



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

MICHAEL COOPER

Member of Parliament
St. Albert — Edmonton

August 3, 2023

Ms. Roberta Metsola, President of the European Parliament
Mr. Charles Michel, President of the European Council
Dr. Ursula von der Layen, President of the European Commission

Dear Presidents:

I am writing to express my concern regarding recent unlawful action taken by the Iranian regime to target certain democratic opponents of the regime who are living lawfully within the European Union. On July 29, 2023, the judicial arm of the Iranian regime issued an indictment against 104 members of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI), on trumped up and baseless charges.

The targeted PMOI members are refugees or residents at Camp Ashraf 3 in Albania. They are being targeted for no other reason that they oppose the Iranian regime – a regime that is the leading state-sponsor of terrorism and is responsible for egregious human rights violations against the Iranian people over the past four decades.

In the face of this illegitimate and lawless indictment, it is imperative that the European Union uphold the rights of the targeted individuals, including pursuant to the 1951 Geneva Convention, and the European Convention on Human Rights. Consistent with that, these individuals must be protected from being extradited to Iran where they will face certain torture and persecution and likely execution.

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This indictment is the latest maneuver by the brutal Iranian regime to attempt to crush the democratic opposition. I trust that the European Union and its member states will defend human rights and uphold its obligations under international law by standing against the Iranian regime, and by not in any way facilitating the enforcement of this lawless indictment.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Cooper', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Cooper, M.P.
St. Albert – Edmonton

Cc: Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
Cc: Hon. Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Cc: Mr. Jurgen Stock, Secretary General of Interpol