



**Statement concerning the repression of social protest in Iran**  
*Izquierda Unida's International Commission – 10/01/2018*

**Izquierda Unida condemns the repression of social protests in Iran and the attempt to instrumentalize them by the United States, Israel and Saudi Arabia**

Izquierda Unida expresses its solidarity with the people's protests which have taken place in Iran during the last weeks. Thousands of workers and students have taken to the streets around the country to demand an end to the growing socioeconomic inequality, which is a direct consequence of the Iranian Government's neoliberal policy. The violation of the democratic rights of the Iranian people, particularly women's rights, make social protest the only way large sectors of society have to demand their rights. These demands clearly have a popular nature, based on economic and labour rights, and have received the support of all the political forces of the Iranian left, which are banned by the Government.

We condemn the repression of these protests, including the murder in prison of Sina Ghanbari and the disappearance of Ashkan Absavaran, both detained during the protests. We also demand the liberation of the over 1,700 people detained for participating in the protests.

We condemn any attempt by the United States, the State of Israel or Saudi Arabia to instrumentalise these protests and intervene in the internal political processes of the Iranian people in order to defend their own interests. These countries have a long history of this kind of intervention, always ending with violence and brutality. These states have no credibility, as they have promoted economic sanctions on Iran, one of the factors that have led the country to its current situation.

Izquierda Unida wants to show its support to the Iranian working class and their legitimate protests, and therefore we will participate in the protest organised by the Iranian Human Rights Organisation and the Iranian community in Spain in front of the Embassy of Iran in Madrid next Friday 12th January at 12:00.

**IZQUIERDA UNIDA'S INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION**  
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