

# URGENT ACTION

## JAILED NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE'S HEALTH AT RISK

Iranian authorities have been subjecting arbitrarily detained human rights defender and 2023 Nobel Peace Prize recipient Narges Mohammadi to torture and other ill treatment by deliberately denying or severely delaying her access to adequate healthcare to coerce her into adhering to Iran's abusive and degrading compulsory veiling laws. This places Narges Mohammadi's health at great risk, particularly as she has serious heart and lung conditions.

### TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter in your own words or using the sample below as a guide to one or both government officials listed. You can also email, fax, call or Tweet them.
- [Click here](#) to let us know the actions you took on **Thirteenth Urgent Action 105.15**. It's important to report because we share the total number with the officials we are trying to persuade and the people we are trying to help.

**Head of judiciary, Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei**  
c/o Embassy of Iran to the European Union, Avenue  
Franklin Roosevelt No. 15, 1050 Bruxelles, Belgium

**Supreme Leader 'Ali Khamenei**  
c/o Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to  
the United Nations  
622 3rd Ave, 34th floor, New York, NY 10017  
Email: iranunny@mfa.gov.ir

Dear Mr. Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei,

Iranian authorities are subjecting 52-year-old Narges Mohammadi, imprisoned human rights defender and 2023 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, to torture. On November 6, 2023, she went on a hunger strike in protest of the refusal to transfer her for urgent medical tests at a hospital outside prison. On November 8, amidst global outcry, the authorities transferred her to the hospital without the compulsory headscarf but returned her to prison the same day and before the test results were reviewed by doctors. On November 11, 2023, she learned that doctors had found fluid around her heart, up to 80% blockage of two arteries requiring an immediate angioplasty and swelling in her esophagus.

I call on you to immediately and unconditionally release Narges Mohammadi as she is a prisoner of conscience detained solely for her peaceful human rights activism, quash her unjust convictions and sentences, and drop any new charges against her related to the peaceful exercise of her rights. Pending her release, provide her with adequate specialized healthcare, including for treatment unavailable in prison, and protect her from further torture and ill treatment. A prompt, independent, effective, and impartial investigation into her allegations of torture must be conducted, with those suspected of criminal responsibility brought to justice in fair trials. All compulsory veiling laws must also be abolished.

Yours sincerely,

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

On November 6, 2023, Narges Mohammadi's family announced on social media that she began a hunger strike in protest of the Iranian authorities' repeated denial or delay of adequate medical care for ailing prisoners, and for conditioning women prisoners' access to adequate healthcare to adhering to compulsory veiling laws. In 2022, Iranian authorities repeatedly denied Narges Mohammadi access to adequate healthcare in prison, including in reprisal for her ongoing human rights work. Narges Mohammadi reported that, on February 3, 2022, following what she later learned was a heart attack, the prison doctor denied her adequate healthcare. It was only after suffering a series of heart attacks on February 16, 2022, that Narges Mohammadi was transferred to the hospital where she underwent emergency heart surgery. Against medical advice, on February 19, 2022, the authorities took her back to prison. On February 22, 2022, she was released from prison on temporary medical leave and recalled to prison on April 21, 2022, despite medical advice, and has been in prison ever since. She also has a pre-existing lung disease, requiring an inhaler and regular anticoagulant medications.

Narges Mohammadi has faced reprisals by the Iranian authorities for her human rights work for over 14 years, including unjust prison terms. Her most recent imprisonment began on November 16, 2021, when she was violently arrested while attending a memorial ceremony in Karaj, Alborz province, for Ebrahim Ketabdar, who was unlawfully killed by security forces during nationwide protests in November 2019. On January 4, 2022, Narges Mohammadi was taken before Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran to stand trial in a separate case, which was grossly unfair and lasted just five minutes. On January 15, 2022, she was informed that the Court had sentenced her on national security related charges to eight years and two months in prison; two years in internal "exile" in a city outside Tehran where she normally lives; a two-year ban on membership in political and social parties; a two-year ban on engagement in online spaces, media, and press; and 74 lashes. In another case opened against her while she was imprisoned, in October 2022, she was convicted for "spreading propaganda against the system" and sentenced to an additional one year and three months' imprisonment, a two-year ban on leaving the country, a two-year ban on membership in political parties, and cleaning rubbish in uninhabited areas for four hours a day, three days a week, for three months. In early August 2023, she was convicted and sentenced to another year sentence for "spreading propaganda against the system" for public writings detailing sexual violence against women protesters detained during the "Woman Life Freedom" uprising. On October 6, 2023, Narges Mohammadi was named the recipient of the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize "for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all".

**PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET:** Persian, English, or your own language.

**PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL:** January 17, 2024

Please check with the Amnesty office in your country if you wish to send appeals after the deadline.

**NAME AND PREFERRED PRONOUN:** Narges Mohammadi (she/her)

**LINK TO PREVIOUS UA:** <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/5775/2022/en/>