

DIE LINKE im Thüringer Landtag, Kati Engel, Jürgen-Fuchs-Straße 1, 99096 Erfurt

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
at the United Nations
Mr. Volker Turk
Palais de Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Kati Engel

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Mr. Kamyar Bamdad

Erfurt, 05.01.2023

Dear Mr. High Commissioner,

I am writing to you with deep concern for Iranian citizen Kamyar Bamdad. Mr. Bamdad is an Iranian artist, blogger, stand-up comedian and also physical education teacher from Masal, who has been active in comedy and producing comedy videos on Instagram for years. He is accused of having waged "war against God" and "corruption on earth". He was detained without trial and is now being held in Ziabar Prison in Someh Sara. He faces execution. He hadn't started a crime. Kamyar is just an artist, a boy with a heart full of love, hope and desire. A boy who made people laugh for years. Kamyar doesn't belong in prison.

I have already protested in writing to the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Germany, Mahmoud Farazandeh, against this procedure and this treatment.

As the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and from your legal work, you know that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stipulates, among other things, the prohibition of torture (Article 5), the right to legal protection (Article 8) and the right to a fair trial (Art. 10) and the presumption of innocence (Art. 11) are guaranteed.

Since Mr. Kamyar Bamdad is under acute threat, I urge you to intercede with the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran for Mr. Bamdad's life and his immediate release. With all due respect for the sovereignty of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I would ask you, from your position, to convey my concern and the great urgency of the matter to the Iranian government.

As far as information about Kamyar Bamdad becomes available to you, I would be grateful for a message.

Kind regards

Kati Engel
Member of the Thuringian State Parliament