

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders A/HRC/31/55/Add.1 para 292

Full recommendation:

Due to the severity of the cases, the Special Rapporteur urges the Government to respond to the communications sent, as grave concern is expressed about the state of health of Ms. Daemi and Mr. Mirdamadi and their limited access to medical treatment.

Assessment

In his 2015 Annual Report, the UN Special Rapporteur (UNSR) on the situation of human rights defenders sent 10 communications to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.¹ Four of the communications concerned “ill-treatment, including prolonged solitary confinement, degrading conditions of detention, psychological torture and refusal of urgent medical treatment of persons detained in Iran.”² The UNSR raised particular concern about the severity of the alleged cases of ill-treatment in detention, including the state of health of the human rights defenders Ms. Daemi and Mr. Mirdamadi and their limited access to medical treatment at the time of the report’s publication.

As of February 2021, the Government responded to three of the four aforementioned communications, remaining silent on the alleged custodial death of the labour activist Mr. Shakrokh Zamani.³ In its reply to the UNSR’s communication concerning the prolonged solitary confinement of Mr. Jason Rezaian, the Government only stated that Mr. Rezaian had been released from detention.⁴ In its reply to the communication concerning the alleged deteriorating health conditions of political prisoner Dr. Mohammed Ali Taheri, the Government only stated that Mr. Taheri had been sentenced to a fine and imprisonment.⁵ Dr. Mohammed Ali Taheri has since been released and has left Iran. The Government refuted all allegations with regards to Ms.

¹ Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, 2016, A/HRC/31/55/Add.1 <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G16/033/70/PDF/G1603370.pdf?OpenElement>

² Case no: IRN 6/2015 Alleged arrest, detention, and prolonged solitary confinement, as well as unfair trial, of an artist and two journalists. <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=19950>

Case no: IRN 9/2015 State reply: none to date Alleged arrest, detention, ill-treatment and sentencing of a civil rights activist and a journalist, Ms. Atena Daemi and Mr. Seral Mirdamadi, after unfair trials.

<https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=20209>

Case no: IRN 17/2015 State reply: none to date Alleged custodial death of a political prisoner in Iran, Mr. Shahrokh Zamani

<https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=19158>

Case no: IRN 18/2015 State reply: 24/11/2015 Alleged deteriorating health conditions of political prisoner, Dr. Mohammed Ali Taheri. <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=16203>

³ Case no: IRN 17/2015 State reply: none to date Alleged custodial death of a political prisoner in Iran, Mr. Shahrokh Zamani

<https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=19158>

⁴ Reply of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the communication IRN/6/2015

<https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadFile?gId=32076>

⁵ Reply of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the communication IRN 18/2015

<https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadFile?gId=32751>

Atena Daemi and Mr. Seraj Mirdamadi and requested to “strike out” the UNSR’s communications vis-à-vis these cases.⁶ While the Government stated that Ms. Daemi had access to medical care, there is no mention of Mr. Mirdamadi’s health situation. As of February 2021, Ms. Daemi remains in prison and Mr. Seraj Mirdamadi has been released and has left Iran.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has not responded to all of the UNSR’s communications, that were sent in 2015, that concerned ill-treatment in detention. For communications the Government responded to, replies were incomplete and did not address all issues raised by the UNSR.

Recommendation Status:

This recommendation has been **PARTIALLY** implemented.

⁶ Reply of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the communication IRN 9/2015
<https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadFile?gId=32697>