



FREE IRAN ALLIANCE

2 September 2025

## Open Letter to Global Leaders and Parliament Speakers

**Dear Honourable Leaders and Speakers,**

We are from legal and political backgrounds committed to human rights, democracy, and the aspirations of the Iranian people, and we write to you regarding the critical situation in Iran and its consequences for our own global security.

There is growing concern about Iran's continuing sponsorship of terrorism. On 9 July 2025, a Spanish investigative judge issued a damning indictment, explicitly stating that the attempted assassination of a former Vice President of the European Parliament was due to his support for the Iranian opposition. The indictment further states that the mastermind of the attack is in Iran.

A report by the UK Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee, also published on 9 July 2025, expresses concern about Iran's terrorist activities in the UK.

Amid this situation, it is troubling that Reza Pahlavi, the son of the deposed Shah, announced on 29 June 2025 a scheme to recruit members of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and agents of the Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS) to join his ranks via a "secure communication channel".

The Free Iran Scholars Network reports<sup>1</sup> that this outreach to the forces of repression has prompted considerable unease among many Iranians, both within the country and in the diaspora, not least given the documented involvement of the IRGC and similar bodies in human rights abuses and transnational repression.

This recent initiative aligns with Mr. Pahlavi's previous statements indicating ongoing engagement with the regime's security forces. For instance, in a 2018 interview<sup>2</sup>, he claimed "bilateral contacts" with the IRGC and Basij; in 2016, he suggested<sup>3</sup> the IRGC "could have a role" post-regime; and in 2017, he defended<sup>4</sup> IRGC members as "part of the Iranian people."

His longstanding ties to former SAVAK officials and political allies with suspected connections to Iran's intelligence services further erode trust among Iranians seeking a clean break from authoritarian legacies. His followers have demonstrated behaviours akin to neo-fascist tendencies, attacking advocates of a democratic republic—sometimes in coordination with regime operatives.

We therefore strongly condemn Mr. Pahlavi's outreach to regime-affiliated forces as an alarming development that risks compromising the opposition movement and hindering genuine democracy.

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The Iranian people have repeatedly rejected both theocracy and the Shah's dictatorship, as evidenced by their chants<sup>5</sup> in the 2022 protest. Such calls reflect a clear desire for a republic rooted in democratic values, free elections, and accountability. We respectfully urge you to support the Iranian people's endeavours towards a democratic outcome.

Sincerely,

**SIGNED:**

**Lord Alton of Liverpool** – (United Kingdom)  
Chair, UK Parliament Joint Committee on Human Rights (JCHR)

**Joachim R cker** – (Germany)  
Former President of the UN Human Rights Council

**Guy Verhofstadt** – (Belgium)  
Former Prime Minister

**Enda Kenny** – (Ireland)  
Former Prime Minister

**Anneli J tteenm ki** – (Finland)  
Former Prime Minister

**Mirek Topol nek** – (Czech Republic)  
Former Prime Minister

**Geir H. Haarde** – (Iceland)  
Former Prime Minister

**Joseph Muscat** – (Malta)  
Former Prime Minister

**Mario Frick** – (Liechtenstein)  
Former Prime Minister

**Yves Leterme** – (Belgium)  
Former Prime Minister

**Petre Roman** – (Romania)  
Former Prime Minister

**Mark Ellis** – (United Kingdom)  
International lawyer

**John Bercow** – (United Kingdom)  
Former Speaker of the House of Commons

**Miguel  ngel Rodr guez Echeverr a** – (Costa Rica)  
Former President



**Rosalía Arteaga Serrano** – (Ecuador)  
Former President

**Avdullah Hoti** – (Kosovo)  
Former Prime Minister

**Alexandru Athanasiu** – (Romania)  
Former Prime Minister

**Ana Helena Chacón Echeverría** – (Costa Rica)  
Former Vice President

**Maria Celeste Cardona** – (Portugal)  
Former Justice Minister

**Jeppe Kofod** – (Denmark)  
Former Foreign Minister

**Tonio Borg** – (Malta)  
Former Foreign Minister

**Dick Spring** – (Ireland)  
Former Foreign Minister

**Juan Esteban Aguirre Martinez** – (Paraguay)  
Former Foreign Minister

**Ryszard Kalisz** – (Poland)  
Former Interior Minister

**Jan-Erik Enestam** – (Finland)  
Former Secretary General of the Nordic Council; Former Defence Minister

**Anatol Şalaru** – (Moldova)  
Former Defence Minister

**Judy Sgro** – (Canada)  
Former Minister of Citizenship and Immigration

**Amb. Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr.** – (United States)  
Former Assistant Secretary of State for Political Military Affairs

**Linda Chavez** – (United States)  
Former Director, White House Office of Public Liaison

**Gen. Chuck Wald** – (United States)  
Former Deputy Commander of US European Command

**Amb. Robert Joseph** – (United States)  
Former Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security

**Edvarð Júlíus Sólnes** – (Iceland)  
Former Environment Minister

**Wolfgang Schomburg** – (Germany)  
Former Judge, International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda; Former Judge, Federal Supreme Court of Germany

**Prof. Franklin Dehousse** – (Belgium)  
Former Judge, General Court of the European Union

**Stanislav Pavlovschi** – (Moldova)  
Former Judge, European Court of Human Rights

**Christoph Degenhart** – (Germany)  
Former Judge, Constitutional Court of the State of Saxony

**Baroness O'Loan DBE MRIA** – (United Kingdom)  
Former Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland

**Amb. Zorica Marić-Djordjević** – (Montenegro)  
Former Ambassador of Montenegro to the UN Human Rights Council

**Amb. Amanda Ellis** – (New Zealand)  
Former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations in Geneva

**Amb. Ken Blackwell** – (United States)  
Former US Ambassador to the UN Commission on Human Rights

**Christine Arrighi** – (France)  
Member of the National Assembly

**Emanuele Pozzolo** – (Italy)  
Member of the Chamber of Deputies

**Lord McCabe** – (United Kingdom)  
Member of the House of Lords

**Sen. Robert Torricelli** – (United States)  
Former Senator

**Rt Hon David I Jones** – (United Kingdom)  
Former Secretary of State for Wales

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<sup>1</sup> FISN, 2 July 2025, "Reza Pahlavi: An Alternative or an Obstacle to Change", [https://freeiransn.com/?page\\_id=549](https://freeiransn.com/?page_id=549)

<sup>2</sup> <https://x.com/HafezeSaltanati/status/1735410282053124272>

<sup>3</sup> <https://x.com/HafezeSaltanati/status/1735405155984486551>

<sup>4</sup> <https://x.com/HafezeSaltanati/status/1735412044210315690>

<sup>5</sup> A common chant in the 2022 uprising was: "Down with the Oppressor, be it the Shah or the Supreme Leader."