



**MEDICAL STAFF FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
AUSTRIA**

PROTECTION AND PROMOTION

کادر درمان برای حقوق بشر

Request for Immediate Review and Possible Revocation of Membership

February 25, 2026

To:

The President and Council Members

World Medical Association (WMA)

**Subject: Formal Request for Review of the Membership Status of the Head of the
Iranian Medical Council**

Dear President and Esteemed Members of the Council,

We respectfully submit this formal request urging the World Medical Association (WMA) to initiate an immediate review of the membership status of the current Head of the Iranian Medical Council.

Over recent years, credible reports from independent human rights organizations, international observers, and healthcare professionals inside Iran have documented:

- The killing of civilians during civil unrest
- The presence of severe injuries consistent with use of excessive force
- The arrest, intimidation, and prosecution of physicians and healthcare workers
- Security pressure on medical staff involved in treating injured individuals

Despite this, official public statements issued by the leadership of the Iranian Medical Council have repeatedly minimized, denied, or misrepresented these events. Such conduct raises profound ethical concerns.

The Declaration of Geneva obliges physicians to:

- Dedicate their lives to the service of humanity
- Maintain the utmost respect for human life
- Not use medical knowledge to violate human rights and civil liberties
- Uphold the honour and noble traditions of the medical profession
- Support colleagues whose professional independence is threatened

When the leadership of a national medical body disseminates inaccurate information that may endanger healthcare workers, obscure violations of medical neutrality, or fail to defend physicians under state pressure, this appears incompatible with the ethical commitments embodied in the Declaration of Geneva.

The integrity of the global medical community depends on accountability. The WMA's credibility as the guardian of international medical ethics requires that member associations and their representatives uphold these standards without exception.

We therefore respectfully request that the WMA:

1. Conduct an independent and transparent investigation into the public conduct and statements of the Head of the Iranian Medical Council.
2. Assess whether these actions are consistent with the Declaration of Geneva and other WMA ethical instruments.
3. Consider appropriate measures, including suspension or revocation of membership, should violations be substantiated.

This request is made in defense of medical neutrality, professional independence, and the protection of physicians and patients whose safety depends on ethical leadership.

We thank you for your serious consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Schahin Honarwasch

Medical Staff for Human Rights - Austria