



Socialist International Women

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RESOLUTION ON IRANIAN WOMEN

WOMEN, LIFE, FREEDOM

On September 13th, 22-year-old Kurdish girl **Mahsa** (who's true, forbidden Kurdish name is **Zhina**), **Amini**, who travelled to Tehran to meet her relatives, was arrested by Iran's Morality Police because she was not wearing the veil properly. After her arrest, Mahsa Zhina Amini ended up in coma as a result of the beatings received and died in police custody.

This was the beginning of a wave of protests in Iran with girls and women chanting aloud "**women, life, freedom**", a Kurdish slogan against the Morality Police and the compulsory veil but developed into a request for more radical changes: the regime change. These peaceful protests have been expanding since the day of Zhina's femicide across the country without any break, growing rapidly.

The protests all over the country are led by the young generations, mainly girls and young women who suffer more and are the main victims of the regime's fierce repression: schoolgirls aged 10-14 are threatened, abused and beaten inside schools by the Moral Police. There are reports that girls aged 15, 16 are raped inside prisons to be silenced or killed by the Morality Police which, instead, reports that they have committed suicide.

The movement of protest of these weeks is different from all those that preceded it, strengthened in the villages and small towns that usually have not joined the planned protests. The violence of the response of the security apparatus of the regime is showing its weakness and its inability to control, to dominate the rebellion: for the regime there can be no dialogue, only repression and death.

Two months after the death of Masha Zhina Amini, dozens of minors have been murdered according to Unicef; Iran Human Rights reports thousands of arrested, hundreds of victims, even death sentences as requested and voted on by Iran's parliamentarians. Many teenagers and children and a large number of students are among them.

The Iranian Islamic regime must immediately stop using violence against protesters, must end the killing, kidnapping, rape and torture of prisoners. The use of brutal violence against civil society and ordinary people on the street, activists, lawyers, journalists and university students must stop. The injured prisoners' access to medical treatment must be guaranteed. The safety of students in schools and universities must be respected. The use of bullets by military forces in confrontation with protesters on the streets cannot be permitted. Massacre of Kurds in Iranian Kurdistan must be stopped.

Freedom of choice, freedom of expression must be respected by all countries that have signed the international Charter of Human Rights, including Iran. The peaceful protests of the Iranian people do not deserve to be answered with a bullet. International community and institutions must express their solidarity with Iranian women in their fight for respect, freedom, democracy: selling arms and give support in any form to the Iranian regime must be stopped immediately.

Iranian women are presenting a great example in fighting for their freedom and teaching a lesson to the world. We must learn from them to have such courage as to risk their lives for freedom. The same courage must guide us in the battle for women's freedom and self-determination, in order to revive our democracies, combat inequalities, and promote and protect human rights.

The Kurdish motto "Women, life, freedom" must be our daily motto all over the world.
