**Template letter**

[Name of MP]
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

[Your address, postcode and contact details. Your MP needs to know that you are a constituent]

EMAIL: [see [here](https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP) to find an email address]

[Date]

Dear [name of MP],

**Re: Protesters at grave risk of execution in Iran**

I am writing to you about the popular uprising in Iran that was sparked by the death in custody of 22 year old Mahsa (Zhina) Amini on 16 September 2022. Zhina was arbitrarily arrested by the so-called “morality” police for not complying with the country’s discriminatory compulsory veiling laws.

Nationwide protests led by women and girls under the rallying call ‘Woman, Life, Freedom’, quickly mushroomed to include broader grievances against a government steeped in decades of impunity and human rights violations.

Iran’s security forces responded to protests with violence. Hundreds have been killed with absolute impunity, including at least 44 children (63% of whom are from Iran’s oppressed Kurdish and Baluchi ethnic minorities). Most of these children were killed due to security forces unlawfully firing live ammunition at their head, heart or other vital organs.

Iranian authorities responded to the popular protests with mass repression including the use of lethal fire causing the death of hundreds, the arrest of many thousands, enforced disappearances and torture of dissidents, and finally the use of the death penalty as a tool of repression.

**Amnesty International has identified at least** [**13 individuals**](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/6424/2023/en/) **at grave risk of execution in connection with the recent nationwide protests. The authorities have violated their fair trial rights and subjected several to torture and other ill-treatment. Since December 2022, at least four individuals have been arbitrarily executed in connection with the protests: Mohsen Shekari, Majidreza Rahnavard, Mohammad Mahdi “Azadi” Karimi, and Seyyed Mohamad, following similarly grossly unfair trials.**

As your constituent I am requesting that you show support for women and girls standing up for their human rights in Iran and help those at risk of execution in connection with the nationwide protests by:

1. Writing a letter to Iran’s Head of Judiciary (Mr Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei) via Iran’s Embassy in the UK, using this [template](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Xcev1XTfBSdAY5ws6imbYzTjn3oJWXafWnJ_A_Shu_I/edit?usp=sharing), calling for (i) the convictions and death sentences against the individuals named by Amnesty International, to be quashed, (ii) anyone charged with a recognisable criminal offence to be tried in proceedings meeting international fair trial standards without recourse to the death penalty, (iii) independent observers from embassies in Iran to be granted access to capital trials connected to protests
2. Contact the Foreign Secretary to raise your concerns about the situation in Iran. In accordance with the UKs commitment to human rights and support of human rights defenders, request that the UK’s British Embassy in Iran send independent observers to capital trials connected to protests. The current UK Ambassador to Iran should consider personally requesting access to those individuals most at risk who have been sentenced to death, including access to their legal files.
3. Help sound the alarm by making a public statement in support of those at risk of execution in Iran for exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly. On social media the following hashtags can be used #StopExecutionsinIran #SayTheirNames #MahsaAmini.

Please see Amnesty International UK’s [advocacy briefing](https://www.amnesty.org.uk/resources/deadly-repression-ongoing-popular-uprising-iran) for more information on the crisis situation in Iran, including the names of the [13 individuals](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/6424/2023/en/) who have been sentenced to death and calls on the UK government.

Many thanks for your time in considering my concerns and I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

[Your name, and local group you are representing if relevant]