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Honourable President of Islamic Republic of Iran
The Presidency
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Dear President,

On behalf of UNISON's 1.3 million members working in public services in the UK, I am writing to express our deep concern over the Iranian government's suppression of recent protests.

We understand that these protests are largely driven by the legitimate concerns of Iranian people, particularly the young, about high unemployment, the non-payment of wages, declining incomes and the increasing cost of basic commodities.

According to reports, more than 1,000 people have been arrested following the protests, at least three of whom have subsequently died in Evin prison. UNISON calls on the Iranian government to release the protestors immediately and conduct a full, impartial investigation into those who have died during the protests and in detention, to ensure the perpetrators are brought to justice.

UNISON continues to be concerned about the denial of workers' rights in Iran and call on the Iranian government to guarantee freedom of association and protection for trade unionists and workers, in accordance with the International Labour Organisation core conventions.

We are particularly concerned about the ban on independent trade unions and the imprisonment of many union leaders including Reza Shahabi, Treasurer of the Syndicate of Workers of Tehran and Suburbs Bus Company. UNISON urges the Iranian government to lift its ban on independent trade unions, and release and drop the charges against all those who have been penalised for carrying out legitimate union activities.

Yours faithfully,



Dave Prentis
General Secretary

cc. His Excellency Ayatullah Haajj Sayyid Ali Khamenei, Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran contact@leader.ir
His Excellency Mr Hamid Baeidinejad, Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran iranemb.lon@mfa.gov.ir
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