

**Question for written answer E-000747/2024**

**to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Systematic human rights violations in Iran, with a focus on the plight of women: a call to step up EU diplomatic engagement and support regime change

The nationwide uprising in Iran from September 2022 to March 2023 highlighted the extreme brutality of the misogynistic regime, particularly targeting female students and activists. The world marvelled at the extraordinary courage and resilience of the Iranian women standing against the oppressive forces of Iran's ruling regime.

The Iranian regime's enforcement of oppressive dress codes and the harsh punishment for non-compliance are well documented, reflecting a broader pattern of gender-based discrimination and violence.

The significant increase in the execution of women in Iran in 2023, surpassing previous records, indicates a disturbing escalation in state-sponsored violence against women.

Bereaved mothers have sought justice for their fallen children, turning the solemn occasions of their memorials into opportunities for resistance. Dozens have faced arrest. Female political prisoners have displayed exceptional resistance and bravery, even in chains, inspiring a widespread fight for freedom despite the regime's attacks.

Given this:

1. How can the EU utilise its diplomatic influence to support Iranian women's quest for freedom and democracy?
2. What measures can the EU take to ensure that its stance on regime change in Iran is aligned with the promotion of democracy, human rights and the safety of Iranian citizens, especially women?

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