



A History of United Nations Special Representatives and Rapporteurs in Iran

Name of UN Representative:	Mandates/ Concerns/ Findings/Visits:	Significant Reports/Relevant Information:
<p>Olof Palme</p> <p>Special Representative to Iran (and Iraq)</p> <p>November 1979-1982</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • visit the Iran-Iraq border; • assist in ending the conflict between Iran and Iraq; • verify peace negotiations between Iran and Iraq; • report back to the Secretary-General, who would, in turn, keep the Security Council informed of the Special Representatives findings. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visits, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the treatment of minorities and discrimination against non-Islamic religious groups, specifically related to the treatment of Baha'is. <p>Mr. Palme visited Iran five times between 1980 and 1982.</p>	<p>Report on human rights protected by the Iranian Constitution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/1516 <p>Report on human rights violations committed against the Baha'is in Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/1517
<p>Andrés Aguilar</p> <p>Special Representative to Iran</p> <p>1984-1986</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establish contact with Iranian state officials; • observe the human rights "situation" in Iran. <p>Human rights concerns include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restricted freedom of expression and opinion. <p>The government of Iran did not respond to Mr. Aguilar's repeated attempts to contact it.</p>	<p>Preliminary report on the human rights "situation" in Iran in 1985:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/1985/20

<p>Reynaldo Galindo Pohl</p> <p>Special Representative to Iran</p> <p>1986-1995</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue observations of the human rights "situation" in Iran; • maintain contact with the Iranian state officials. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visits, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • treatment of women; • treatment of children; • torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; • the administration of justice; • arbitrary arrests; • the prison system; • the execution policy; • the treatment of the Kurdish and Naraoui population; • restrictions on the freedom of religion; • persecution of the Baha'is; • restrictions on freedom of expression and opinion; • enforced or involuntary disappearances; • the right to life; • the right to own property; • the right to work. <p>Mr. Pohl visited Iran three times between 1990 and 1992. After his third visit, he was barred from visiting Iran.</p>	<p>Reports on the Human Rights "situation" in Iran from 1986-1995:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/1987/23 (1986) • A/42/648 (1986) • E/CN.4/1988/24 • A/43/705 (1988) • E/CN.4/1989/26 • A/44/620 (1989) • E/CN.4/1990/24 • A/45/697 (1990) • E/CN.4/1991/35 • E/CN.4/1992/34 • A/47/617 (1992) • E/CN.4/1993/41 • A/48/526 (1993) • E/CN.4/1994/50 • A/49/514 (1994) • A/49/514/Add.2 • E/CN.4/1995/55
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<p>Amos Wako</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on Summary or Arbitrary Executions</p> <p>1982-1992</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate summary or arbitrary executions in Iran; • investigate all violations of the right to life, as established by multiple international human rights instruments; • devise prescriptive remedies; • engage in consultations and communications with relevant authorities. <p>Human rights concerns include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • large scale summary and arbitrary executions; • findings that suggest most violations of the right to life are directly related to acts of expression and opinion. <p>Mr. Wako did not visit Iran.</p>	<p>Universal Finding Reports (specifically highlighting Iran):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/1987/20 • E/CN.4/1989/25 • E/CN.4/1990/22 • E/CN.4/1991/36 • E/CN.4/1992/30
<p>Abdelfattah Amor</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on Religious Intolerance</p> <p>1993-2004</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate allegations regarding religious intolerance in Iran; • investigate treatment of religious minorities; • recommend remedial measures. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visit, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • large scale religious intolerance; • severe persecution of the Baha'is; • severe persecution of Protestants. <p>Mr. Amor visited Iran in 1995 to conduct his investigation.</p>	<p>Report on the 1995 visit to Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/1996/95/Add.2 <p>Universal Finding Reports (including Iran):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/1997/91 • E/CN.4/1999/58

<p>Maurice Copithorne</p> <p>Special Representative to Iran</p> <p>1995-2002</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue observations of Iranian human rights; • maintain contact with the Iranian state officials; • send both urgent representations as well as requests for information to the government of Iran. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visit, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • status of women; • treatment of children; • torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; • administration of justice; • arrests and prison situation; • execution policy; • Kurdish and Naraoui population concerns; • freedom of Religion and the Baha'i situation; • freedom of expression and opinion, and its relationship to the press; • enforced or involuntary disappearances; • right to life; • right to own property; • right to work. <p>Mr. Copithorne visited Iran in 1996 to observe the human rights "situation."</p>	<p>Reports on the Human Rights "situation" in Iran from 1995-2002:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A/50/661 (1995) • E/CN.4/1996/59 • A/51/479 (1996) • E/CN.4/1997/63 • A/52/472 (1997) • E/CN.4/1998/59 • A/53/423 (1998) • E/CN.4/1999/32 • A/54/365 (1999) • E/CN.4/2000/35 • A/55/363 (2000) • E/CN.4/2001/39 • A/56/278 (2001) • E/CN.4/2002/42
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<p>Kamal Hossain</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Afghanistan</p> <p>1998-2003</p>	<p>Mr. Kamal's human rights findings were directly related to Afghanistan and Pakistan, with only limited focus on Iran.</p> <p>Mr. Kamal visited Iran five times between 1998 and 2002 (preceding mandated visits to Pakistan and Afghanistan to observe the human rights situation in Afghanistan).</p>	<p>Report on the 2001 and 2002 visits to Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/1999/40 • E/CN.4/2000/33 • A/55/346 • E/CN.4/2001/43/Add.1 • E/CN.4/2002/43
<p>Louis Joinet</p> <p>Chairman-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention</p> <p>1991-1997; 2001-2003</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conduct investigations regarding the causes and consequences of situations of arbitrary detention in all their forms. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visit, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • failings of due process; • abuse of 'solitary confinement' in detention facilities; • restrictions on freedom of expression and opinion; • persecution of the press. <p>Mr. Joinet visited Iran in 2003, with the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, at the invitation of the government of Iran.</p>	<p>Report on the 2003 visit to Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.2
<p>Ambeyi Ligabo</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Opinion</p> <p>2003-2008</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • observe Iran with regard to the freedom of expression and opinion. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visit, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restrictions of the freedom of the press; • restrictions of the freedom of journalists; • restrictions of the education and freedom of expression of students; • restrictions of the freedom of lawyers; • restrictions of the freedom to engage in political activity. <p>Mr. Ligabo visited Iran in 2003 at the invitation of the government of Iran.</p>	<p>Report on the 2003 visit to Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/2004/62/Add.2

<p>Gabriela Rodríguez Pizarro</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants</p> <p>1999-2005</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evaluate Iran's policies on Afghan and Iraqi migrant workers; • observe Iran's treatment of Afghan and Iraqi migrant workers. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visit, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unequal opportunities for migrant workers, specifically the Afghan and Iraqi refugees; • poor treatment of minority groups, specifically the Afghan and Iraqi refugees. <p>Ms. Pizarro visited Iran in 2004 at the invitation of the government of Iran.</p>	<p>Report on the 2004 visit to Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/2005/85/Add.2
<p>Yakin Ertürk</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women</p> <p>2003-2009</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • observe the governance structure of Iran with regard to women; • observe the status of women in Iran; • observe the institutional basis for violence against women in Iran. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visit, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unequal opportunities for women; • gender-bias, resulting from hard-line Islamic principles. <p>Ms. Erturk visited Iran in 2005 at the invitation of the government of Iran.</p>	<p>Report on the 2005 mission to Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3
<p>Miloon Kothari</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing</p> <p>2000-2008</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate the legal/institutional framework and main housing policies; • investigate adequate housing in the context of living conditions in Iran; • investigate the adequate housing of minority groups. <p>Human rights concerns, with regard to findings of visit, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • religious discrimination; • forced evictions; • discrimination against women regarding the right to housing. <p>Mr. Kothari visited Iran in 2005 at the invitation of the government of Iran.</p>	<p>Report on the 2005 mission to Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E/CN.4/2006/41/Add.2

<p>Philip Alston</p> <p>Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions</p> <p>2004-2010</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigate allegations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions globally. <p>Human rights concerns include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the high number of extrajudicial, summary, and arbitrary executions; the failure of Iran to cooperate with the UN mandate to respect international standards with regard to capital punishment. <p>Mr. Alston has been barred from visiting Iran by the Iranian government.</p>	<p>Universal Findings Report (including Iran):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A/HRC/11/2/Add.1 A/HRC/14/24/Add.7
<p>Ahmed Shaheed</p> <p>Special Rapporteur/Representative on Human Rights in Iran</p> <p>2011</p>	<p>Mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigate human rights violations in Iran; deliver the first report in September of 2011. 	<p>14 March 2011-- Interim report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Iran:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A/HRC/16/75