



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

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55th session of the Human Rights Council
Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission
on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran
18th March 2024

Delivered by Ambassador Vincenzo Grassi,
Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. President,

Italy aligns itself with the EU statement and thanks the Fact-Finding Mission for its report.

Italy is deeply concerned about the serious human rights violations reported in the context of the recent protests, including unnecessary and disproportionate use of force, arbitrary arrests, torture, unlawful killings and repression of victims' families. The pervasive institutional discrimination against women and girls, along with cases of rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence in places of detention, are unacceptable. The impact on ethnic, religious and other minorities is alarming.

Italy condemns in the strongest terms the practice of imposing and carrying out death sentences on protesters. We firmly oppose the use of capital punishment in any circumstance. We urge Iran to halt all executions and to pursue a consistent policy towards the abolition of death penalty.

We call on Iran to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. We exhort Iran to end all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls. Those responsible for human rights violations must be held accountable and all victims redressed.

Cooperation with human rights mechanisms created by this Council remains crucial. We value the work of the FFM and of the Special Rapporteur, and therefore reiterate our full support to both mandates.

I thank you