

DUBLIN Front Line Defenders – Head Office First Floor, Avoca Court Temple Road, Blackrock Co. Dublin, A94 R7W3, Ireland

info@frontlinedefenders.org www.frontlinedefenders.org

BRUSSELS Front Line Defenders - EU Office Square Marie-Louise 72

1000 Brussels

Belgium

euoffice@frontlinedefenders.org www.frontlinedefenders.org

+353 1 212 3750 phone +353 1 233 8695 fax

+32 2 230 9383 phone fax +32 2 230 0028

18 June 2024

## Iran- Narges Mohammadi sentenced to an additional year in prison

On 18 June 2024, Narges Mohammadi's lawyer announced that Branch 29 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court has sentenced the woman human rights defender to one additional year in prison on the charge of "propaganda activities against the state."

Narges Mohammadi is a woman human rights defender, and deputy director and spokesperson of the Defenders of Human Rights Centre (DHRC) in Iran. She has advocated for the abolition of the death penalty in Iran, as well as for prisoners rights. As a direct result of her human rights work she has been imprisoned on several occasions. She is the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize laureate for her "fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all."

On 18 June 2024, Narges Mohammadi's lawyer announced that Branch 29 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court has sentenced the woman human rights defender to one additional year in prison on the charge of "propaganda activities against the state."

Mohammadi's current period of detention started in November 2021, following her sentencing in May 2021 on charges of committing "propaganda activity against the state." Cumulatively, adding further cases brought against her in January 2022, October 2022, January 2024, and June 2024, she has now been sentenced to 14 years and two months in prison, as well as 154 lashes on trumped-up charges, including "acting against national security." Additional charges and sentences continue to be added in reprisal for her persistence in speaking out from inside prison.

On 8 June 2024, Narges Mohammadi was summoned to appear before Branch 29 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court on the charge of "propaganda activities against the state" in connection with her activities and public statements from inside prison, including exposing sexual violence and other human rights abuses against women prisoners. Narges Mohammadi, who has been denied access to phone calls and family visitations since November 2023, has denounced this charge and refused to appear in the closed-door court session, as the basic conditions she requested were not met, including the presence of the survivors of sexual abuses in detention and independent media.

During her time in detention, Narges Mohammadi has been denied access to healthcare, medical furlough, and contact with her family. This has led to her going on a hunger strike three times, demanding these rights for herself and other prisoners. She has also been subjected to solitary confinement, sexual harassment and other abusive treatment whilst in custody.

Front Line Defenders strongly condemns the ongoing sentencing of woman human rights defender Narges Mohammadi, as it is a blatant reprisal against her continuous human rights work from prison. Narges Mohammadi' plight demonstrates the persistent human rights violations perpetrated by the Iranian authorities. Front Line Defenders, currently part of the international coalition to demand the immediate release of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Narges Mohammadi, is additionally outraged by the denial of Narges Mohammadi's access to phone calls, family visitations and proper medical treatment while in detention.

## Front Line Defenders urges the Iranian authorities to:

1. Quash the convictions against Narges Mohammadi, as Front Line Defenders believes she has been targeted solely as a result of her legitimate human rights work;

- Ensure that the treatment of Narges Mohammadi, while in detention, adheres to the conditions set out in the 'Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment', adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988;
- 3. Release the woman human rights defender Narges Mohammadi, and all women human rights defenders unjustly detained including in Iran;
- 4. Cease the targeting of human rights defenders in Iran, and guarantee in all circumstances that they are able to carry out their legitimate human rights activities without fear of reprisal and free of all restrictions, including judicial harassment.

## Front Line Defenders Board of Directors

Denis O'Brien, Jim Conway, Roja Fazaeli, Maria Mulcahy, Kieran Mulvey, Mary Jane Real (Philippines), David Sykes, Arnold Tsunga (Zimbabwe), Verónica Vidal (Uruguay)