

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION
SECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
RESOLUTION

1 RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association encourages the US Government and
2 the international community to deplore and condemn persistent and intensified violations
3 of human rights committed by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, specifically:
4

- 5 1) the continued use of capital punishment, including but not limited to political
6 offenses, drug-related crimes, and other offenses that do not meet the international
7 standard of "most serious crimes";
 - 8 2) the practice of torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment of
9 prisoners;
 - 10 3) the ongoing persecution of religious and ethnic minorities;
 - 11 4) the systematic discrimination against and oppression of women, amounting to
12 gender apartheid;
 - 13 5) the persecution and oppression of Iran's LGBT+ community, including the
14 criminalization of consensual same-sex relationships;
 - 15 6) the persecution of lawyers, human rights defenders, and civil society activists;
 - 16 7) the suppression of freedoms of expression, association, religion, and peaceful
17 assembly;
 - 18 8) the denial of fair trial rights;
- 19

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the ABA urges the United Nations and other foreign
21 governments to open pathways for international justice and accountability, consistent with
22 ABA House of Delegates Resolution 04A103A; and
23

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the ABA urges the United Nations, Organization of Islamic
25 Cooperation, and foreign governments to continue to pressure the Government of the
26 Islamic Republic of Iran to respect human rights, including but not limited to the following
27 measures:
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- 29 1) supporting international efforts to investigate and address human rights abuses in
30 Iran;

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- 31 2) supporting the work of Iranian lawyers, human rights defenders, and civil society
- 32 organizations;
- 33 3) ensuring that human rights considerations are incorporated into any agreements
- 34 with Iran.

REPORT

I. Introduction

In August 1989, the American Bar Association House of Delegates passed Resolution 89A202, which addressed serious human rights violations in the Islamic Republic of Iran.¹ Over the past 35 years, the concerns articulated in the 1989 resolution, including extrajudicial executions, torture, the persecution of religious minorities, and the denial of rights to a fair trial, remain acute. Furthermore, the human rights trajectory in Islamic Republic of Iran has deteriorated, with additional challenges emerging and certain groups experiencing intensified persecution. The current state of affairs in Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) and the increased scope of its human rights violations have prompted the need for this updated Resolution.

The need for this Resolution is underscored by recent events and the ABA's ongoing commitment to human rights and the rule of law globally. In observance of the International Day of the Endangered Lawyer in January 2024, ABA President Mary Smith said in a formal statement that "[t]he focus for 2024 is the alarming situation in Iran,"² noting that since September 2022, 66 lawyers had been arrested and detained for providing legal representation to individuals detained by Iranian security forces during human rights demonstrations.³

On February 5, 2024, the ABA formally condemned the practice of gender apartheid,⁴ drawing particular attention to its incorporation into Iran's criminal code.⁵ On January 20, 2023, ABA President Deborah Enix-Ross issued a Presidential Statement condemning the reaction by the IRI to the protests over the death of Jina Mahsa Amini.⁶ In addition to the Presidential Statements, the American Bar Association International Law Section has held multiple events focusing on the escalating repression in the IRI.

II. Background

¹ Resolution 89AM202 ("Report To The House Of Delegates"), submitted by the American Bar Association Section of International Law and Practice, Standing Committee on World Order Under Law, and Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities.

² Statement of ABA President Mary Smith re: International Day of the Endangered Lawyer, January 24, 2024

³<https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/ijudiciary/statements/20240122-statement-sr-ijl-day-endangered-lawyer.pdf>

⁴ Resolution 24MY403, adopted February 5, 2024.

⁵ "First, racial apartheid and gender apartheid are two sides of the same ugly coin. As former United Nations Special Rapporteur Karima Bennouna explains, '[g]ender apartheid is a hierarchical system that maintains the inferiority of women and the superiority of men, not simply their equal separation.' (<https://hrir.law.columbia.edu/files/2022/12/Bennouna-Finalized-12.09.22.pdf>, p. 25) This is most obvious in the Iranian criminal code, which includes 'the principle that the value of a woman is one-half of the value of a man.' (<https://theconversation.com/unrest-across-iran-continues-under-states-extreme-gender-apartheid-183766>; see <https://msmagazine.com/2023/03/14/iran-women-revolution-gender/>)" Resolution 24MY403 Report, p. 4.

⁶ Statement of ABA President Deborah Enix-Ross Re: Iranian government's treatment of lawyers, protestors, January 20, 2023, <https://www.americanbar.org/news/abanews/aba-news-archives/2023/01/aba-president-statement-re-iran-protests/>

In the 35 years since the adoption of Resolution 102, the Islamic Republic of Iran has remained a significant concern for human rights. Despite intermittent periods of reform and brief moments of optimism, the overall trajectory has been marked by persistent repression and widespread violations of fundamental rights. The country's governing structure, which concentrates ultimate authority in an unelected Supreme Leader and other powerful unelected bodies, continues to impose severe restrictions on political freedoms and civil liberties.

Restrictions on Freedom of Expression, Association, and Assembly

The IRI authorities exert strict control over civil society, imposing severe restrictions on freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly. Journalists, bloggers, and social media users are frequently subjected to arrest and prosecution for expressing dissenting views or criticism of the government. Independent civil society organizations and labor unions are effectively prohibited from operating, while peaceful protesters routinely encounter violent repression by state forces.⁷

Digital Rights and Surveillance

The IRI Government's control over digital spaces has intensified significantly in recent years.⁸ Internet shutdowns are regularly employed to suppress dissent, particularly during periods of protest. One notable example was during the 2019 Aban (November) protests, where under the cloak of digital darkness, the Government began a "systematic attack" against its own citizens across several provinces and an independent panel of lawyers concluded that these actions amounted to crimes against humanity.⁹ Civil society organizations continue to ask for digital surveillance equipment to be kept out of the IRI given its nefarious purposes of cracking down on dissent.¹⁰

Persecution of Lawyers and Human Rights Defenders

The ABA is aware of the persecution of lawyers and Human Rights Defenders in the IRI and has made efforts to raise further awareness on this issue.¹¹ Saleh Nikbakht, the

⁷ Freedom House, "Freedom in the World 2023" <https://freedomhouse.org/country/iran/freedom-world/2023> (accessed October 11, 2024).

⁸ Shahram Akbarzadeh, et al, "Cyber Surveillance and Digital Authoritarianism in Iran" March 14, 2024, <https://www.globalpolicyjournal.com/blog/14/03/2024/cyber-surveillance-and-digital-authoritarianism-iran>. Sophie Bushwick and Tulika Bose, "What You Need to Know about Iran's Surveillance Tech" Scientific American, November 4, 2022, <https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/what-you-need-to-know-about-irans-surveillance-tech/>

⁹ Aban Tribunal, "Final Judgment" para 32 and paras 432 – 553, November 1, 2022, <https://abantribunal.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Aban-Tribunal-Final-Judgment.pdf>

¹⁰ Justice for Iran, "Urgent need for EU legislative action to keep European surveillance tech out of Iran" January 23, 2023, <https://justice4iran.org/16629/>. Joseph Wilde-Ramsing, et al, "Caught on camera: How CCTV tech contributes to human rights abuse in Iran" SOMO, January 30, 2023, <https://www.somo.nl/caught-on-camera-how-cctv-tech-contributes-to-human-rights-abuse-in-iran/>

¹¹ ABA International Law Section, "The International day of the Endangered Lawyer 2024: Iranian Lawyers-Risking Their Licenses, Their Liberty, and Even Their Very Lives" January 24, 2024,

lawyer for Jina Mahsa Amini's family was sentenced to one year for "propaganda activities" against the IRI and for "cooperation with hostile States."¹² Days after the election of President Masoud Pezeshkian, Mohsen Borhani an outspoken lawyer who publicly criticized the way the government handled the protests was arrested. He was released after 79 days in detention.¹³ In August 2024, IRI authorities issued a summons for 76-year-old human rights lawyer, Mohammad Seifzadeh for signing a joint letter with other activists asking the UN to stop executions in Iran.¹⁴ There are many other cases of lawyers being unjustly detained and persecuted for doing their duties as lawyers.

Arbitrary Detention and Enforced Disappearances

The practice of arbitrary detention remains pervasive in Iran, with individuals frequently held for prolonged periods without charge or trial. One stark example of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearances on a massive scale took place during the November 2019 protests.¹⁵ Of particular concern is the detention of dual nationals and foreign citizens, who are often used as leverage in international negotiations.¹⁶ Reports of enforced disappearances, where individuals are detained by state agents and their whereabouts are concealed, continue to surface.

Torture and Ill-Treatment of Prisoners

Torture has been a common method employed by the IRI since the 1980s to quash dissent and suppress any form of activism by people within the country.¹⁷ Persistent reports indicate that torture and cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment continue to occur in Iranian prisons and detention centers.¹⁸ The methods employed include physical abuse, psychological torment, and the deliberate denial of necessary medical care. Of

https://www.americanbar.org/groups/international_law/resources/on-demand/international-day-of-the-endangered-lawyer-2024-iran/

¹² OMCT, "Iran: Lawyers increasingly criminalized for defending imprisoned protestors" January 24, 2024, <https://www.omct.org/en/resources/statements/iran-lawyers-increasingly-criminalised-for-defending-imprisoned-protestors>

¹³ Iran Wire, "Prominent Iranian Lawyer Released after 79 Days" September 24, 2024, <https://iranwire.com/en/news/134246-prominent-iranian-lawyer-released-after-79-days/>

¹⁴ Center for Human Rights in Iran, "Ruthless Retaliation: Human Rights Lawyer Summoned to Prison Amid Heart Problems" August 14, 2024, <https://iranhumanrights.org/2024/08/ruthless-retaliation-human-rights-lawyer-summoned-to-prison-amid-heart-problems/>

¹⁵ Amnesty International, "Iran: Thousands arbitrarily detained and at risk of torture in chilling post-protest crackdown" December 16, 2019, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2019/12/iran-thousands-arbitrarily-detained-and-at-risk-of-torture-in-chilling-post-protest-crackdown/>.

¹⁶ See Carla Ferstman, Marina Sharpe, Iran's Arbitrary Detention of Foreign and Dual Nationals as Hostage-taking and Crimes Against Humanity, *Journal of International Criminal Justice*, Volume 20, Issue 2, May 2022, Pages 403–435, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jicj/mqac011>

¹⁷ See, Iran Tribunal, a victim led initiative, which featured the testimony of victims and survivors from the 1980's, documented by a Truth Commission: <https://irantribunal.com/sessions/truth-commission/truth-commission-coverage-summary-report/> and the Judgement of the People's International Court of Iran: <https://irantribunal.com/sessions/court/the-judgement/> released in February 2013.

¹⁸ United States Institute of Peace, "Report: Iran's Torture, Sexual Assaults & Killings" January 12, 2024, <https://iranprimer.usip.org/blog/2024/jan/12/report-iran%E2%80%99s-torture-sexual-assaults-killings>

particular concern is the use of prolonged solitary confinement, often compounded by other forms of mistreatment.¹⁹

Denial of Fair Trial Rights

Several organizations and the US State Department have documented the lack of fair trial processes within the IRI. The Criminal Procedure Code in the IRI “prescribes the rights of detainees to be informed of their rights, access to legal counsel, challenge the lawfulness of detention, remain silent, not incriminate themselves and have recourse to complain about unlawful detention or torture or other ill-treatment during arrest or detention.”²⁰ After the Women Life Freedom protests began, sham trials were documented by civil society groups. Amnesty International reported, “Authorities have barred individuals from accessing any lawyers during the investigation phase and have also barred independently appointed lawyers from attending trial hearings and accessing their clients’ casefiles. The authorities have also fast-tracked capital cases, with courts using torture-tainted “confessions” to issue convictions.”²¹

Use of Capital Punishment

The IRI remains among the world’s foremost practitioners of capital punishment, second only to China in the number of executions conducted each year. The death penalty in the IRI is imposed for a broad range of offenses, including drug-related crimes, political charges, and other acts that do not meet the international standard of “most serious crimes,” as defined under international law.²² Particularly troubling is the execution of individuals who were minors at the time of the alleged offenses, a practice that constitutes a clear violation of international legal norms prohibiting the use of the death penalty against juveniles.²³ In 2023, the United Nations High Commissioner, Volker Turk, expressed his extreme concern about the high number of executions taking place in the country, noting “we also have recurring concerns about the lack of due process and fair trial standards in many of these cases. Several executions were carried out with neither the prisoner’s family nor legal counsel being informed.”²⁴ Currently, indications point to 2024 becoming the year with the most executions taking place, with “at least 100 people executed in August and at least 402 people were executed in the first eight months of

¹⁹ See Kian Tajbakhsh, “Iran has become a prison” The Atlantic, November 1, 2022, <https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2022/11/iran-mahsa-amini-protest-evin-prison-fire/671950/>

²⁰ Dr. Mohammad Nayyeri, “Treatment of Prisoners and Detainees” Report Prepared for Aban Tribunal, October 16, 2021, https://abantribunal.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Aban_Expert-Report_MNayyeri.pdf

²¹ Amnesty International, URGENT ACTION: Risk of Protest Related Executions After Unfair Trials, May 22, 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/8077/2024/en/>

²² United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, Death penalty: The International framework, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/topic/death-penalty/international-framework>

²³ IHRNGO, “Juvenile Offender Executions in 2022” July 19, 2023, <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/6126/>,

²⁴ United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, “Iran: Alarming high number of executions in a short period of time” August 9, 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-briefing-notes/2024/08/iran-alarming-high-number-executions-short-period-time>

2024.”²⁵ The sharp increase in executions have prompted international experts to call for a moratorium on the death penalty in the IRI.²⁶

Persecution of Religious and Ethnic Minorities

There is a lack of international attention and awareness regarding the treatment of minorities in the IRI regarding religious and ethnic minority groups. The repression against religious and ethnic minority groups in the IRI have been present since 1979 and arguably constitute genocide in some cases.²⁷ Religious and ethnic minorities in Iran continue to endure systematic discrimination and persecution. The Baha’i community, the largest non-Muslim religious minority in the country, is subject to especially severe repression, including arbitrary arrests, confiscation of property, and denial of access to higher education.²⁸ Other religious minorities, such as Christians, Jews, Sunni Muslims, and Sufi practitioners, similarly face varying degrees of discrimination and restrictions on their right to freely practice their faith. In June 2024, a regional court in the IRI sentenced eight people to a total of 45 years in prison for converting to Christianity.²⁹ Ethnic minorities, including Kurds, Ahwazi, and Baluchis, frequently encounter additional layers of discrimination, compounding the broader human rights violations they face within the Iranian state. These same minority groups are overrepresented in death penalty statistics.³⁰ In August 2024, the UN International Fact-Finding Mission on the IRI published a policy paper on minority rights violations since the Women Life Freedom protests. The Fact-Finding Mission stated, “ethnic and religious minorities were victims of violations of international human rights law and crimes against humanity under international criminal law.”³¹

Gender Apartheid

²⁵ IHRNGO, “100 Executions Recorded in August in Iran; at least 402 executed in 2024” September 3, 2024, <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/6896/#>.

²⁶ United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, “Iran: UN experts alarmed by surge in executions, demand moratorium on death penalty” September 2, 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/09/iran-un-experts-alarmed-surge-executions-demand-moratorium-death-penalty>

²⁷ Javaid Rehman, “Atrocity Crimes and grave violations of human rights committed by the Islamic Republic of Iran (1981 -1982 and 1988)” July 17, 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/07/iran-atrocity-crimes-must-be-investigated-and-perpetrators-prosecuted-says>

²⁸ See Human Rights Watch, “The Boot on My Neck” April 1, 2024, <https://www.hrw.org/report/2024/04/01/boot-my-neck/iranian-authorities-crime-persecution-against-bahais-iran>

²⁹ Article 18, “Eight Christians sentenced to combined 45 years in prison” June 18, 2024, <https://articleeighteen.com/news/14877/>

³⁰ Amnesty International, “Iran executes 863 people in eight-year high amid relentless repression and renewed ‘war on drugs’” April 4, 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/04/iran-executes-853-people-in-eight-year-high-amid-relentless-repression-and-renewed-war-on-drugs/#>. Iran International, “Iran Executes 67 in May, Targeting Ethnic Minorities and Juveniles” June 3, 2024, <https://www.iranintl.com/en/202406034451>

³¹ Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Islamic Republic of Iran, “They have dehumanized us” Minority rights violations during the “Women, Life, Freedom” movement in the Islamic Republic of Iran, August 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffm-iran/index>

The systematic discrimination against women and girls in the IRI has reached such an extreme level that it constitutes gender apartheid. This crime is reflected in laws mandating the wearing of the hijab, restrictions on participation in public and political life, and legal provisions that treat females as inferior to males in areas such as marriage, divorce, child custody, and inheritance.³² There is now a larger movement within the international community to codify gender apartheid as a crime against humanity.³³

LGBT+ Rights

Consensual same-sex relations remain criminalized in Iran, with punishments that include the death penalty. The absence of legal protections, coupled with pervasive societal stigma, compels many LGBT+ individuals to either conceal their identities or seek refuge outside the country.³⁴ Violence and discrimination against LGBT+ Iranians is promoted and legitimized.³⁵ In 2023, 6 Rang, a civil society organization which focuses on LGBT+ rights, issued a report on “reparative therapy” also known as “gay conversion therapy” and found that while reparative therapy continues to be legal in Iran, “reparative therapy has become normali[z]ed in society due to lack of up-to-date teaching at universities, lack of independent media, governmental pressure, existing societal prejudice, the misperception of queer people being diseased.”³⁶

Transnational Repression

The IRI’s repression of its citizens is not confined to its borders. More and more reports have indicated numerous amounts of threats and attacks against Iranians in the diaspora and living in exile that are constantly having to second guess their security. In a recent interview, Matt Jukes, head of counter-terrorism policing at London’s Metropolitan police stated that “the UK had foiled 15 plots by Iran to either kidnap or kill UK based individuals that Iran regards as enemies of the regime.”³⁷ Even when the IRI cannot silence critics abroad, the regime targets family members in Iran.³⁸ The US and UK have taken joint action in imposing targeted sanctions on individuals who have targeted foreign dissidents

³² Shadi Sadr, “Iran’s Hijab and Chastity Bill Underscores the Need to Codify Gender Apartheid” April 11, 2024, <https://www.justsecurity.org/94504/iran-hijab-bill-gender-apartheid/>

³³ Gissou Nia, “Gender apartheid is a horror. Now the United Nations can make it a crime against humanity” New Atlanticist, October 5, 2023, <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/gender-apartheid-is-a-horror-now-the-united-nations-can-make-it-a-crime-against-humanity/>

³⁴ Khosro Kalbasi Isfahani, “Iran protests: LGBTQ community rises up” BBC April 18, 2023, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-64864132>

³⁵ Olivia Norbury, “Queer Resistance to Oppression: The Rising Voices of LGBTQ+ Resitance in Iran” Retrospect Journal, January 4, 2024, <https://retrospectjournal.com/2024/04/01/queer-resistance-to-oppression-the-rising-voices-of-lgbtq-resistance-in-iran/>

³⁶ 6 Rang, “Straight Jacketed Identities Reparative Therapy in Systematic Medical Abuse of Iran’s LGBT+ People” 2023, pg 4, <https://6rang.org/english/research-reports/>

³⁷ Manisha Ganguly, “Iranian activists across Europe are targets of threats and harassment” The Guardian, September 22, 2023, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/sep/22/iranian-activists-across-europe-are-targets-of-threats-and-harassment>

³⁸ Id.

and “regime opponents for assassination at the behest of Iran’s Ministry of Intelligence and Security.”³⁹

Conclusion

The updated Resolution can serve as a vehicle to put the weight of the ABA behind other established mechanisms which are attempting to prevent further escalations of violence against Iranian citizens.⁴⁰ The drafter of the 89A202 resolution wrote: “The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has manifested a profound contempt for human rights and the rule of law” and to date repression continues within the country towards innocent civilians. Three and a half decades later, we echo their sentiments completely.

Respectfully submitted,

Yee Wah Chin, Chair
International Law Section

August 2025

³⁹ US Department of State “Taking Actions to Combat the Iranian Regime’s Transnational Repression” Press Statement, January 29, 2024, <https://www.state.gov/taking-actions-to-combat-the-iranian-regimes-transnational-repression/>

⁴⁰ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN Fact Finding Mission on the Islamic Republic of Iran, “Open letter to the Islamic Parliament of Iran on the occasion of the opening of its 12th session” May 27, 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/ffmi-iran/ffm-iran-letter-majilis-27-05-2024.pdf>

GENERAL INFORMATION FORM

Submitting Entity: International Law Section

Submitted By: Yee Wah Chin, Chair

1. Summary of the Resolution(s). This Resolution encourages US and international governments to prevent and stop the ongoing and intensified human rights violations by the Government of Iran, including the use of capital punishment for non-serious crimes, torture, persecution of minorities, gender apartheid, LGBTQI oppression, persecution of civil society activists, suppression of fundamental freedoms, and denial of fair trials. The ABA calls on Iran to cease these abuses, comply with international human rights law, and urges the U.S. government to support efforts to address these violations, including through international investigations and incorporating human rights considerations into diplomatic negotiations.
2. Indicate which of the ABA's Four goals the resolution seeks to advance (1-Serve our members; 2-Improve our Profession; 3-Eliminate Bias and Enhance Diversity; 4-Advance the Rule of Law) and provide an explanation on how it accomplishes this. This Resolution seeks to advance the rule of law, given the horrific conditions in Iran's judicial system. As the resolution highlights, various cross sections of people in Iran are being subjected to violations of due process of law, inability to have legal representation, subjected to death penalty.
3. Approval by Submitting Entity. The International Law Section Council approved sponsorship of this Resolution on March 28, 2025.
4. Has this or a similar resolution been submitted to the House or Board previously? Yes, in 1989 the ABA adopted the following (89A202) regarding Iran: https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/international_law/blank-et-authorities/human-rights-iran.pdf.
5. What existing Association policies are relevant to this Resolution and how would they be affected by its adoption? 89A202, which this Resolution updates; 24M403, gender apartheid included as one of the specified violations committed by the Islamic Government of Iran.
6. If this is a late report, what urgency exists which requires action at this meeting of the House? N/A
7. Status of Legislation. (If applicable) N/A

8. Brief explanation regarding plans for implementation of the policy, if adopted by the House of Delegates. After policy adoption, we would like to encourage the ABA to continue engaging on this issue with further programming, Presidential statements, letters, and other types of participation in international advocacy consistent with the resolution.

9. Cost to the Association. (Both direct and indirect costs) None.

10. Disclosure of Interest. (If applicable) None.

11. Referrals.

(List ABA entities and use proper names. For a list of all entities click [here](#).)

Criminal Justice Section

Center for Human Rights

Standing Committee on Law and National Security

12. Name and Contact Information (Prior to the Meeting. Please include name, telephone number and e-mail address). *Be aware that this information will be available to anyone who views the House of Delegates agenda online.*

Yee Wah Chin, Chair, International Law Section

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(202) 213-3143

13. Name and Contact Information. (Who will present the Resolution with Report to the House?) Please include best contact information to use when on-site at the meeting. *Be aware that this information will be available to anyone who views the House of Delegates agenda online.*

Joseph Raia, International Law Section Delegate to the HOD

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY1. Summary of the Resolution.

This Resolution encourages US and international governments to prevent and stop the ongoing and intensified human rights violations by the Government of Iran, including the use of capital punishment for non-serious crimes, torture, persecution of minorities, gender apartheid, LGBTQI oppression, persecution of civil society activists, suppression of fundamental freedoms, and denial of fair trials. The ABA calls on Iran to cease these abuses, comply with international human rights law, and urges the U.S. government to support efforts to address these violations, including through international investigations and incorporating human rights considerations into diplomatic negotiations.

2. Summary of the issue that the resolution addresses.

Resolution seeks to actively encourage protection of lawyers, defenders, minority groups and women throughout Iran who are victims of severe Human Rights violations, impunity, and gross miscarriages of the Rule of Law.

3. Please explain how the proposed policy position will address the issue.

Updates previous ABA policy passed by HOD Resolution 89A202.

4. Summary of any minority views or opposition internal and/or external to the ABA which has been identified.

N/A