The Rt Hon James Cleverly
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

[DATE]

Dear Foreign Secretary,

**Re: imminent executions in Iran**

We are writing pertaining to the deteriorating human rights situation in Iran and to request that you take immediate action to prevent further executions of individuals in connection with the recent nationwide protests.

Amnesty International identified at least [13 individuals](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/6424/2023/en/) who have received death sentences and are at grave risk of execution. They are **Javad Rouhi, Ebrahim Narouie, Kambiz Kharout, Majid Kazemi, Manouchehr Mehman Navaz, Mansour Dahmardeh, Mohammad Boroughani, Mehdi Bahman, Mehdi Mohammadifard, Mohammad Ghobadlou, Saleh Mirhashemi, Saeed Yaghoubi, and Shoeib Mir Baluchzehi Rigi**. At least five others – **Sahand Nourmohammad-Zadeh; Hamid Ghare-Hasanlou; Hossein Mohammadi; Reza Arya (Aria); and Mahan Sadrat (Sedarat) Madani** – are facing retrials on capital charges after their convictions and death sentences were quashed by the Supreme Court and their cases returned to lower courts. At least three others known to Amnesty International – **Saeed Shirazi, Abolfazl Mehri Hossein Hajilou, and Mohsen Rezazadeh Gharegholou** – have undergone trial on charges that carry the death penalty. At the time of writing, there is no publicly available information on the outcome of their trials. Dozens of other individuals are being investigated for capital crimes brought in relation to the protests.

Tragically, four individuals have already been arbitrarily executed in relation to the protests: Mohsen Shekari, Majidreza Rahnavard, Mohammad Mehdi “Azadi” Karimi, and Seyyed Mohamad. Thousands have been arrested and indicted in the context of the nationwide protests, raising fears that many more people could face the death penalty.

You will be familiar with the situation in Iran following the death of Mahsa (Zhina) Amini, and the widely documented grave and lethal human rights violations and abuses perpetrated by Iranian authorities against a wide range of groups including ordinary civilians, protestors, medical professionals and journalists.

You will also be aware that, contrary to its international obligations to ensure fair trials,[6] such individuals face trumped up charges and trials which fail to meet international minimum standards and lack due process, in a growing number of cases leading to arbitrary death sentences and executions.

In response you have summoned the most senior Iranian official and imposed sanctions on identified individuals for their responsibility over some of the serious human rights violations. Yet, over several months on the Iranian Government has maintained its brutal crackdown including by its use unlawful lethal force, arbitrary arrests and detentions, unfair trials, and most frighteningly, its use of arbitrary executions as a tool of political repression. It continues to seek to hide its crimes with internet blackouts.

We would like to see the UK going beyond condemnations of politically-motivated trials, forced confessions and death sentences. Given the urgency of the current human rights situation, we ask that you use all available political and diplomatic tools to condemn and stop these arbitrary executions going ahead. Individuals’ rights to a fair trial must be respected and protected in a manner that fully aligns with the ICCPR, which Iran has agreed to respect.

UK officials in Iran should be seeking to provide independent trial monitors to attend trials and appeal hearings to monitor the authorities’ compliance with such standards, and to freely report on any identified human rights concerns. The UK’s ambassador to Iran, Simon Shercliff, should be directly requesting permission to observe trials and visit detainees in the most urgent cases.

It is crucial that the international community, including the UK, not only stands with the people in Iran but takes urgent action to seek to hold the Iranian authorities to account. The UK should exercise universal jurisdiction, to criminally investigate all officials reasonably suspected of involvement in crimes under international law and other grave violations of human rights, and issue arrest warrants where there is sufficient evidence.

We must take more robust steps now. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

[NAME]