



Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Hosseini Khamenei The Iranian Supreme Leader

Your ref.

Our ref.
2018001511-2/870/TOG1

Date:
Oslo, 26.10.2018

Iran Truckers' Strike - Protest letter

The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO-Norway) representing more than 920.000 workers in Norway, are writing to you to protest against the violation of trade union rights in your country.

LO-Norway expresses its concern about the Iranian government's reaction to the latest industrial action by truck drivers. Drivers have been protesting about low and unpaid wages, the high cost of parts (including tyres), and rising costs in the context of a deteriorating economic situation nationally.

There are several members of the independent labour movement in Iran who are harassed and/or in prison, while they have only been engaging in fully legitimate trade union work.

We are also extremely concerned that news emerging from Iran has detailed a large number of driver arrests. Around 150 truck drivers in various provinces have reportedly been detained for participating in the action, with a spokesperson for the judiciary threatening "heavy punishment."

Most seriously we understand that Iran's attorney general, Mohammad Jaafar Montazeri, has suggested that those who initiated the protest actions will be subject to the death penalty, citing a threat to national security.

LO-Norway urge the Iranian Government to take all necessary measures for the immediate and unconditional release of all the arrested truck drivers from prison, and stop repressions of workers and trade unionists and respect freedom of association and trade union rights under ILO Convention 87 and 98.

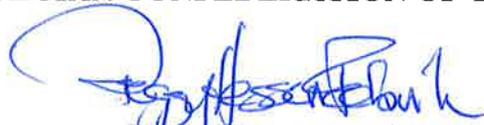
We are extremely concerned by the continuous deterioration in the situation of trade union and fundamental human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. This repression has particularly led to the death or prison of several unionists in Iran.

As long as your Government fails to abide by internationally-recognised trade union and other fundamental workers' rights, as well as by all the obligations deriving from its membership in the International Labour Organisation, the international trade union movement including LO-Norway have no choice but to continue their public campaign against the unacceptable and despicable repression.

We are determined to bring full political and moral support to Iranian workers and their legitimate demands to freedom of association and their rights without fear of arrest or other harassment.

Yours sincerely

THE NORWEGIAN CONFEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS



Peggy Hessen Følsvik
1st Vice President

Copy:

President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hassan Rouhani
The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Oslo
The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Teheran
The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)