



MAKE RIGHTS REAL FOR #ALLCHILDREN

MONTHLY ACTION: JULY 2019

IRAN: TEENAGER AT RISK OF EXECUTION

Iranian teenager, Daniel Zeinolabedini is at risk of execution for a crime that took place when he was a 17 year old child.

Daniel was found guilty of participating in the murder of a man, along with four other young men. The legal proceedings that led to his conviction were unfair and violated principles of juvenile justice. He was denied access to a lawyer for all of his pre-trial detention and statements he had made without a lawyer present were used against him in court.

The court rejected his lawyer's request at sentencing that he should be issued an alternative sentence to the death penalty on grounds that he had not yet attained full maturity. The court reasoned that even though *'he is younger than the other defendants [all of whom were aged between 18 and 20 years old at the time of the crime], the way he speaks, argues and defends himself shows that his level of mental maturity is higher than them.'*

Daniel's death sentence was upheld on 27 October 2018 by the Supreme Court and the request for a judicial review has been rejected.

His execution would be a grave violation of international law. International law prohibits without exception the use of the death penalty against persons who were below 18 years of age at the time of the crime. Iran would be in violation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which it is a state party, if it executes Daniel.

TAKE ACTION

Please write to the Head of the Judiciary before 30 July 2019 calling for Daniel's execution to be halted and for him to have a fair retrial, without resort to the death penalty. A template letter is attached.

Please also send copies of your letters to:

His Excellency Hamid Baeidinejad
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
16 Princes Gate
London SW7 1PT
Email: iranemb.lon@mfa.gov.ir

**Please let us know about any actions taken on this case by contacting:
childrensnetwork@amnesty.org.uk. Thank you.**

