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Committee of Foreign Affairs  
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**Call Kurdish movements in Iran:  
'We are under attack and urge Europe to treat us as you treat the Belarus opposition'**

Honorable Member of Parliament,

In the last weeks, Iranian military forces bombarded the border areas and villages of Iran's Kurdistan because of the presence of Kurdistan parties. As a result, the environment, farms, gardens and animals damaged seriously. That there were no casualties is fortunate but that will not last. The Iranian regime has made it very clear that it intends to extend this aggression and attack any presence of our movements in Iraqi Kurdistan.

Since early September, the IRGC is threatening to start a cross-border war against the Kurds that resist the Iranian regime. The Kurdistan Regional Government in Iraq is taking this threat very seriously. It is obvious that a further escalation of violence in Iraqi Kurdistan is something that nobody in Europe or the US should want. Only terrorist groups like ISIS will gain from such escalation.

We are not planning to surrender ourselves so that many thousands of our people will be imprisoned, tortured and raped in Iranian prisons. It would be inhuman to demand that from us. Therefore, we will resist and not surrender. That means that either action is taken to stop Iran or escalation will follow.

Europe has decided to stand by the opposition against the Lukashenka regime in Belarus. We ask to be treated in the same way as we resist an evil regime that is just as oppressive and similar to the Taliban in religious motivated violence and oppression of minorities and women. European countries have fought this oppressive extremism for years in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. We resist the same extremism.

As example of the religious motivation of their violence we mention that Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) posted 9 September last a Quranic verse calling to "fight the disbelievers," the same day that the IRGC started a new war against the Kurds with the drone attacks and airstrikes mentioned above.

Both we and the opposition of Belarus fight against dictatorial oppression. There is no reason to treat us differently. The fact that we are not white Europeans should make no difference.

Ministries of Foreign Affairs in Europe as well as the European External Action Service want the return of Iran to the JCPOA (nuclear deal). We are aware that our calls are therefore ignored by these Ministries and institutions. It gives the impression that we are deemed less worthy of freedom

and human rights than those who resist the Lukashenka regime. We believe Parliaments need to step in to ensure equal treatment by foreign affairs institutions in Europe. We urge Members of Parliament to take action in this regard.

We point to the fact that as the IRGC owns the Iranian economy, the reopening of trade thanks to a revival of the JCPOA will directly benefit the Iranian military. Thanks to the JCPOA, there will be an increase of violence by Iranian military and Iranian funded militias in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon against those who resist the Iranian regime and influence. The theoretical prevention of a potential and far-off nuclear threat will immediately lead to more violence and oppression against millions.

Therefore, we hope that you and your Colleague MP's will ensure that Ministries of Foreign Affairs in Europe and the European External Action Service will make it clear to Iran that it should not escalate its violence against us in Iraqi Kurdistan. Rather, the Iranian regime should negotiate with all its non-Fars minorities and grant them equality and fundamental freedoms. If Europe insists in continuing with the JCPOA negotiations, we urge that the demand to end military escalation is included in these talks.

We hope that our voices will be heard and that further escalation will be prevented. We are available to present and explain our case to you and any Member of Parliament that is interested in our situation.

Yours faithfully,

Komala Party of Iranian Kurdistan