
UN Human Rights Council
51st Regular Session, September 2022

Item 4 – General Debate

Ambassador Meirav Eilon Shahar
Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. President,

Israel is extremely concerned about the ongoing human rights situation in Iran.

As I speak, Iranian women are on the streets demanding an end to oppression, and demanding justice for Mahsa Amini; a woman beaten to death by the Iranian so called “morality police.” A woman accused of breaking the law requiring the compulsory wearing of the Hijab. A woman who was killed simply because she was a woman.

Her murder is just a symptom of the wider repression of women and girls’ rights in Iran. In recent years and in recent months specifically, the Iranian police have expanded patrols and subjected women to verbal and physical harassment and abuse. Women have been slapped across the face, beaten with batons.

Mr. President,

As Iranian women took to the streets to protest the murder of Mahsa Amini, they were met with tear gas, water cannon, and bullets. The Iranian authorities met the innocent women and men of Iran with an iron fist. Just like 2019, the Iranian government once again attempt to use internet blackouts to build a web of immunity. They look to cover up their human rights violations by shutting off Iran from the outside world.

Mr. President,

The International Community must send a clear message to the women of Iran. We stand with you. We stand with Mahsa Amini.

I thank you.