

ISJ PRESS RELEASE

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US CONGRESS RESOLUTION PILES THE PRESSURE ON IRAN

Javad Zarif's Leaked Remarks

A ground-breaking resolution on Iran, which has received majority backing from 225 congresswomen and congressmen from both sides of the aisle, has been warmly welcomed by the ISJ. House Resolution 118 comprehensively covers the theocratic regime's egregious abuse of human rights, their massacre of over 30,000 political prisoners in 1988, their murder of 1500 protesters during a nationwide uprising in 2019 and their history of torture, brutality, injustice and arbitrary executions. The resolution calls for those responsible to be held accountable for crimes against humanity. The resolution also demands an end to the Iranian regime's policy of aggressive expansionism across the Middle East and their role as the Godfather of international terror, highlighting repeated cases of Iranian so-called 'diplomats' involved in terror plots in the West, including the recent conviction of Assadollah Assadi in a Belgian Court.

The ISJ believe that the resolution represents a comprehensive template for dealing with the theocratic regime in Iran and must be seen as a key exemplar which should be grasped receptively by the international community. The ISJ trust that the Biden administration will now base their policy on Iran on the terms of this comprehensive resolution, which in particular offers a better future for the beleaguered Iranian people by following the ten-point plan promoted by Mrs Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the main democratic opposition to the theocratic regime, the National Council of Resistance of Iran. Mrs Rajavi's plan calls for a secular, non-nuclear Iran where freedom, democracy, justice, human rights and women's rights are at the core of a major package of reforms.

The House of Representatives resolution will come as a major blow to the tyrannical mullahs who now face the greatest challenges of their four decades in power. In a recent leaked classified recording of an interview with foreign minister Javad Zarif, he can be heard protesting that for years he felt his role had been undermined by the IRGC. He claimed that he had spent much of his time clearing up the international and diplomatic mess made by Qasem Soleimani and the IRGC. The leaked interview dramatically highlights evidence of the escalating splits within the higher echelons of the clerical regime's leadership. It reveals how Zarif's repeated assertions of support and comradeship with Soleimani were blatant lies and demonstrates clearly that the theocratic regime is a military machine, hellbent on building a nuclear weapon and run by the IRGC under the direct command of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. It is clear that President Rouhani, Foreign Minister Zarif and indeed all of the institutions of government as well as the parliament are mere window-dressing for a sinister military-run regime that is hostile and threatening to the West. The UN, US, EU and UK should

think twice before accepting Rouhani or Zarif's signature on any Treaty or Agreement, as clearly, they do not represent the seat of power in the mullahs' regime.

Zarif's leaked remarks prove once again that the regime is promoting the reformist-hardliner subterfuge, to mislead Iran's international counterparts, enabling it to continue its terrorist and malign behaviour. Without exception, all of the regime's officials, including Zarif, are involved in its major criminal acts. Indeed, as outlined by the House resolution, Zarif, as foreign minister, must bear direct responsibility for the deployment of Iranian diplomats in terrorist activities and for the use of Iran's embassies as terror cells and bomb factories. European and American lawmakers should now ask themselves if there is any conceivable value in continuing their outreach to the supposedly 'moderate' factions in the regime, if members of those factions freely acknowledge that their hard-line colleagues are openly in charge.

Hard-line political dominance is ingrained in the structure of the Iranian regime, and within that structure, the only function of reformists is to trick the world into believing it could be otherwise.

H.Res. 118 <u>https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-</u> resolution/118/cosponsors?searchResultViewType=expanded

Javad Zarif tape: <u>https://www.ncr-iran.org/en/news/terrorism-a-fundamentalism/iran-zarif-promotes-false-narrative-of-competing-factions-in-irans-regime/</u> <u>https://english.mojahedin.org/i/javad-zarif-remarks-irgc-foreign-policy-20210429</u>

About ISJ:

International Committee In Search of Justice (ISJ) was initially formed in 2008 as an informal group of EU parliamentarians to seek justice for the Iranian democratic opposition. In 2014 it was registered as a non-profit NGO in Brussels expanding its membership beyond elected parliamentarians to former officials and other dignitaries with an interest to promote human rights, freedom, democracy, peace and stability.