



# **IRAN:** **View from the LEFT**

**June 2023**

**NO.42**

## **Word of the Month**

*An 'understanding' between Iran and the US?*

*Last month's rapprochement between the Islamic Republic and Saudi Arabia was rightly understood as a major power re-alignment within the Middle East. Subsequent developments have shed further light on the context of their agreement and, indeed, its unspecified dimensions. Their rapprochement appears to be part of a wider arrangement between Iran and the USA. It is suggested that the latter two countries have agreed to a sort of unwritten 'understanding'.*

*The development of Iran's nuclear abilities is such that the JCPOA has lost its utility and applicability. Moreover, any formal agreement with Iran would have to pass formal approval of both the US and Iranian legislatures, while an 'understanding' can circumvent this process. This 'understanding' will be 'less for less' but it can have utility and applicability.*

*The unlocking of some of the Islamic Republic's frozen funds (in South Korea and Iraq) is a part of this 'understanding'. The tightening of the noose around the Mujahidin organization (the Iranian opposition group which was on the US terrorist list for a while) is likely to be another part of this unwritten agreement. If so, this agreement encompasses additional European countries, including Albania, France, etc. We will know more in the coming months.*

## ■ **Hostage - Taking Policy**

In the last days of May, Asadollah Asadi, the terrorist diplomat of the Islamic Republic was released in exchange for the release of Olivier Vandecastel, a Belgian aid worker imprisoned in Iran. This exchange is the first tangible example of the recent changes in the West's attitude towards the Islamic Republic. "The West" has now put aside its cautious approach in relations with the Islamic Republic, which it had practiced since September of last year, due to the "Women, Life, Freedom" movement.



The announcement of the Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran reads:



# IRAN: View from the LEFT

June 2023

NO.42

*It is not the first time that the European governments release the organizers of terror and murderers of the Islamic Republic in Europe for the release of the hostages taken by Iranian regime. The murderers of Shapour Bakhtiar in France and Sadegh Sharafkandi in Berlin have also been released with this type of policy. The same type of measures allows the regime to arrest and imprison citizens of other countries and dual-national Iranians under the title of spies without fear of the consequences of taking hostages. This happens, in order to go to the negotiation table with a reliable case at the expense of hostages.*



*The Left Pary of Iran condemns the release of Asadullah Asadi, the terrorist diplomat of the*



*Islamic Republic, in exchange for the release of the hostages taken by the Islamic Republic. This act has made the Islamic Republic more active in organizing terror on European soil while it gives the green light to the ruling regime of Iran in actions against the Iranian opposition in Europe . This act also persuades the regime to intensify its hostage-taking policy of European citizens for the release of the terrorists of the regime whilst it undermines the overall security of Iranians in Europe. We want to ensure the security of Iranian citizens who oppose the Islamic Republic in European countries, end the deal on the release of the terrorists of the Islamic Republic, and prevent the criminal actions of the ruling regime of Iran*

*against the Iranian opposition in Europe.*

## ■ Civil Disobedience

The "Women, Life, Freedom" movement has declined in the form of street demonstrations, but its daily manifestation can be seen as civil disobedience in the streets, workplaces, and schools. The reaction of the students of the University of Arts to the notification of the University's Dean in regard to observing forced hijab is an example of dozens of such daily cases. They have announced to the university administration that "we have nothing to say to you except one word: NO".



The mentioned reaction is the basis of the



# IRAN: View from the LEFT

June 2023

NO.42



declaration of the Political Executive Committee of the Left Party of Iran, which writes:

*The word "NO" said by the students of the University of Arts is, in fact, the "NO" of our society to the rule of force and oppression of the Islamic Republic. One of the great achievements of the "Women, Life, Freedom" movement is breaking the compulsory hijab in the public arena of society. The leaders of the Islamic Republic, who dream of returning to the days before the movement are still trying to re-impose the mandatory hijab by sealing restaurants and business centers, launching new bands of thugs, putting*



*pressure on women in the streets, and harassing them in the media. Those acts have so far been futile. By threatening, extorting, deporting, and suspending students, the regime is trying to suppress the student movement, which was one of the bases of resistance against the government's oppression, and to re-impose the compulsory hijab in universities.*

*Disgusted by the reactionary policies of the Islamic Republic, the Left Party of Iran supports the struggles of the students of the University of Arts in defense of the achievements of the women, life, freedom movement, along with the declaration of solidarity of the students of universities across the country. We invite all freedom-fighters forces to support the students' struggles to push back the government from the universities and return security and freedom to the classrooms and universities. The goal of the Islamic Republic is to crush*

*the revolutionary movement of the people and to crush the student movement as one of the pillars of the women, life, freedom movement. A goal that should be buried with the burial of the Islamic Republic itself.*

<https://bepish.org/node/9622>

**A Wider Understanding**



On Monday, June 19, about 1,000 Albanian police attacked "Camp Ashraf", the location of about 2,000 members of the "People's Mojahedin organization of Iran". As a result of this action and the scuffle with the residents of the camp, one Mojahed was killed and many others were injured. The Mojahedin Organization has considered the action of the Albanian police "at the request of the religious fascism ruling of Iran".



# IRAN: View from the LEFT

June 2023

NO.42

The Ministry of Interior Affairs of Albania declared this act as "conducting anti-terrorist and cyber activities". The American authorities, while announcing awareness of the advance notice of the Albanian police action, have emphasized the right of the Albanian government to investigate the activities of the Mujahideen. It should be noted that US has been the main incentive for Albania to reside the Mujahideen in Albania.

The announcement of the Political Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran writes about this:

*The extensive operation against the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran in Albania under the title of "Fighting Terrorism", immediately after the cancellation of the Mojahedin gathering in Paris shows the change in the policy of Western governments towards this organization. Apparently, the agreement on the extradition of Asadullah*

*Asadi, the terrorist diplomat of the Islamic Republic, in exchange for the release of the Belgian hostages of the regime, is beyond just one case deal and according to the recent actions, it can include other cases that are not limited to the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran but the entire Iranian opposition. The secret deals with the regime will have consequences for all.*

*The Left Party of Iran condemns the attack on the camp of the People's Mojahedin Organization in Albania and the ban on holding the rally of this organization in Paris. We consider it a violation of their rights and freedoms within the framework of*

*the rules and principles of Western societies. The night attack on the location of the People's Mojahedin and the use of tear gas against them, who are considered refugees according to international laws, is a violation of the conventions and treaties approved by the United Nations and a violation of their basic and human rights. We demand the intervention of the United Nations to stop the attacks and restore the rights and security of the residents of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran's camp.*

<https://bepish.org/node/9630>





# **IRAN:** **View from the LEFT**

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## ■ **Woman, Life, freedom Congress and Messge from Cornelia Ernst**

On June 2-4, the Congress of the Left Party of Iran was held in Frankfurt. Non-Iranian parties and guests participated in this congress. The special guest of this congress was Cornelia Ernst, head of the group related to Iran issues in the European Parliament. During her extended speech, while declaring solidarity with the goals of the Congress and the Women, Life, Freedom movement, she pointed out the complicated political situation in the region and Iran and the possible and temporary agreements regarding the JCPOA. The text of her words below:

<https://bepish.org/node/9681>



## ■ **Conflict Between Forces of the Komala Party of Iranian Kurdistan and the Kurdistan Workers' Komala**

More hier:

<https://bepish.org/node/9649>



***IRAN: View from the LEFT” is published for those who are interested to know the Left Party of Iran stance on current issues on a monthly basis.***

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