

THE PRICE OF FREEDOM



Democratic Party of
Iranian Kurdistan
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Report: 2



ناوهندی هاوکاری حیزه کانی کوردستانی ئێران
Cooperation Center of Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties.
مرکز همکاری احزاب کوردستان ایران

Statement of the Cooperation Center of Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties on the Threat of the Regime's Military Attack

September 28, 2022


Announcement by the Cooperation Center of the Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties regarding the Islamic Republic's missile and drone attack on the camps and headquarters of the political parties of the Iranian Kurdistan, in Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI)

The brave and freedom loving people of Iran and Kurdistan!

For several hours this morning, the regime's military units attacked our bases and headquarters in Iraqi Kurdistan with missiles and suicide drones.

We are well aware that your united uprising and struggle put pressure on the hated and despised regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We know that despite the brutal suppression, and indiscriminate arrests of the civil and political activists, especially the women activists, the regime is not only unable to crackdown or reduce the scale of this new uprising but has faced the unparalleled courage and spirit of the youths.

For a long time, the regime's leadership has tried to attribute popular protests to foreign provocations, Israeli conspiracy, separatism, and so forth. Once again, avoiding the truth and realities on the ground, they try to put the blame on the political parties in the Cooperation Centre, as the originator and instigator of uprising of the Iranian people, or as they call it "the



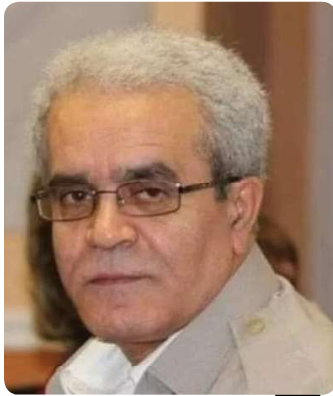
disturbance". However, they know better than anyone else that this huge and all-encompassing unity and solidarity is the direct result of decades of human suffering, the pain and injustice that this people suffered under this regime, and is based on previous protests and repressions, which is unlike any other epoch and time.

The attack on the camps, which are housing kindergartens, schools and civilians is a clear sign of the immorality, political desperation, and brutality of the regime leaders. Of course, these coward attacks would result in casualties and losses, but they will bind the hearts and hands of the people of Kurdistan and Iran tighter than before and make our bond even stronger. People who shouted the slogans "Kurdistan, Kurdistan, the leading light of Iran" or "Women, life, freedom" put a thorn in the eye and a sword in the heart of the Islamic Republic. There is no solution for this uprising and movement other than to overthrow this inhumane regime. The drone attacks will be answered by loud protests of the people and will lead to national unity in Iran and Kurdistan.

We call on all people of Kurdistan and Iran to protest against this brutality of the regime's oppressors. They should strengthen their unity and solidarity between all classes and groups and ensure the continuity of their uprising.

We ask freedom seekers and all international and human rights institutions as well as the international community, and governments to officially condemn the terrorist regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran and to support the people of Kurdistan and Iran.

Cooperation Centre of the Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties
September 28, 2022



Democratic Party of
Iranian Kurdistan



ناوهندی هاوکاری حیزبه کانی کوردستانی ئییران

Cooperation Center of Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties.

مرکز همکاری احزاب کردستان ایران

Statement of the Cooperation Center of Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties on the Threat of the Regime's Military Attack

The Struggling people,

The Political parties and organizations of Iran and Kurdistan

After the emergence of the women, life, freedom movement in Kurdistan, as forefront of the current country-wide movement, and the movement's righteous demand to end the dictatorship of the Islamic regime, the regime, from all its agencies, has begun a psychological and military campaign against the Iranian Kurdistan's political parties.

In addition to the daily cruel suppression and killing of disgruntled people on the streets, the Islamic regime launched a missile and drone attack on headquarters and residential camps of the political parties. Now, the Iranian Islamic regime is threatening to violate the sovereignty of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) and to attack the political parties by sending large military forces across the Kurdistan region's borders.

The Cooperation Center of the Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties strongly condemns this threat of the Iranian Islamic regime and declares that this act is against all international rules and principles as well as a clear violation of the sovereignty of Iraq and the Kurdistan Region.

We emphasize on the fact that we have always respected the sovereignty of the Kurdistan Region and for this reason we have halted all military and peshmerga movements.

Therefore, we declare:

In the event of an assault on our bases and headquarters deep in the territory of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, we have the legitimate right to defend ourselves against the enemy attacks and we will defend ourselves with all our might.

We call on the international community, the Iraqi government, the Kurdistan Regional Government, all representatives and consulates of western countries and the United States of America, in the Kurdistan Region, not to remain silent about the Islamic regime's brutality and to take serious action.

We call on all intellectuals, personalities, all citizens of the Kurdistan Region, and all Kurds in exile to remain vigilant and to raise their voice against the oppression of the Iranian Islamic Regime and to express their dissatisfaction and support us in any appropriate way.

The Islamic regime is close to saluting the end of its 43-year rule, so neither these threats nor start of any other war in the region can stop the strong waves of protests of the people of Kurdistan and Iran.

Long live the unity and solidarity of the people of Kurdistan with the whole of Iran

Down with the Islamic regime of Iran
Women, life, freedom.

*The Cooperation Centre of Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties
October 12th, 2022*

A photograph of Mustafa Hijri, a man with grey hair and a mustache, wearing a dark jacket over a light blue shirt. He is looking slightly to the left with a serious expression. Behind him is a large banner with a colorful design: a yellow sun with rays, a green field, a white gear, and a red section with the year '1945'.

Mustafa Hijri in a interview with Gianni Vernetti, from Italian newspaper La Repubblica:

Vernetti: Masha Amini, a Kurdish Iranian girl from the city of Saqiz was murdered by the morality police in Teheran for wearing her veil in an “inappropriate” way. Following the killing of Masha Amini a new uprising has erupted in all Iran. Could you tell us something on what is going on in the country?

Hijri: The Islamist regime in Iran has become more exclusionary and oppressive over time. Furthermore, unemployment and poverty have increased in Iranian Kurdistan as well in the Arab, Turkmen, Baloch and other non-Persian regions of the country. These patterns of inequality in the various regions of Iran also manifest themselves in infrastructure, education, healthcare and so on.

The Islamist regime’s destructive policies have also had detrimental effects on the environment. For example, in addition to the patterns of inequality I mentioned, water shortages have become yet another source of

popular discontent. Because of inequality, poverty and environmental factors, people migrate from rural areas to metropolitan cities. Consequently, unemployment has increased among poor segments of Iranian society.

Meanwhile, the higher echelons of the regime have enriched themselves and the government has allocated ever-growing shares of the state budget to the Islamic Revolutionary Guards (IRGC), the various intelligences agencies and the so-called security forces. The same goes for the various religious institutions and foundations of the Islamic Republic, whose sole function is to uphold the fundamentalist ideology and justify the destructive policies of the regime.

In addition to systemic corruption and cronyism, the Islamic Republic is also funding various militias and terrorist groups in the Middle East, such as Lebanese Hezbollah and shite militias in Iraq, as well as the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria. Cognizant of these realities, the Iranian population has become increasingly resentful of the Islamist regime. They capitalize on every opportunity to voice their discontent. The murder of 22-year-old Kurdish woman Zhina (Masha) Amini by the so-called morality police for 'improper hijab' resulted in demonstrations in Kurdistan which later spread to the rest of Iran. These protests are unprecedented. Protests have taken place in all 31 provinces of Iran and in more the 100 cities. Although the regime has killed 85 protesters as well as injured and arrested thousands of Iranians, the uprising has endured.

Vernetti: The new revolt is much more “political” then the last one of 2018 main focused on economic issues. People in the street asks for freedom and democracy and for a regime change. What is your assessment?

Hijri: As the people of Iran have become aware of the fact that Islamic Republic not only disregards their welfare and security, but also constitutes a threat to their welfare and security, they have concluded that this regime is not amenable to reform or change. Hence, the people have become more resolute in their demands and have grown impatient with the status quo. We have witnessed that they are chanting slogans against the religious dictatorship and in particular the so-called supreme leader Ali Khamenei. The people are calling for liberty, gender equality, justice and democracy. In that sense, the recent uprising cannot be reduced to economic grievances; rather, the uprising is testament of popular political opposition to the Islamic Republic per se.

The difference between the latest uprising in Iran and protests in the past is that they are more widespread and the people are unanimous. Students, teachers and

Intervista a Mustafa Hijri, del Partito Democratico del Kurdistan Iraniano

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“Il regime di Teheran è sempre più oppressivo. La sua fine è vicina”

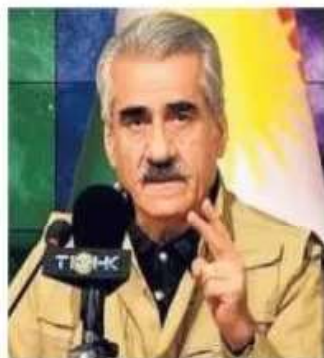
di Gianni Vernetti

uccisione di Mahsa Amini dopo il suo arresto da parte della polizia morale, avvenuta a metà settembre. Poi l'esplosione del movimento di protesta contro il velo (e più in generale contro una società che sopprime le libertà femminili), guidato da donne e giovanissime. Poi ancora l'esplosione del dissenso da parte di studenti, che secondo l'organizzazione Iran Human Rights ha già provocato 200 morti, l'arresto delle manifestazioni e la chiusura di alcuni stabilimenti industriali, cruciali per l'economia iraniana. E nel mezzo, i fondamentali dei Guardiani della Rivoluzione nel Kurdistan iraniano, dove si sono rifugiati i leader dell'opposizione iraniana. Di tutto questo ho parlato al telefono con Mustafa Hijri, leader del Partito

democratico del Kurdistan iraniano. C'è una grande unità fra le varie componenti del paese e una grande voglia di cambiamento. Sì, credo che un cambio di regime sia possibile».

Può darci qualche elemento in più a sostegno di questa sua previsione?

«Il regime islamista non può rimanere a lungo al potere e cadrà. Oltre alla rivolta popolare ci sono molti segnali di un crescente malumore all'interno delle forze di sicurezza per la brutale repressione delle proteste. Le sanzioni internazionali hanno



▲ Mustafa Hijri
Leader curdo in esilio

contribuito a far crescere il malcontento in modo diffuso e oggi il regime islamista è isolato nella comunità internazionale. In altre parole: l'ideologia e la struttura di potere della Repubblica Islamica sono antitetiche alla domanda popolare di libertà, secolarismo e democrazia. Un cambio di regime è dunque inevitabile».

Cosa pensa della possibile ripresa dei negoziati sul nucleare?

«Un nuovo accordo sul nucleare non potrà che recare vantaggi al regime islamista, come peraltro è accaduto nel 2015 quando i

vantaggi economici di quell'accordo furono utilizzati per espandere i progetti militari e il programma missilistico, e per rafforzare ulteriormente gli apparati repressivi della Guardia Rivoluzionaria.

La Repubblica Islamica è il principale sponsor globale del terrorismo, e un nuovo accordo nucleare non farebbe altro che rafforzare il regime stesso, aumentando le minacce per l'intero Medio Oriente, dagli Emirati Arabi Uniti a Israele».

Qual è la sua visione sul futuro dell'Iran? Nell'eventualità di una caduta della Repubblica Islamica, che Paese immagina?

«Un paese secolare, federale e democratico, fondato sul rispetto dello stato di diritto. Vorremmo un Iran in pace con i propri vicini e tutto il Medio Oriente, e amico delle democrazie in tutto il mondo».

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even school pupils spearhead this uprising and they enjoy the support of the rest of the population. Women have been at the forefront of the uprising.

My assessment of the unfolding situation in Iran is that this uprising is going to endure. Even if the regime eventually manages to suppress the uprising, it will not be long before a new uprising will happen in Iran. The destructive policies of the regime – indeed its very existence as a religious dictatorship in a country where people yearn for liberty, secularism and democracy – breeds discontent. In addition, the Iranian people have overcome their fear of the oppressive organs and institutions of the Islamic Republic.

Vernetti: Women and young people in Iran are leading the revolt with extreme bravery and at high costs. How many people were killed and injured by the security forces in these days?

Hijri: To this date, Iranian human rights organizations have estimated that 85 demonstrators have been killed. Thousands have been injured and arrested. Given the authoritarian and brutal nature of the Islamist regime and its attempts to cover up its human rights violations, reliable figures are difficult to obtain. Most likely, the number of Iranian citizens that have been killed, injured and arrested are much higher.

Vernetti: The new Iran uprising seems to be really widespread from the city to the villages, from students to workers, involving all ethnic groups. Can you give us some more information on the uprisings?

Hijri: Indeed, all segments of society, irrespective of ethnicity, faith, age and gender are actively participating in the uprising. Women have been at the forefront of the uprising. In addition, what is unprecedented is that in spite of the fact that the Islamist regime has pursued a deliberate policy to incite hostility among the country's various ethnic and national communities to prevent the formation of a unified opposition, there is an emerging solidarity between Persians, Kurds, and Azeri Turks. For example, in Tehran and Tabriz Persians and Azeri Turks have chanted slogans in support of the Kurdish people's resistance against the regime. When the "Green Movement" emerged in 2009, it was doomed to be confined to a few major cities. The leaders of the "Green Movement" merely protested the re-election of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as president. This time, the Iranian people are unified in calling for an end to the oppression of women and Iran's national minorities; they are also united in the struggle for liberty, secularism and democracy. That is why we have witnessed the emergence of a widespread uprising across Iran.

Vernetti: What is happening in the west of the country, in the areas with a majority of Kurdish population? We heard that in some cities the regime security forces completely withdraw. Could you give us some information?

Hijri: Due to the fact that the Kurdish organizations have maintained a clandestine and organized resistance against the Islamic Republic for the past four decades, including the presence of underground Peshmerga forces in Iranian Kurdistan, we enjoy the trust of the Kurdish people. Our party, the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan, has struggled for the rights of the Kurdish people in Iran since 1945. We have been a major actor in the recent uprising. The uprising started at the initiative of the Kurdish organizations in Iranian Kurdistan and subsequently spread to the rest of Iran. Considering the fact that the Kurdish people have played a prominent role in the recent uprising, the number of demonstrators that have been killed, injured and arrested have been relatively higher in Kurdistan. Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards also attacked our headquarters and adjacent refugee camps in Iraqi Kurdistan on September 28 with drones and ballistic missiles, killing 14 members of the Kurdish organizations and refugees, including a pregnant woman, and

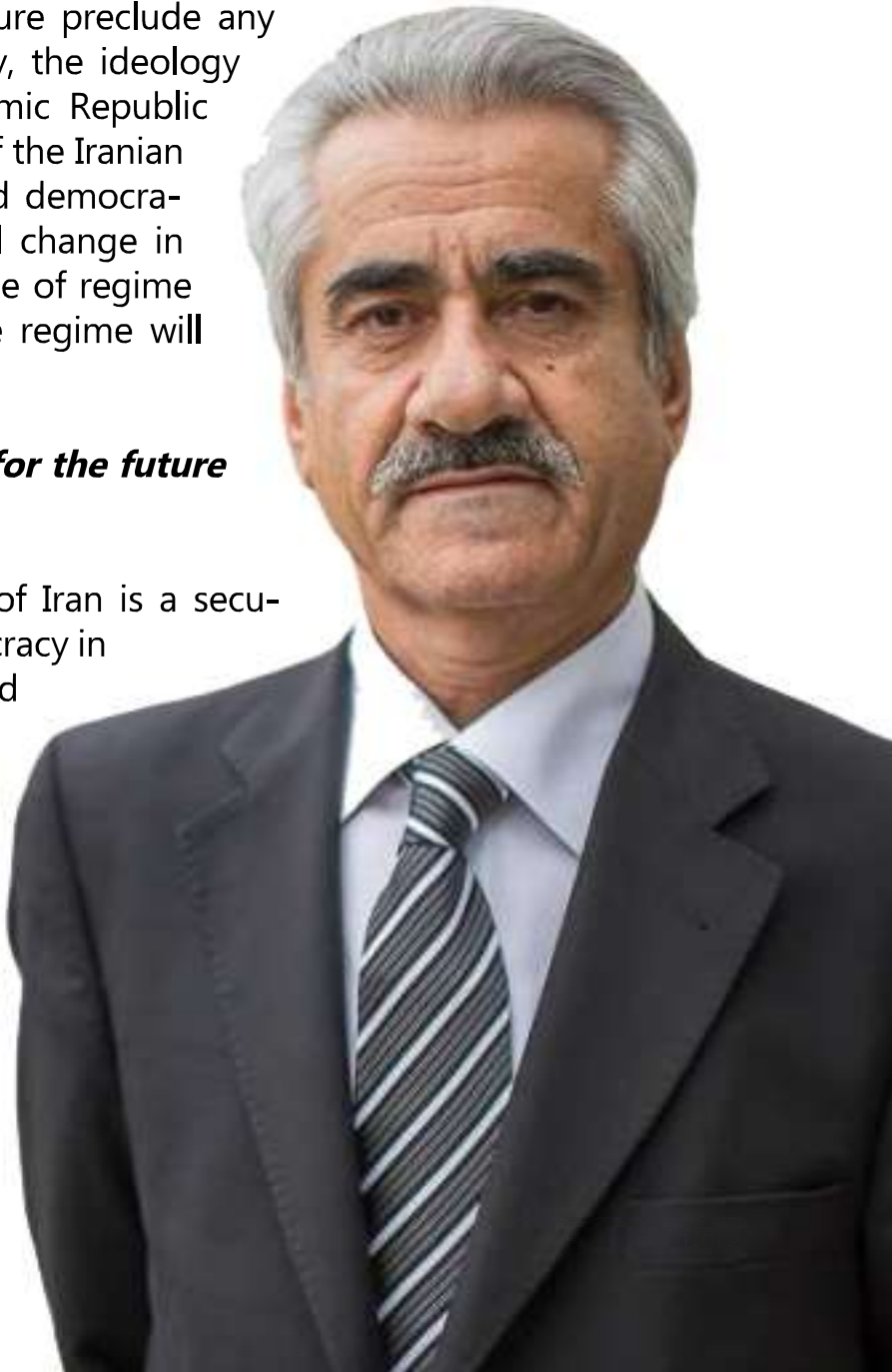
wounding 58. However, in spite of the organized resistance in Iranian Kurdistan, the regime's military and paramilitary forces have not withdrawn from Kurdistan. The regime has reinforced its military and paramilitary forces in Kurdistan.

Vernetti: Do you think that the teocratic and dictatorial regime of the Ayatollah could finally fall?

Hijri: In my assessment, the Islamist regime cannot remain in power in the long run. It will eventually fall. In addition to the popular uprising, the regime finds itself in a dire economic predicament. There are also indications of growing discontent within the regime's military forces and the police, in major part due to the continuous and brutal crackdown on peaceful protestors. International sanctions have also contributed to discontent. The Islamist regime has become a pariah in the international community. The ideology of the regime and its power structure preclude any reform or change. Put differently, the ideology and power structure of the Islamic Republic are antithetical to the demands of the Iranian people for liberty, secularism and democracy. Consequently, no meaningful change in Iran can take place in the absence of regime change. However, the fall of the regime will take some more time.

Vernetti: What is your vision for the future if Iran?

Hijri: Our vision for the future of Iran is a secular, democratic and federal democracy in which the rule of law is upheld and Iran's various national communities enjoy self-rule within their regions. In terms of foreign policy, we believe that Iran should be at peace with its neighbours in the Middle East and have constructive relations with democracies around the world, in particular the Western democracies. For this vision to be realized, Iran needs to be at



peace with itself. Without freedom, secularism, democracy and a federal system that reflects Iran's diversity, it is not possible to achieve peace at home or in the Middle East, let alone constructive relations with the Western World – against which the Islamic Republic is ideologically hostile.

Vernetti: What do you think that the community of the democratic countries could do for supporting the protests and the uprising of the Iranian people?

Hijri: The democratic countries could take practical steps to support the Iranian people's uprising. They could, for example, bring the opposition together and in particular initiate dialogue with and aid the Kurdish democratic forces. The democratic countries should take immediate steps to facilitate secure access to the internet for the Iranian population.

Vernetti: Do you think that the negotiation on the Nuclear Deal should interrupted?

Hijri: A renegotiated nuclear deal with the Islamic Republic will only be to the benefit of the Islamist regime – as we witnessed when the world powers reached a deal with Iran in 2015. The economic benefits of the previous nuclear deal were used to expand existing military programs, such as the missile program, and to further prop up the Islamic Revolutionary Guards and other entities that suppress the Iranian people, but also to fund militias and terrorist groups in the Middle East. As the world's major state sponsor of terrorism, the Islamic Republic will use financial resources from a renegotiated deal to expand further in the Middle East, support terrorism globally, and pose a threat to U.S. allies such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Israel in the Middle East.



Khalid Azizi: The West can prevent the Iranian regime's aggression by setting up no-fly zones

Khalid Azizi, spokesperson for the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan (PDKI), met with some Washington investigators and members of the European Union's Parliament at the Gold Institute for International Strategy. At the meeting, they discussed the ways of establishment of stability in the Middle East, and the interference and assaults of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At the meeting, Azizi highlighted the current situation in Iran and Kurdistan, the development of public protests and the uprising throughout Iran.

Azizi also discussed the question of how Europe can help to stabilize and promote peace and democracy in the Middle East as well as the role of the Islamic Republic in ruining the security and stability of the region.

Azizi, mentioned that one way of preventing the Iranian regime from crossing borders of neighbouring countries and conducting missiles strikes is setting up no-fly zones.

Azizi is on an official visit to the United States to meet with officials and academics in the country.



Democratic Party of
Iranian Kurdistan

The regime's crimes at Evin prison are unacceptable!

On the night of October 15, 2022, the notorious Evin Prison erupted in a fire that was caused by the Islamist regime of Iran. This criminal act is a repetition of the massacre of 1986 and the continuation of other crimes such as child abuse and killings in universities and schools.

We strongly condemn this crime, and we have no doubt that the freedom-loving people of Iran will not leave this brazen attack on the lives of the prisoners and their children unanswered.

We, as the Cooperation Center of the Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties, believe that a coordinated movement toward a nationwide strike should be taken and all political, civil, cultural, and social organizations, alongside the Iranian people, show their will and anger against the Islamic Republic of Iran. We declare our agreement to a nationwide solidarity in advance and we do hope that we will stand united against the Islamic Republic and its crimes.

With nationwide protests and strikes, the walls of prisons are also falling. The responsibility for the life of each and every prisoner rests with the rulers of the Islamist regime in Iran. We call on the international community not to remain silent and to take action to support the prisoners and people of Iran.

The Cooperation Centre of Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties
October 16, 2022



Democratic Party of
Iranian Kurdistan

Statement by the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan (PDKI) on Iran's missile attacks

At approximately 8:45 a.m. Monday, November 14, 2022, the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) once again fired missiles at the headquarters of the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan (PDKI), in violation of all international principles. Unfortunately, in this missile attack, two Peshmergas were martyred, and several others wounded.

In addition to targeting the headquarters of PDKI near the city of Koya, the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) also launched a missile attack on headquarters of the Komala Toilers Party of Kurdistan in Zargoez, near Sulaymaniyah.

The continued missile attacks by the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps on the headquarters of eastern Kurdistan's political parties come at a time when a nationwide uprising has been going on in Iran for more than two months. The Islamic Republic of Iran attempts to continue to stay in power by brutal violence and killings of demonstrators at home and by missile and drone attacks on the headquarters of Kurdistan's political parties. But as we have always proven, we will never give up on our rights and we will continue our struggle against the Islamist regime. The Iranian people of all backgrounds and nationalities are also determined to end this corrupt regime.

The people of Kurdistan and other parts of Iran will respond to the brutality, killings, and attacks of the Islamic Republic of Iran with their continuous demonstrations and will prove that their will is stronger than the brutal violence of the regime.

Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan
November 14, 2022

PESHMARGA!

Kurdish freedom fighters



Democratic Party of
Iranian Kurdistan

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In the name of Women, Life, Freedom!

At a time when the freedom seeking people in Kurdistan and Iran are preparing to enter the third month of their revolution with more energy and determination, Iran's terrorist Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps attacked Kurdish political parties again with missiles and suicide drones in Kurdistan Region in Iraq. Unfortunately several people were injured and two Peshmergas were martyred in these attacks.

We, and all the people in Kurdistan and Iran, are witnessing the regime's latest reprehensible actions before its demise. It is not only us and the people of Kurdistan and Iran but also the regime itself who are certain that the regime will be forced to surrender to the will of the people. The people are determined to bring an end to this regime.

The regime knows very well that the main base of the Kurdish political parties are located in the heart of the people of Kurdistan. Every home, every street, in every city and village is our base. The people of Kurdistan are not afraid of missiles and drones and they will not allow their revolution be derailed by these cowardly attacks.

We therefore ask:

1. That the people of Kurdistan and Iran on November 17, as it marks the third month of the revolution, stage a general strike from morning until 16:00. After 16:00 we urge people to welcome the third month of the revolution by demonstrating with all their force against the brutal regime under the slogan "women, life, freedom".

2. Business and shop owners in Kurdistan have been on strike for 12 while days during the past two months. These business and shop owners have carried the revolution on their shoulders despite being under heavy pressure. Therefore, in solidarity and in aim of unity, we urge all people, political organizations, activists, the neighborhood committees, and all individuals in Iran who have during the played a role in this revolution to both demonstrate against the regime and stage a general strike in the larger cities and in factories. This will not only strengthen the unity amongst all the people of Iran, it will also be another step towards victory for the revolution.

Cooperation Center of Iranian Kurdistan's Political Parties
November 14, 2022



SAVE US



Democratic Party of
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2022

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