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The UK's IRGC ban and the imperative to recognize the Iranian people's right to overthrow the regime



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On Monday, July 13, 2026, the British government officially banned support for the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and its linked groups.

The UK's proscription is a highly welcomed and long-overdue step that validates the decades-long warnings of the Iranian Resistance. However, designating the IRGC must not be the end of the road. As this development proves that the regime relies entirely on state-sponsored terrorism to survive, the sole logical next step for the international community is to completely isolate the religious fascism ruling Iran and officially recognize the Iranian people's right to confront this terror apparatus and overthrow the regime.

For years, Western capitals were paralyzed by a policy of willful blindness, desperate to preserve bilateral ties with Tehran. But the UK's legal pivot demonstrates that the IRGC's terrorism is an active, borderless threat that can no longer be ignored.

The UK implemented new powers under the fast-tracked National Security (State Threats) Act 2026. The government and intelligence agencies acted upon deep concerns regarding foreign powers paying organized crime groups for sabotage and surveillance on British soil.

The new powers close a critical gap in existing laws around state-linked actors, making it entirely illegal to show support for the IRGC. The penalties are severe: under the new regulations, support for the IRGC carries penalties of up to 14 years in prison, while anyone involved in acts of sabotage on behalf of the designated group could face life imprisonment. This legislative milestone definitively proves that engaging diplomatically with Tehran only invites the regime's terrorist proxies directly onto European streets.

Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, the President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), welcomed the UK government's decision, however long overdue, to proscribe the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), describing it as essential for regional and global peace, stability, and security. Mrs. Rajavi also expressed her appreciation for more than four decades of perseverance and efforts by members of the

IRAN NEWS UPDATE

British Houses of Commons and Lords, particularly the members of the British Committee for Iran Freedom, in advocating the proscription of the IRGC and exposing its actions against the people of Iran.



Mai Sato: Iranian people once again find themselves caught between new US attacks and Iranian regime's internal repression

Mai Sato, the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Iran, expressed concern over the escalation of conflicts between the US and the Iranian regime and the continued internal repression in Iran.





IRAN'S FUTURE WILL BE DECIDED BY ITS PEOPLE, NOT BY WAR OR APPEASEMENT

For months, Iran has found itself caught between military confrontation and diplomatic bargaining. The conflict between the United States and the regime, alongside renewed negotiations over Tehran's nuclear program, has once again fueled speculation that Iran's future could be shaped by decisions made outside its borders.

That assumption has repeatedly proven misguided.

The past several months have reinforced a political reality that many Iranians have long understood. Neither military escalation nor diplomatic engagement has delivered greater freedom, accountability, or political rights to the Iranian people.

The fundamental question facing Iran has never been whether foreign governments will change the country. It is whether the Iranian people themselves possess the organized political capacity to do so.

The recent Free Iran 2026 conference in Paris reflected a growing international recognition of this reality.

What Happened During the Two-Day Free Iran Summit June 21, 2026 In Paris?



Former UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson strongly criticized the French government's decision to ban a planned rally supporting the Iranian opposition during the Free Iran 2026 World Summit in Paris on June 20, 2026. He dismissed the official explanations—citing heat and security concerns—as “nonsense,” arguing that the move reflected political pressure from Tehran rather than genuine public safety concerns.

Johnson condemned the Iranian regime for its widespread human rights abuses, including executions, torture, and the violent suppression of dissent. He praised the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) and endorsed Maryam Rajavi's Ten-Point Plan as a democratic roadmap for Iran's future, emphasizing principles such as gender equality, judicial independence, and fundamental freedoms. Arguing that lasting change must come from within Iran.

Johnson compared the country's

democratic aspirations to the fall of apartheid in South Africa and the collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe. He urged Western governments to support, rather than silence, the voices of the Iranian opposition, stressing that democratic activists must be free to express their views in Western capitals. Concluding his remarks, Johnson expressed confidence that Iran would eventually achieve freedom and democratic governance through the determination of its people.



John Bercow, Former Speaker of the UK House of Commons. Condemning the regime's crimes, John Bercow said: You can murder a person. You can murder people. You can murder hundreds of thousands of people. But the one thing you can't do is murder an idea. You cannot murder an idea!

And the idea of freedom—the idea of freedom has lived in men's and women's hearts from the very inception of civilization.

During her remarks, Maryam Rajavi In Paris said:

"The path to Iran's freedom is not a foreign war. Nor is it waiting for the regime to collapse of its own accord. The path to Iran's freedom is not the fabrication of artificial, fake alternatives.

The real force for change is on the ground. It rises from a people who aspire to a free and just society.

"Iran's future, and peace and freedom in Iran, lie in the establishment of a democratic republic.



"It is precisely for this purpose that the National Council of Resistance of Iran has announced the formation of a Provisional Government to transfer

sovereignty to the people through free elections for a Constituent Assembly and a National Legislative Assembly within six months."

Address to the Conference in Italy: "Iran Beyond War, the Power of the People as the Solution"



Speaking at an international conference, Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), argued that Iran's future lies neither in preserving the current theocratic regime nor restoring the former monarchy, but in establishing a democratic republic based on popular sovereignty.

Reviewing nearly five decades of Iran's modern history, Rajavi said the clerical regime has survived through repression, executions, regional conflicts, terrorism, and its nuclear ambitions, while failing to address the country's deepening economic and social crises. She argued that dictatorship—whether under the Shah or the mullahs—has reached a historical dead end.

Rajavi identified the growing economic crisis, widening social inequalities, internal divisions within the regime, and the expansion of organized resistance as key factors driving change. She emphasized that lasting transformation must come from the Iranian people through organized resistance, particularly the PMOI/MEK Resistance Units, which she said have played an increasingly active role in confronting the regime.

She reaffirmed the NCRI's commitment to a democratic transition based on her Ten-Point Plan, which calls for free elections, separation of religion and state, gender equality, respect for ethnic rights, judicial independence, and a non-nuclear Iran.

Honoring political prisoners and victims of the 1988 massacre, Rajavi concluded that decades of sacrifice have strengthened the Iranian people's determination to reclaim freedom and establish a democratic republic.

NCRI Supporters Launch Coordinated Global Protests Against Executions and Tehran's Diplomatic Outposts

EXHIBITION EVENTS



From June 27 to September 1 2026, coordinated protests and human rights exhibitions took place across Europe and North America, reflecting growing international opposition to Iran's escalating use of executions following the January 2026 uprising. Organized by supporters of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) and the Iranian diaspora, the events included rallies, embassy sit-ins, photo exhibitions, and book tables in cities including Paris, Berlin, London, Winchester, Manchester, Copenhagen, Gothenburg, Zurich, Heidelberg, Lugano, and Irvine.



Protesters condemned the regime's executions of political prisoners, rejected both the current theocracy and a return to monarchy, and called for a secular, democratic republic. Demonstrators also urged Western governments to end their policy of appeasement, designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organization, .

and increase pressure on Tehran over its human rights violations

The sustained and synchronized campaign highlighted the resilience of Iran's organized resistance and underscored that growing domestic and international opposition continues to challenge the regime despite intensified repression.

