

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

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on recent executions of minors by the Iranian authorities

Lapse date: 1.5.2006

Written declaration on recent executions of minors by the Iranian authorities

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas promotion of respect for human rights by the EU and its Member States should be one of the cornerstones of its external policy,
- B. whereas the human rights situation in Iran has steadily deteriorated over the last three years,
- C. whereas the execution of minors is in direct contravention of Iran's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child,
- D. whereas the Iranian judiciary has failed to respect its commitments regarding the non-execution of minors and, in several documented cases, tried to dissimulate the real age of the executed minors and/or fabricate justifications for capital punishment,
- E. whereas resistance to attacks by the Iranian militias, political dissidence, sexual orientation and membership of ethnic minorities – in particular the Arab ethnic minority – have been decisive factors in the passing of death sentences,
- F. whereas Nazanin is a minor condemned to execution for killing a member of the Iranian militia that tried to rape her,
 1. Calls on the Iranian authorities to cancel the death sentence passed against Nazanin immediately and to give her the right to a fair trial; decides to make all its relations with Iran conditional upon ending the practice of executing minors;
 2. Calls on the Commission and the Council to assist and encourage respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms, including juvenile, women's, homosexual and minority rights, in Iran;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the Member States.