



NZEI TE RIU ROA

13 February 2025

Coordinating Council of Iranian Teacher Trade Associations

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Subject: NZEI Te Riu Roa message of solidarity with CCITTA/Iran

Tēnā koe | Greetings,

NZEI Te Riu Roa extends its solidarity to the Coordinating Council of Iranian Teacher Trade Associations (CCITTA), Iranian educators, students, and their families during this difficult time.

We are deeply concerned by credible reports of widespread violence and mass casualties of tens of thousands of civilians, including the deaths of students and teachers. The loss of civilian life, particularly children and educators represent a tragic human cost and raises serious concerns regarding the protection of fundamental rights and human dignity. We note with grave concern reports indicating that at least 152 children and students and nine teachers, including women educators, have lost their lives, alongside the detention of many teacher union activists.

We respectfully reaffirm the right of teachers and their organisations to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and trade union activity, as recognised under international labour and human rights standards. We also recognise the significant role teachers continue to play in advocating for justice, equality, and social change, often at great personal risk.

NZEI Te Riu Roa stands with CCITTA, Iranian educators, and the Iranian people in their call for freedom, safety, respect for human rights, and quality public education. Please know that educators and unions internationally continue to express their concern and solidarity with you.

Ngā mihi

Stephanie Mills
Korimako Tangiata | National Secretary
NZEI Te Riu Roa

Ripeka Lessels
Te Manukura | National President
NZEI Te Riu Roa