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Trans-Atlantic Parliamentary Group on Counter Terrorism

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Declaration Condemning Human Rights Abuse in Iran and Calling for an International Investigation

In view of the massive uprising that followed the presidential elections in Iran on June 12, 2009, in protest of alleged fraud committed by the government favoring the re-election of President Mahmoud Ahmedinijad;

In view of the harsh repression by the Iranian regime and its militia, called the Basij, of the peaceful demonstrations;

In view of the fact that the demonstrations were vast, encompassing large segments of civil society, and that the regime's militias performed large scale abuse of human rights leading to arrests, torture, and in some cases murder of innocent civilians, such as the young girl Neda, as reported by the media;

In view of the fact that these demonstrations are a legitimate right for the people of Iran and protected under international law; that that its violent and bloody repression are in breach of human rights.

And in view of the fact that the mass scale abuse of these citizens by the Iranian regime's militia endangers the civilian population, especially women and children, and thus constitute a violation of international fundamental rights;

We, the undersigned, call upon:

- 1) The government of Iran to put an immediate end to the abuses of its citizen's human rights.
- 2) The Secretary General of the United Nations to dispatch a team of investigators to Iran to inquire about the human rights abuses and report back their findings to the international community. We urge this team to visit political detainees in prisons, meet with the leaders of the opposition and with the demonstrators to present a full picture of abuse taking place.
- 3) Our respective governments of the United States, Canada and the European Union, and on the United Nations, to investigate the so-called "Basij militia" for allege abuse of human rights.
- 4) On the United Nations Human Rights Council to freeze the membership of Iran until a full investigation is completed by the Council and the U.N. Secretariat General on the mass scale abuse of human rights in Iran; including the identification of those inside the Iranian regime responsible for issuing the orders to commit the atrocities. Iran should not be allowed to remain on the Human Rights Council when it does not defend human rights within its own border.

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