

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



MUSTERBRIEF

APPELLE AN

OBERSTE JUSTIZAUTORITÄT

Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei
c/o Embassy of Iran to the European Union
Avenue Franklin Roosevelt No. 15
1050 Bruxelles
BELGIEN

KOPIEN AN

Botschaft der Islamischen Republik Iran

Jauresgasse 9
1030 Wien
Fax: (+43 / 1) 713 57 33

E-Mail: public@iranembassy.at

ANMERKUNGEN

AMNESTY FORDERT:

- Bitte stoppen Sie umgehend jegliche Pläne zur Hinrichtung von Pakhshan Azizi, heben Sie ihren Schuldspruch und ihr Todesurteil auf und lassen Sie sie unverzüglich und bedingungslos frei, da sie nur wegen ihrer friedlichen humanitären und menschenrechtlichen Tätigkeiten in Haft gehalten wird.
 - Gewähren Sie ihr bis zu ihrer Freilassung unbedingt Zugang zu angemessener Gesundheitsversorgung sowie zu ihrer Familie und ihrem Rechtsbeistand, und schützen Sie sie vor weiterer Folter und Misshandlung.
 - Sorgen Sie zudem dafür, dass ihre Foltterwürfe unabhängig, zielführend und unparteiisch untersucht und die mutmaßlich Verantwortlichen in fairen Verfahren ohne Rückgriff auf die Todesstrafe vor Gericht gestellt werden.
 - Bitte verhängen Sie umgehend ein offizielles Hinrichtungsmoratorium als ersten Schritt hin zur vollständigen Abschaffung der Todesstrafe.
-

INHALT

Dear Mr Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei,

Humanitarian aid worker and human rights defender

Pakhshan Azizi,

from Iran's oppressed Kurdish ethnic minority, is at risk of imminent execution after Branch Nine of the Supreme Court rejected her request for judicial review on 25 January, and notified her lawyers of their decision two weeks later on 5 February 2025. She had filed a request for judicial review after Branch 39 of the Supreme Court upheld her conviction and death sentence in early January 2025. Her conviction, which included "armed rebellion against the state" (baghi), was solely in relation to her peaceful human rights and humanitarian activities, including her work between 2014 and 2022 providing humanitarian support to women and children displaced following attacks by the Islamic State (IS) armed group and sheltering in camps in northeast Syria. The Revolutionary Court, which convicted and sentenced her to death in July 2024, cited as "evidence" of criminal activity Pakhshan Azizi's 2009 arrest, as a university student, at a protest against the execution of an Iranian Kurdish man; and her support to families seeking truth and justice for the unlawful killings of their loved ones during 2022 nationwide protests. Pakhshan Azizi is being held in the women's ward of Tehran's Evin prison.

According to informed sources, following her arrest in August 2023, Pakhshan Azizi was subjected to torture and other ill-treatment, including gender-based violence, was repeatedly told that she had no right to live and threatened with execution in order to compel her to make forced "confessions" of having ties to Kurdish opposition groups, which she repeatedly denied. Pakhshan Azizi's trial in 2024 was grossly unfair. She was denied adequate time and facilities to prepare her defence. She was only permitted a few phone calls with her chosen lawyers about three weeks before her trial commenced, and met with them for the first time at trial. In addition, the courts have repeatedly failed to present any credible evidence of her alleged membership in Kurdish opposition groups. Branch 39 of the Supreme Court even erroneously claimed in its ruling that she was a member of the IS, and Branch Nine alleged her membership in the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran by citing state media reports as proof.

I urge you to immediately halt any plans to execute Pakhshan Azizi, quash her conviction and death sentence, and release her immediately and unconditionally, as she is held solely for her peaceful humanitarian work and human rights activism. Pending her

release, provide her with adequate healthcare and regular access to family and lawyers; protect her from further torture and other ill-treatment; and order an independent, effective and impartial investigation into her torture allegations, bringing anyone suspected of criminal responsibility to justice in fair trials without resort to the death penalty. Also, immediately establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

Yours sincerely,