour movements are firm defenders of equality and oppose the imposition of injustices and discrimination against the Iranian unions' activists and people in Iran. LO-Norway supports the demands of the protesters, social movements, and the independent trade unions for the repeal of all unjust and repressive laws that deny the fundamental rights of workers, and for justice for all other victims of the Iranian state's discriminatory policies, and violence. LO-Norway urges the Iranian Government to take measures for the immediate and unconditional release of all workers, trade unionists, and human rights activists from prison; stop repressions of workers and trade unionists, and respect freedom of association and trade union rights under ILO Convention 87 and 98.

Yours sincerely



Mette J Walker, forbundsleder, Skolenes landsforbund

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