

Annual Report 2018



Annual Report 2018

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www.iranhumanrights.org

Annual Report *2018*



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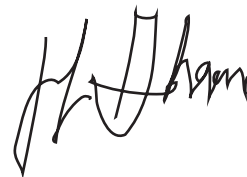
Dear Friends,

Despite the challenges facing the human rights community in Iran, meaningful and positive change is happening. There is growing public awareness of right violations, increasing demands for government transparency and accountability, and mounting pressure on the authorities for change.

The Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI) has been central to this process. Our coverage of human rights violations occurring throughout the country—expansive, verified and in real-time—combined with intensive media outreach and global advocacy, has helped show Iranians that speaking out and holding violators accountable is not only possible, it is impactful. New topics are entering the public domain in Iran for debate: the refusal to allow women's attendance at public events, discrimination against the Baha'i community, the stigma facing persons with disabilities, the prevalence of sexual harassment and child marriage, and many other issues. Little by little, the culture of impunity that has aided human rights violators in Iran for decades is being eroded.

Our careful and unbiased work has meant international media and governments worldwide trust CHRI and turn to us as an informed and reliable source of information, analysis and recommendations. As a result, international pressure has bolstered the calls for human rights accountability in Iran.

The result is impact—helping to change Iran's death penalty laws to save thousands of lives each year, advancing the rights of women and children, releasing or obtaining medical care for political prisoners, initiating groundbreaking advocacy for people with disabilities, safeguarding Iranians' online communication and increasing pressure globally and inside Iran for a broad range of citizens' rights. Much more needs to be done. We urge all to stand with us in this vital work—unwavering, hopeful and determined—and we thank you for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hadi Ghaemi', with a stylized, cursive script.

Hadi Ghaemi
Executive Director

For 10 years, the **Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI)** has been working to support the basic rights and freedoms of the Iranian people and hold the Iranian government accountable to its international human rights obligations.

We've relentlessly investigated and documented rights violations, developed diverse and innovative platforms to deliver this information to a growing audience that ranges from global leaders to concerned citizens around the world, extensively informed international media, and worked with policymakers worldwide to generate pressure for change.

Central to CHRI's work is our close collaboration with activists, journalists, lawyers, human rights defenders and other members of civil society, as well as other major human rights organizations, to help ensure the message of human rights reaches Iran where dissent is suppressed and criminalized and throughout the world where attention is often elsewhere.

Independent, nonpartisan and nonprofit, the New York-based CHRI is comprised of award-winning journalists, researchers, lawyers, activists and advocates based around the world who are dedicated to the rigorous and unwavering pursuit of human rights and dignity for all.

WHAT WE DO



INVESTIGATE

CHRI carefully investigates rights violations occurring throughout Iran, conducting extensive interviews with primary sources, family members and lawyers of detainees, eyewitnesses and even persons behind bars who smuggle notes out of prison to us. We employ rigorous fact-checking and background research so that we are fully informed on the nature of the violation, its context and its implications.

We cover developments and issues that would otherwise go uncovered, such as



A political prisoner's critical illness left untreated

Alireza Rajaei (at left, before he entered prison) lost part of his face in August 2017 (at right, after surgery) due to sinus cancer that was left untreated in Evin Prison.

Labor leaders spending years in prison for trying to obtain payment of workers' wages or a livable income

Esmail Abdi (on left), arrested in November 2016, is serving a six-year prison sentence for peaceful activism in support of teachers' rights. Mahmoud Beheshti Langroudi (on right), a former Iranian Teachers Trade Association (ITTA) spokesman, began his most recent imprisonment in September 2017. He is serving multiple sentences for his peaceful trade union activities.



A detainee's denial of access to counsel

Hengemeh Shahidi is serving a 12.9-year prison sentence for her public criticism of former Chief Justice Sadegh Larijani under the charges of "defamation," "publishing falsehoods," "insulting officials," "propaganda against the state" and "acting against national security." She was held in solitary confinement for more than nine months.



A woman jailed for removing her hijab

Vida Movahedi's public protest against Iran's compulsory hijab helped fuel a civil disobedience movement in Iran against forced hijab. On December 27, 2017, Movahedi stood on a utility box on Revolution St. in Tehran and waved her headscarf in protest against mandatory hijab. The photo of this went viral on social media. Dozens of Iranian women, the "Girls of Revolution Street," followed suit in the ensuing months and at least 30 were arrested in 2018.



The execution of a juvenile offender

Abolfazi Chezani Sharahi was 15 years old when he was convicted of fatally stabbing a man. Despite serious concerns regarding the handling of the case, he was executed on June 27, 2018.

The banning from university of a Baha'i student

The Baha'i religious minority is severely persecuted in Iran. Imprisoned for the open practice of their faith, they are often also denied employment and university education, and their businesses are frequently shuttered and property confiscated by the state. Clockwise from upper left: Soha Izadi, Tara Houshmand, Arash Razavian and Sarir Movaghan were all expelled from university because of their Baha'i faith.







DOCUMENT

After our information gathering, fact-checking and analysis of events, CHRI channels its real-time reporting into over a thousand news pieces each year, uncovering abuses and bringing them into the public domain with urgent calls to action. These pieces are published in both English and Farsi—1,191 in 2018 alone—and sent directly to over 4000 key decision makers every year, including government and UN leaders, members of the media, and major NGOs. They are also viewed by over one hundred thousand visitors on our website each year.

Our reporting often breaks critical human rights news and CHRI's articles are used as a primary source of information by key actors in decision-making circles, at the UN, with diplomats worldwide, and with governments around the world, which act on this information to address human rights violations and advance policy changes.

We also provide in-depth analysis, with comprehensive reports and briefings. With these reports, CHRI takes complex human rights issues and provides background and context so that the issues and their implications are fully understood and integrated into policy debates.

Our groundbreaking report on Disabilities Rights in Iran, *I am Equally Human*, done collaboratively with Human Rights Watch, draws on extensive research and 58 interviews with persons with disabilities, their family members and service providers to reveal the severe rights violations and lack of accessibility that persons with disabilities face in Iran. The report includes detailed recommendations for stakeholders that can bring change to this issue.



“I Am Equally Human”

Discrimination and Lack of Accessibility for People with Disabilities in Iran

HUMAN
RIGHTS
WATCH

Center for
**HUMAN
RIGHTS**
in Iran

Report

Closing of the Gates

Implications of Iran's Ban on the Telegram Messaging App



Our report on the Iranian Judiciary's ban on the Telegram messaging app, *Closing of the Gates*, provides detailed research and analysis of the ban, the state's social media policies, the emerging technological architecture of Iran's digital censorship policies, and the implications for Iranians' social and economic rights. It includes interviews with dozens of Iranians across the political and economic spectrum, revealing evolving state capabilities and intentions regarding the control of information.

Briefing

Silencing the Streets, Deaths in Prison

The December 2017 Crackdown in Iran



Silencing the Streets, Deaths in Prison, CHRI's report on the street protests that erupted across Iran on the cusp of 2018—and the violent state response—provides real-time reportage and analysis of these events. It explains the genesis of a social movement in the making, highlighting suppressed societal voices and revealing the evolving social, political, economic and human rights discourse in Iran—in particular the emerging debate on governance and accountability and the growing focus on social and economic rights. The report includes dozens of firsthand testimonies from released detainees, their families and their attorneys and shines a spotlight on the brutality and deaths that occurred in state custody.

Report

A Harmful Distraction

The Implications of Rouhani's Citizens' Rights Charter for Human Rights in Iran



We also provided analysis of one of the Rouhani administration's signature domestic initiatives—the Citizens' Rights Charter—and assesses its implications for human rights in Iran. The report, *A Harmful Distraction*, is essential reading for government and UN policy makers charting a path forward with the Islamic Republic, especially EU policy makers who have emerged as key interlocutors with Iran. It provides a critical corrective for a misleading narrative regarding the charter that has undermined human rights advocacy with Iran, facilitating the reintegration and prioritization of human rights into the European foreign policy agenda.

Report

Guards at the Gate

The Expanding State Control Over the Internet in Iran



Guards at the Gate, our in-depth report on the state's massive, decade-long investment in the country's National Information Network (NIN), designed to restrict Iranians to an internet, censored and monitored by the authorities, provides detailed analysis of the state's technological and policy initiatives and capabilities, and the implications for online access and security in Iran. Drawn from four years of intensive and original CHRI research, the report provides the most comprehensive mapping and analysis of Iran's internet architecture and the policies and technological advancements shaping state control over online communications in Iran.

INFORM

Our media outreach is an integral part of our work to spread awareness and build pressure for change. We have become the leading global source of trusted and expert information on human rights issues in Iran.

CHRI was cited 4,820 times by international media in six continents in 2018 alone...with hundreds of additional citations in Farsi-language media.

The New York Times

"He fell victim as a pawn," Hadi Ghaemi, the executive director of the Center for Human Rights in Iran, told me. "The official account has no credibility. Why no autopsy? Why terrorize his family? Seyed Emami's death is an indication of the gathering storm in Iran."

February 14, 2018

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

"This is a prison system out of control and a judiciary that is actively colluding in a massive coverup," said Hadi Ghaemi, the executive director of the Center for Human Rights in Iran.

February 13, 2018

The Guardian

According to the Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI), at least seven human rights lawyers have been detained, charged or summoned.

August 15, 2018



REUTERS

"Towns and villages around Isfahan have been hit so hard by drought and water diversion that they have emptied out and people who lived there have moved," said Hadi Ghaemi, the executive director for the Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI), a New York-based advocacy group.

March 29, 2018

We give in-depth briefings to leading editors and journalists, providing information, background, context, interviews and analysis for detailed exploration and understanding of complex issues and events for influential publications worldwide.

We keep critical rights issues in the public eye, bringing to the fore issues that would otherwise go uncovered and providing insights and commentary in op-eds and interviews that reach millions.

artnet®

Citing a letter Vafadari wrote from prison dated January 21, the New York-based Center for Human Rights in Iran said he was given a sentence of 27 years in prison, 124 lashes, a fine of \$243,000, and confiscation of all his assets. Neyssari, an architect, was sentenced to 16 years in prison.

January 31, 2018

AP

The New York-based Center for Human Rights in Iran says at least three detainees arrested in the recent protests have already died in custody.

January 9, 2018

The Washington Post

At least three others have also recently been sentenced to death for similar crimes — and scores more arrested — according to the New York-based Center for Human Rights in Iran, which has tracked the prosecutions.

November 30, 2018

ESPN

FIFA boss Gianni Infantino said that he had received a promise from Iranian President Hassan Rouhani that women would have access to stadiums soon. "Iranian women's rights activists were glad," Jasmin Ramsey, deputy director of communications for the Center for Human Rights in Iran told ESPN FC.

June 24, 2018

WIRED

On Tuesday, the Center for Human Rights in Iran published a detailed report on the profound impact of blocking Telegram, based on dozens of firsthand accounts from inside the country.

June 19, 2018



RadioFreeEurope RadioLiberty

The Center for Human Rights in Iran said it had documented the deaths of three arrested protesters, The Associated Press reported on January 9.

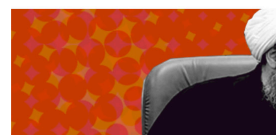
January 31, 2018

Our Farsi work is integral to our mission of advancing human rights in Iran. We reach a steadily expanding audience among Iranians worldwide by producing all our work in Farsi and engaging in extensive Farsi media outreach. This enables the Farsi-speaking community to engage more fully in the discussion on human rights and create pressure for positive change.

۱۲۱ برنده جایزه صلح نوبل در نامه‌ای به رهبر ایران خواستار آزادی سریع
احمدرضا جلالی از زندان شدند

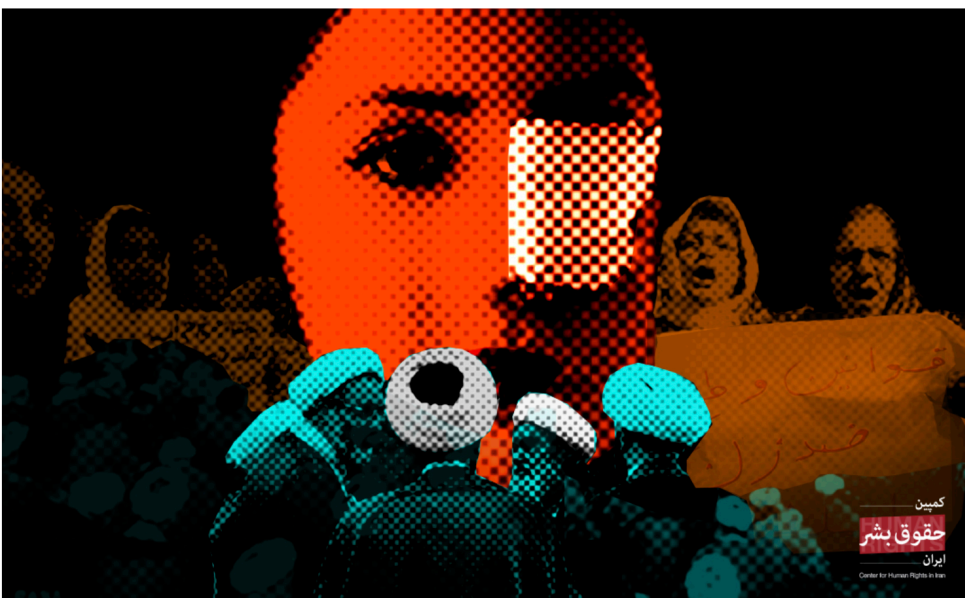


ن بگیرد و حق اعتراض آنها



به خانواده شش نفر از زندانیان دولیتی در ایران به رهبران جهان،
ادعای حقوق بشری و رسانه‌ها

مجلس باید تصویب لایحه تامین امنیت زنان در برابر خشونت را در اولویت
قرار دهد



قانون تامین امنیت زنان در برابر خشونت در حالی بلا تکلیف رها شده که زنان به دلیل مجازات نکردن خشونت‌گران
زنان با سوءرفتار مواجه هستند

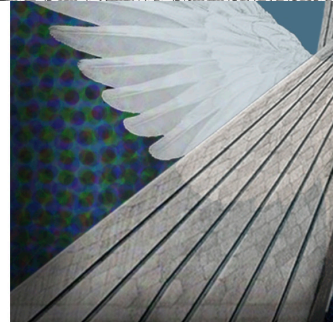
زنان دارای معلولیت و سایر گروه‌های آسیب‌پذیر بیش از دیگران در معرض خشونت قرار دارند



سرکشاده‌ای که متن آن در ادامه آمده است، توسط خانواده شش نفر از زندانیان دولیتی؛
ی هستند و توسط کمیسیون حقوق بشر در ایران منتشر می‌شود:

۱۳۹۷

سرکشاده به رهبران جهان، نهادهای حقوق بشری و رسانه‌ها
نهاد هم‌گرا، سیاسی، در ایران، هستیم و از شما درخواست واکش، فقه، داد، بد.



سیاسی و مشکلات اجتماعی می‌پردازد

We create and promote Farsi social media campaigns that reach millions of Iranians around the world, calling attention to rights violations, keeping the names of political prisoners prominent in the public eye and amplifying calls for people's civil and political rights.

ران باید بحران حقوق معوقه کارگران را جدی
میت بشناسد



علیرضا رضایی، نمادی از هزیه
انفیان است



ویلاکتویس محبوب با استفاده از قالب طنز، به تابوشکنی در خصوص مسایل

کمپین
حقوق بشر
ایران
Center for Human Rights in Iran

نامه سرکشاده نرگس محمدی به دادستان تهران: مدت‌هاست اعزام‌های پزشکی
من به «دلایل نامعلوم» صورت نگرفته است

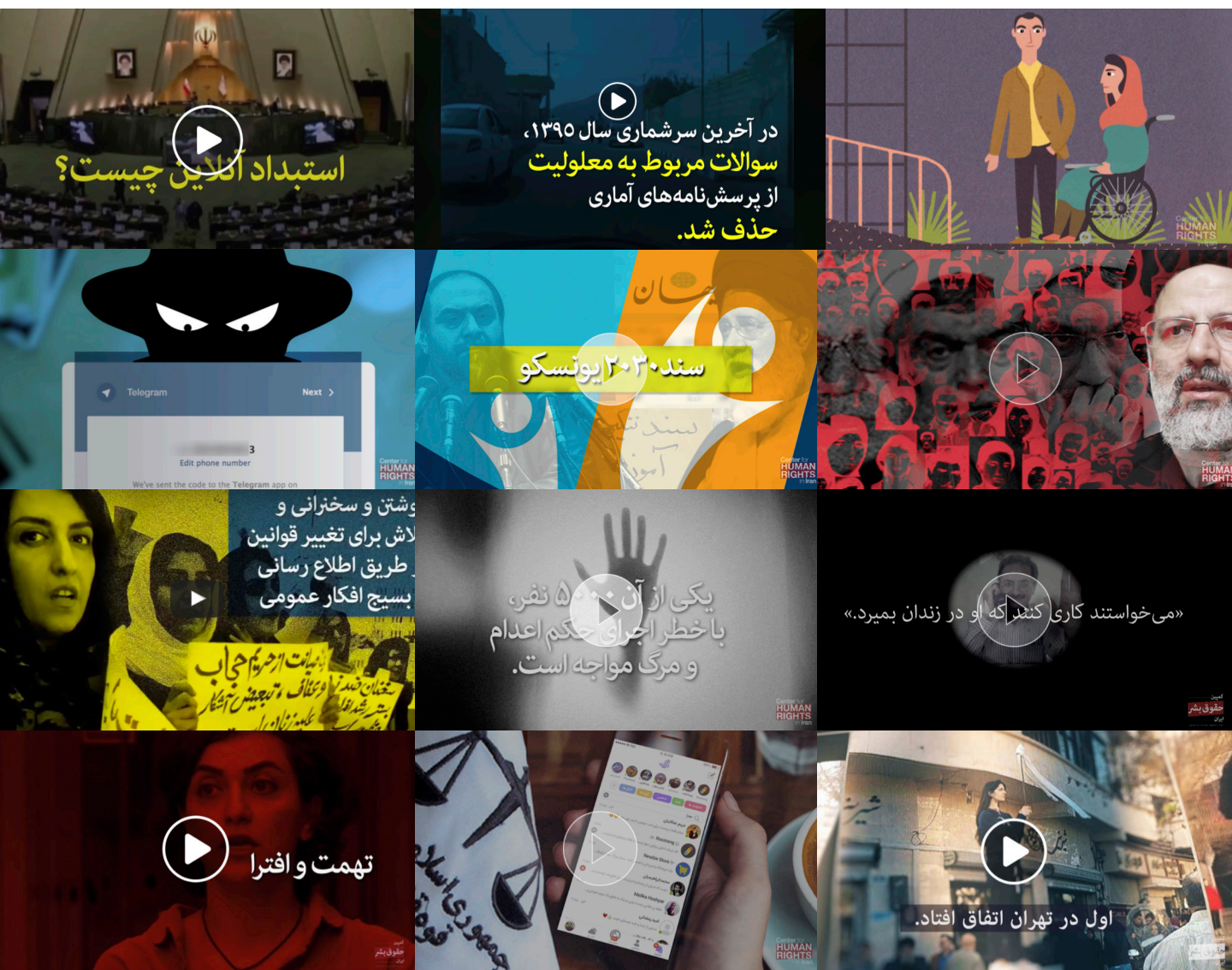


نرگس محمدی فعال حقوق بشری زندانی در نامه‌ای سرکشاده به دادستان تهران نوشته مدت‌هاست اعزام‌های پزشکی او باتوجه به بیماری خطرناکش و علیرغم درخواست‌های پیاپی خودش، پزشکان و وکلایش «به دلایل نامعلوم» انجام نگرفته و حتی «هیچگونه توضیحی» نیز برای انتقال ندادن او به بیمارستان داده نمی‌شود. او مسئولیت جان و سلامت‌ش را به عهده قوه قضاییه دانسته است.

نرگس محمدی در این نامه که تصفای از آن نیز در اختیار کمپین حقوق بشر در ایران قرار گرفته با خطاب قرار دادن عباس چعفری دولت‌پادی، دادستان تهران نوشته است «متأسفانه اینجانب چشم‌امیدی به رعایت انصاف و عدالت از سوی سیستم قضایی کشور ندارم. لذا در مورد احکام غیر عادلانه سختی نمی‌گویم، اما از حضرتعالی تقاضا دارم لاف‌شرايط مراقبت‌های پزشکی و دست‌رسی ما

From left to right: Iranian-born Swedish physician Ahmadreza Djalali was sentenced to death for espionage after refusing to spy for the Intelligence Ministry. After decades of state inaction, citizens protest violence against women. Dozens of dual nationals have been imprisoned without cause or due process. Workers protest the routine lack of payment of wages. The death in exile of satirist Alireza Rezaei brought home the pain of those who have had to flee Iran and are unable to return. Human rights activist Narges Mohammadi must serve 10 years behind bars for her peaceful activism, while her medical illnesses go untreated.

Our Farsi-language videos are viewed by millions, delivering compelling visual stories that illuminate the human cost of rights violations and build support for human rights.



This Farsi-language GIF file sequence shows how CHRI breaks down and communicates complex issues, such as those surrounding violence against women, into compact, social media-friendly and impactful storytelling. Through this, we encourage the audience to follow the issues more closely and we build support for positive action.

State censorship of print and broadcast media in Iran means that the content provided by these Farsi products fills a critical gap, informing a public that otherwise might not learn of these violations and amplifying the voices of those who are suppressed inside the country.

CHRI also gives dozens of Farsi-language media interviews each year to print and broadcast media, informing and building awareness of human rights issues among the Iranian audience.

از هر
۳ زن متاهل
ایرانی

۲ نفر
دست کم یکبار
خشونت را
تجربه کرده‌اند.

مقامات ایرانی
بیش از هفت سال است
که تصویب قانون
تأمین امنیت زنان را
به تاخیر انداخته‌اند.

هر دقیقه به تاخیر انداختن
تصویب این قانون

حمایت از
خشونت علیه زنان است.

As part of CHRI's efforts to raise international awareness of rights abuses in Iran, in September 2018, CHRI used a mobile billboard displaying photos of some of the many political prisoners in Iran to traverse the area outside UN headquarters as President Hassan Rouhani came to NY to attend the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly.





ADVOCATE

CHRI engages in direct international advocacy to inform key global decision makers of rights violations in Iran and advance their support for international initiatives to address these violations. We work with governments around the globe and transnational bodies such as the EU, and we have an active presence at the UN in New York and Geneva where we regularly brief diplomats, members of the Human Rights Council and the special mechanisms.

CHRI's expertise and impartiality makes us a trusted and sought after source of information, analysis and policy recommendations. We regularly inform, brief and advise these major international bodies and officials, enabling us to advocate effectively for statements, policies and practical measures that hold Iran accountable to its rights obligations.



CHRI's participation in a decade-long campaign for reform of Iran's death penalty policies contributed to the passage of a law ending executions for low-level drug crimes in 2017 and a judicial order in January 2018 to suspend death sentences for drug-related crimes pending sentence reviews. This could save thousands of lives; known executions have already declined from 507 in 2017 to 253 in 2018 – a 50% decrease.

We mobilize international pressure for the release of political prisoners; for global efforts to condemn and address unlawful arrests and prosecutions and unfair trials; to change inhumane incarceration conditions, especially the denial of medical care; and to end unlawful and inhumane executions, especially the execution of juvenile offenders.



Dozens of Sufi Gonabadi dervishes, a persecuted religious minority in Iran, have been sentenced to lengthy prison terms since mass protests in February 2018 turned violent. Many are in prison without access to counsel or medical treatment, and they have been subjected to beatings and prolonged periods of solitary confinement. The dervishes here from left to right are: Amin Noori (in prison), Pouria Noori (released from prison in October 2018), Shokoufeh Yadollahi (the mother of the three men pictured here) and Kasra Noori (in prison).

We advocate for the robust defense of freedom of expression, especially the right to peaceful dissent and peaceful protest, for the right of workers to independently organize and defend their rights, and for basic freedoms that open up space for people to speak out, practice their faith, write freely, express themselves, and choose their personal attire freely.



Teachers in Iran have been protesting for years for the ability to organize effective independent unions, to receive fair wages and adequate insurance, and for the release of their leaders who have been imprisoned for peacefully advocating for teachers' rights.

And we advocate forcefully on the international stage to defend the equal rights of all the people of Iran, regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity, sexuality or disabilities.

CHRI also advocates directly with the CEOs and technical teams of leading private tech companies to address the security vulnerabilities in software and applications critical to activists, journalists and others in Iran, so that digital access and privacy can be secured and people can access information and communicate safely.

CHRI works with leading tech firms to help advance tools, services and policies that strengthen internet freedom in Iran, and produces extensive Farsi-language materials to help Iranians understand the state policies and capabilities that endanger their internet access and privacy. Pictured here from left to right are the Telegram messaging application CEO Pavel Durov and Iran's Minister of Information and Communications Technology Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi.



We play a central role in advancing key international human rights initiatives, such as passage of the UNGA Third Committee Resolution on Iran and renewal of the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur for human rights in Iran, and support UN human special mechanisms through the extensive sharing of information and analysis.

CHRI channels its findings into many different products, all in both English and Farsi, so that we can reach and advocate to protect and promote human rights with as broad an audience as possible—well beyond the traditional human rights community—and we bring our body of knowledge directly to decision makers worldwide so that the basic rights and freedoms of the people of Iran can be effectively defended on the international stage.



Our goal is simple: to build the community of determined, committed supporters of human rights—inside Iran and worldwide.

"AHMADREZA'S FAMILY, LAWYER AND HE HAVE MADE MANY REQUESTS FOR HIM TO BE TRANSFERRED TO A HOSPITAL... THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED IRAN SEVERAL TIMES FOR HIM TO RECEIVE TREATMENT."

Vida Mehrannia, Wife

Center for
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RIGHTS
in Iran



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RIGHTS
in Iran

**Stand with the
#GirlsOfRevolutionSt**

Center for
HUMAN
RIGHTS
in Iran

**THAT INTERROGATORS
TOLD DETAINEES TO
REQUEST METHADONE,
A DRUG USED TO TREAT OPIOID ADDICTION**

Center for
HUMAN
RIGHTS
in Iran

COULD BE SAVED.

Center for
HUMAN
RIGHTS
in Iran

NEW TRAVEL BAN

The White House
Office of the Press Secretary
For Immediate Release

September 24, 2017

**Fact Sheet: Proclamation on
Enhancing Vetting Capabilities
and Processes for Detecting
Attempted Entry Into the
United States by Terrorists or
Other Public-Safety Threats**

Background

- Every year, the United States grants lawful permanent resident status to approximately 1.1 million individuals from all across the world.
- In FY 2016, the United States issued approximately 10.4 million

Center for
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RIGHTS
in Iran

Our Videos—all produced in both English and Farsi—take complex issues and make them accessible, understandable and compelling. Produced rapidly in response to urgent issues, these videos allow quick reaction to developing events, and reach huge audiences in both Farsi and English. CHRI produced 56 videos in 2018, reaching combined views of over 6 million.



Narges Mohammadi
Protested Iran's Use of the Death Penalty



Narges Hosseini
Charge: Encouraging Corruption
Sentence: Three Months in Prison and a 21-month Prison Term Suspended for Five Years
Waiting Decision on Appeal



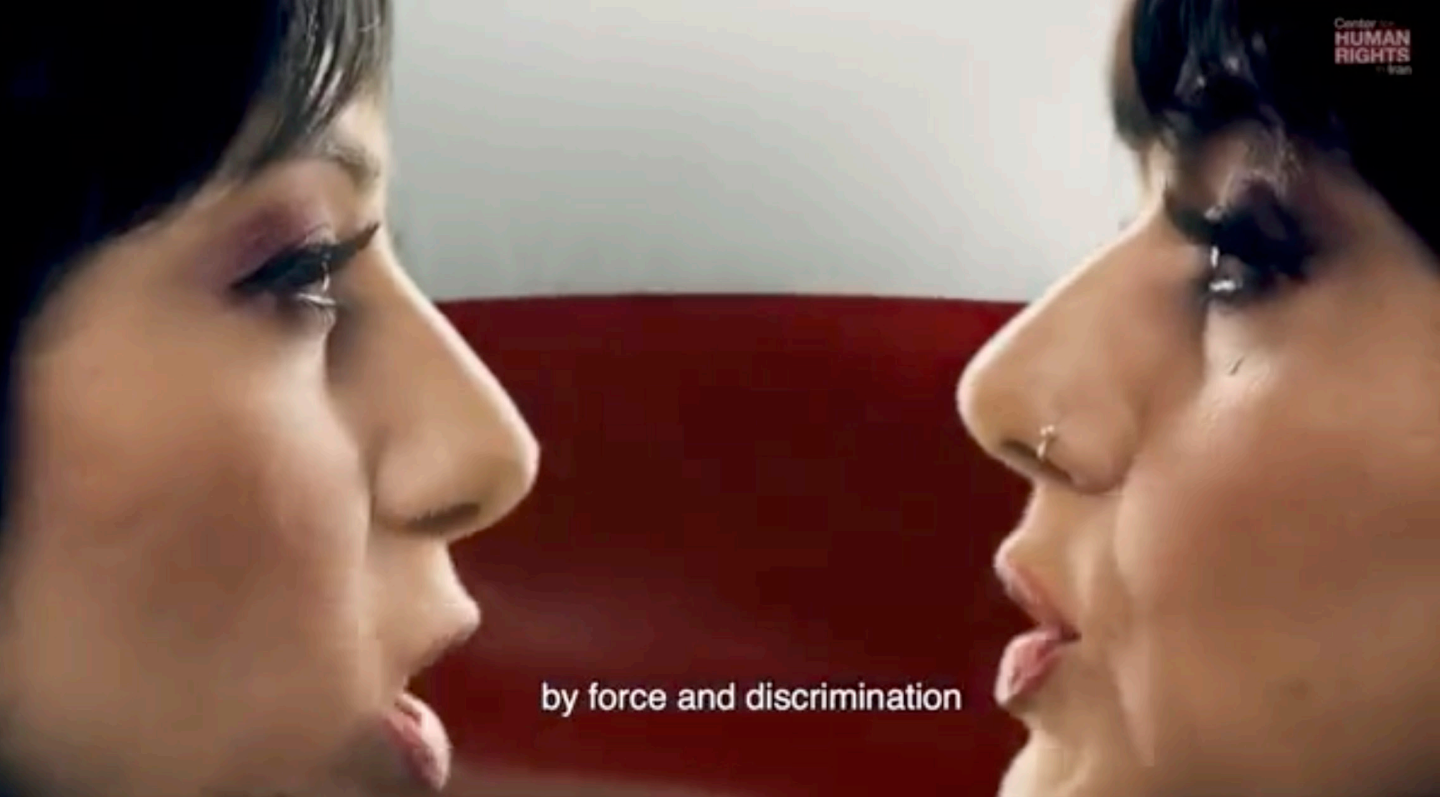
Abdolfattah Soltani
Defended Political Prisoners in Court

Animated shorts—
delivering concise messaging
that's engaging and shareable

From top to bottom: Prominent human rights activist Narges Mohammadi is currently serving 10 years of a 16-year prison sentence for her peaceful activism of civil and political liberties. Sociology student Narges Hosseini was among the women given jail time for peacefully protesting forced hijab; she was sentenced on March 7 to 24 months in prison—21 months suspended for five years. Human rights attorney Abdolfattah Soltani served more than 7 years of a 13-year sentence for defending political prisoners and basic human rights in Iran.

CHRI's groundbreaking work on disability rights has revealed the severe discrimination and lack of accessibility that people with disabilities face in Iran. Our English and Farsi language articles, videos and reports are raising awareness, catalyzing discussion and creating positive change on the ground as both citizens and policy makers learn about the issues.

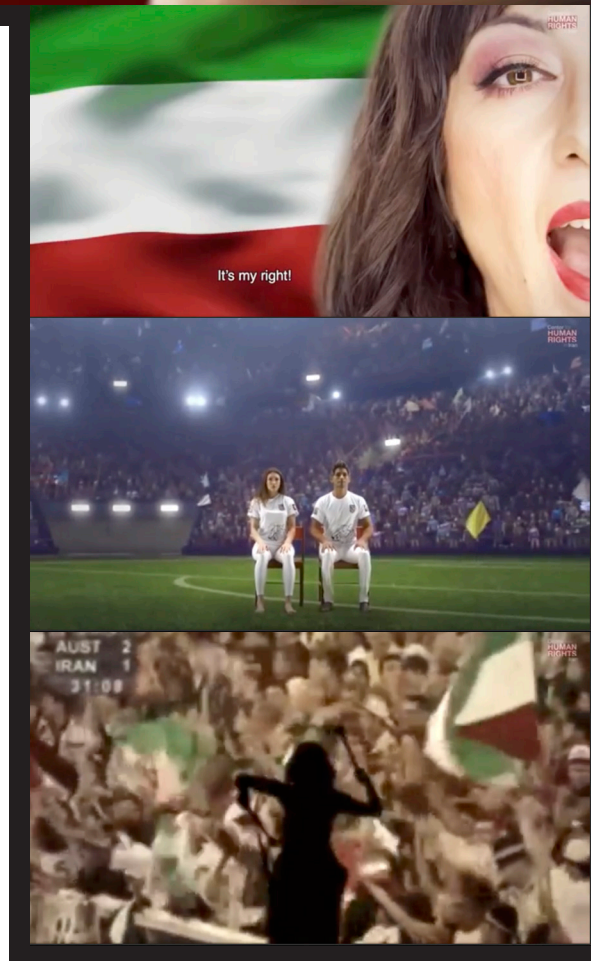




by force and discrimination

Music videos that tap into a new and mass audience beyond the traditional human rights community—making artists a part of the conversation and integrating human rights into mass culture to broaden our reach and impact

CHRI's sponsored a music video by the pop band Abjeez, the first female-led Farsi-language Reggae/Ska band led which is led by sisters Safoura and Melody Safavi, calling on men to support the movement to end Iran's ban on women in sports stadiums. Abjeez's "Stadium," released on the heels of a multi-language campaign by human rights groups urging the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) to demand that Iran end its discriminatory ban, reached more than 700,000 views.





Narges Mohammadi

IMPRISONED FOR HER COURAGE

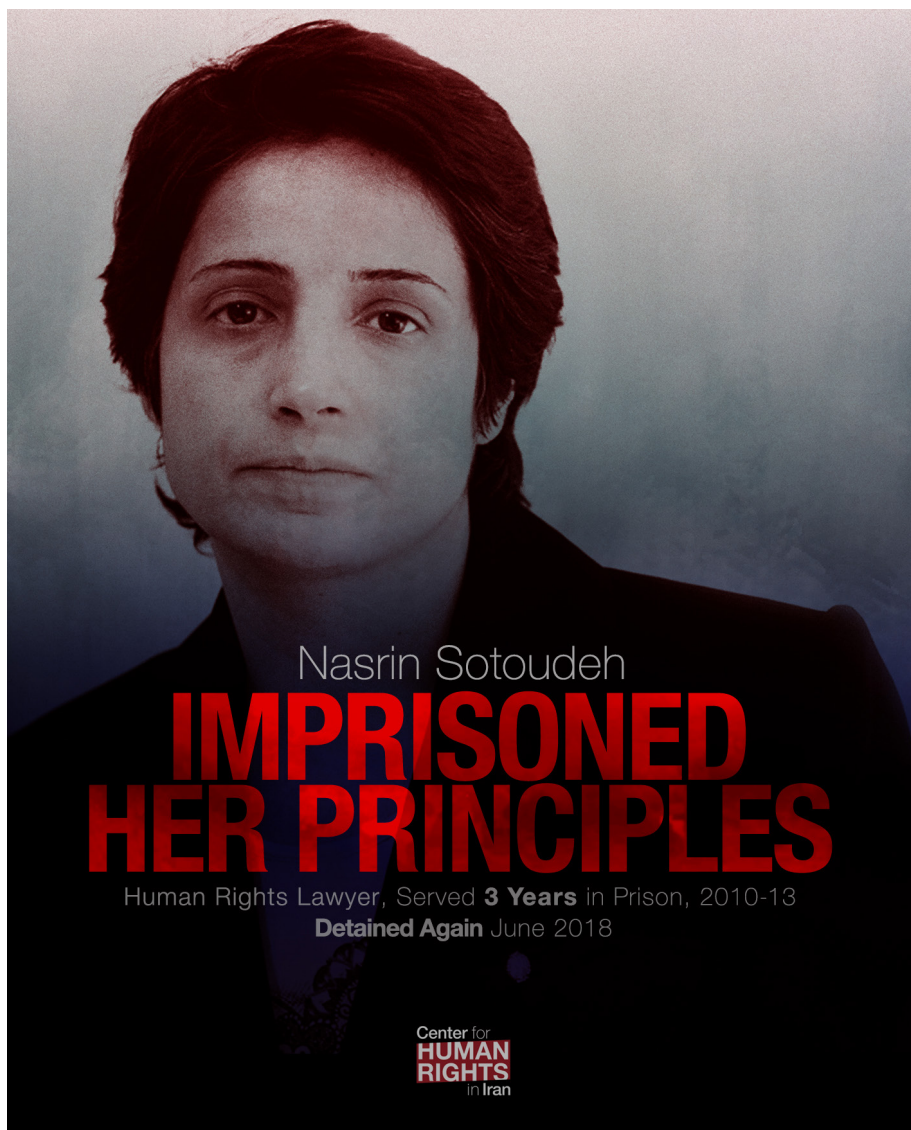
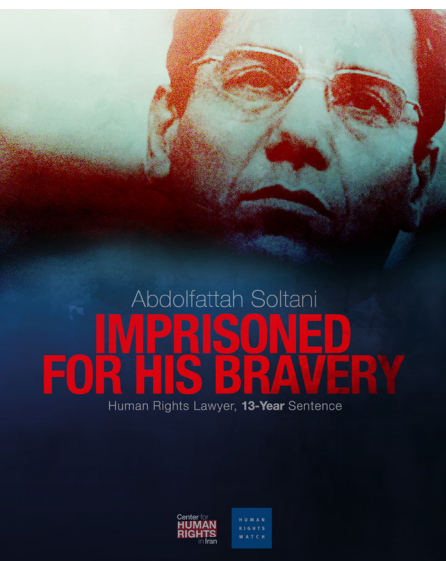
Human Rights Activist, **16-Year** Sentence

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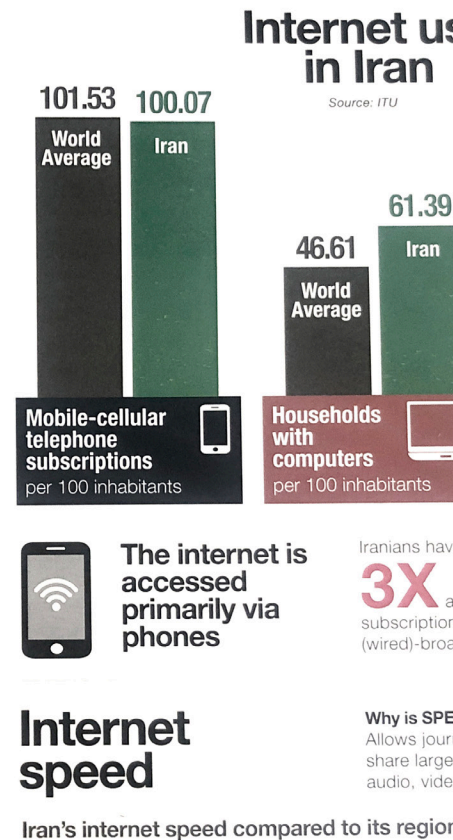
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Our posters of individual political prisoners in Iran are designed in easy-to-download and share formats that help to maintain awareness of Iran's political prisoners and generate pressure for their release. Many have been downloaded thousands of times. These portraits convey the courage and humanity of the prisoners, and are combined with the prisoners' own words, distilling the essence of their message and the sacrifice each has made.



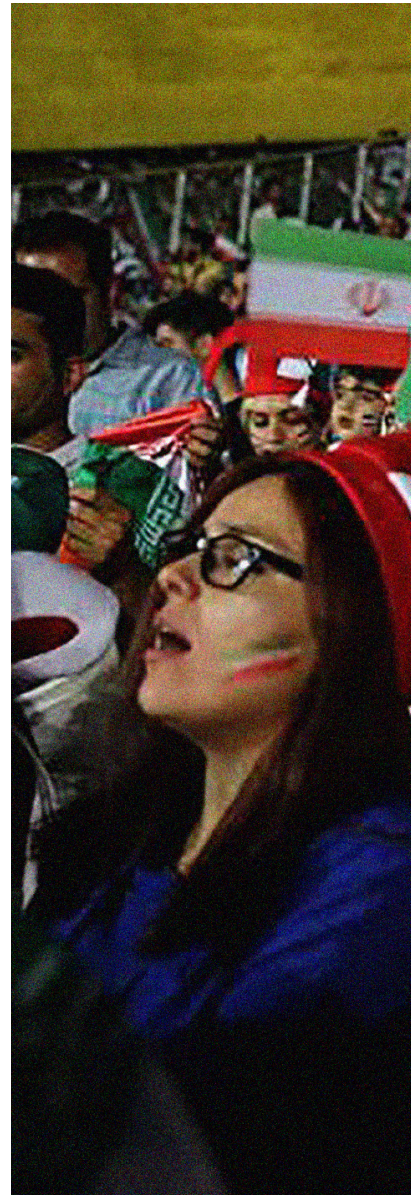
Our fast-paced and rapidly produced GIFs offer condensed story-telling to quickly communicate important and emerging news in engaging and easy-to-share formats. Some of our GIFs have been downloaded half a million times; many receive thousands of views.



Our growing body of Fact Sheets provide concise, media-friendly snapshots of key human rights issues. They condense large amounts of information into clear, accessible and easily understandable visual formats, communicating complex issues quickly and effectively with the most salient points immediately conveyed

CATALYZE DISCUSSION, GALVANIZE ACTION

CHRI develops and initiates major human rights campaigns that bring critical issues to the fore, enlisting trusted and authentic voices that have the authenticity and legitimacy to galvanize public engagement so that human rights issues move boldly into the spotlight and demand attention.



CHRI's work to end the ban on women's attendance at sports stadiums has had tangible impact: the governing football body FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) was urged by its advisory board to give Iran a deadline to lift its ban on women in football stadiums, and Iran relaxed its ban four times in 2018—twice by allowing a limited number of women to watch televised World Cup matches inside Tehran's Azadi Stadium and allowing limited numbers of women to watch men's soccer matches in the stadium in October and November.



BUILD CAPACITY

CHRI believes that capacity building among Iranian diaspora activists and journalists is central to the advancement of human rights in Iran, so that they can more effectively research, document, advocate and share information via digital platforms safely. We provide:

**Intensive training programs
in cybersecurity**

Emergency cybersecurity response

**Research, documentation
and advocacy workshops**

**Educational support for Iranian
students forced to flee Iran.**

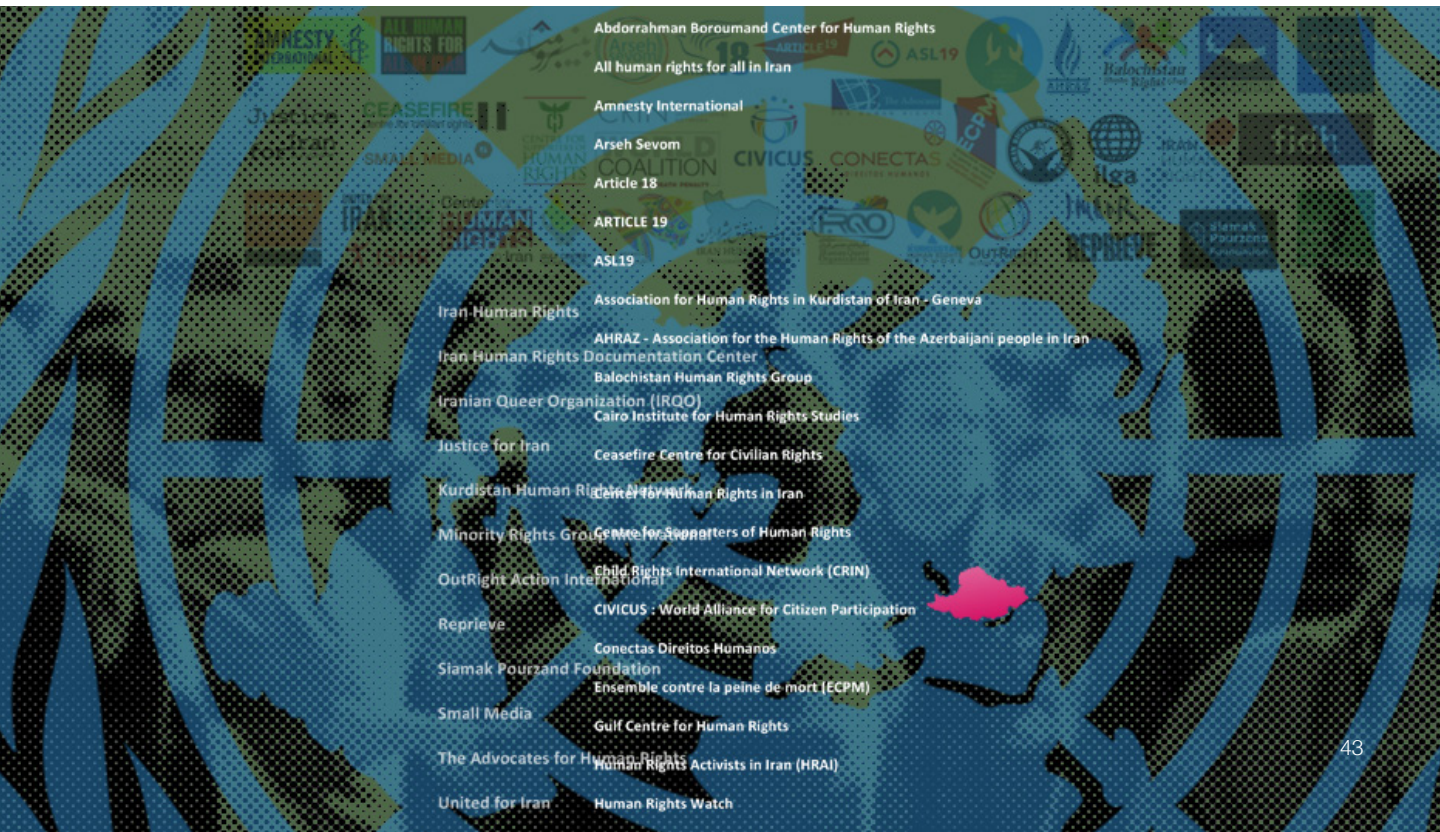
Briefings for Iranian scholars

PARTNERING

We work closely with major rights organizations around the world, collaborating on advocacy initiatives and sharing our expertise in order to maximize impact by creating effective strategic coalitions.

Leading human rights organizations around the world come to us for expertise and guidance.

CHRI provides in-depth information on human rights issues in Iran and works collaboratively on petitions and other campaigns with major international rights organizations such as Human Rights Watch (HRW), Amnesty International, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), Front Line Defenders, FreeMuse, Access Now and many others.







REFUGEE AND ASYLUM ASSISTANCE

CHRI provides direct assistance to refugees and asylum seekers, including affidavit letters, advice, liaison and support services, assistance with translation and documentation, and a range of other supports. We also provide emergency financial assistance for food, shelter, healthcare and education, as well as assistance with finding employment, for those who have had to flee persecution in Iran.

ART AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The human quest for freedom, dignity and basic rights may be expressed in a multitude of ways, and CHRI actively supports the communication of human rights and its centrality to the human condition through an artist's sensibility.



CHRI brings artists into the human rights community and conversation, so that the imperative of basic rights and freedoms can be expressed through art, music, poetry, satire and film.

Through a variety of artistic and cultural initiatives, CHRI seeks to encourage freedom of expression and cultural exchange and, through this, advance tolerance, respect and understanding. Here guests gather at CHRI's 2017 Beyond the Ban exhibition in New York City, which showcased the work of leading Iranian artists based in the United States.



CHRI publishes artwork by leading Iranian artists and brings the work of prominent Iranian artists to international audiences through gallery exhibits and other special events.



In 2018, CHRI commissioned a collection of original illustrations by an Iranian-Canadian artist on a broad range of human rights issues, such as children's rights, religious discrimination, violence against women, press freedoms and many other rights-based topics pertinent to Iran.

WHO WE ARE

The Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI) is comprised of award-winning journalists, lawyers, researchers, writers, designers, multimedia specialists, communication professionals and human rights advocates.

Originally begun in 2008 as a project of the Dutch Foundation for Human Security in the Middle East, since January 2012 CHRI has been a recognized as a United States 501(c)3 charity organization. Based in New York, CHRI is an independent, non-partisan and nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of human rights in Iran.

Our mission is to ensure a culture of respect for the human dignity and rights of all and to hold Iranian state actors accountable to their international obligations.

Our approach is nonpolitical; we operate within the framework of human rights law, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), as well as other conventions Iran has ratified, customary international law, and humanitarian law.



Hadi Ghaemi
Executive Director

Our Board of Directors are:



Banafsheh
Akhlaghi



Nina
Ansary



John Berton
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Boniadi



Karim
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