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**The Honorable Antony Blinken,
Secretary of the United State
2201 C St., NW
Washington, DC 20520**

Iranian Democracy Front (IDF) is aghast that western countries, including the United States of America and European countries, have voted for the gender apartheid Islamic Republic of Iran's to have a seat at the United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women.

Why would the world of 21st century progressive humanity vote to grant a seat for the well-documented appalling record on women and children's rights, by the ruling clerics in Iran? In 2019, the office of the UN Human Rights Commissioner itself, criticized the Islamic regime, for its poor record on women's rights. The same year the US State Department released a report calling Iran an "authoritarian theocratic republic" which is responsible for significant human rights abuses, including a lack of accountability for violence against women. That, and the four plus decades of Tehran's visible practice of gender apartheid against women and children, should not have been overlooked, granting them the right the membership and the representation of such human right commission. Beside *why are the votes done in secret?*

This vote belies logic, as well as the values, which western countries popular culture, including United States of America and European countries, stand for. In a historical context, this could be conceived equivalent to selecting the Nazi regime to the Human Right Committee of UN. Moreover, this act of the free world is an unimaginable nightmare for the women-at-large in the world.

We would like to remind you that before the Islamic regime came to power, the women of Iran were ministers, judges, attorneys, and senators and held positions in the highest echelon of the society. Furthermore, it is a well-known historical fact that the Iranian culture has always been based on a matriarchal society for thousands of years.

Member organizations of IDF respectfully request that all free countries, including United States of America and European countries, withdraw their vote for providing a seat to Islamic regime. If the free world's vote let stand as is, it will tarnish European and US's reputation, and gravely undermine the ongoing struggle of Iranian women for gender equality and abolish gender apartheid.

Iranian Democracy Front

Assdollah Nasre Esfahani, PhD, Spokesman

The Iranian Democracy Front is the collection of numerous political organizations

List of receivers:

**The Honorable Linda Thomas-Greenfield
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**The Honorable Ursula von der Leyen, President
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