



Brussels, 12/02/2026

Dear colleagues of CCITTA,

The COV, representing 38000 workers in education in Flanders, Belgium, strongly condemns the recent repressive actions of the Iranian government. The harrowing images of the current events have made a deep impression on us and our members. The violent actions of the government against the masses of Iranians who are standing up for a free, just, and democratic country have affected us profoundly. These are once again extremely difficult and painful times for you and your country.

With this letter, we wish to express our solidarity with you. As a trade union, we can do no other than always and everywhere stand up for democratic structures and peaceful societies in which there is respect for everyone, young and old, men and women alike. As a teachers' union, we are particularly concerned about the many teachers and students who have been killed, tortured, or imprisoned in recent weeks. These brutal actions are in violation of Iran's international obligations, in particular the fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the international treaties on civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. Our thoughts are with all the victims.

Know that you do not stand alone. Together with Education International, we will continue to support your struggle. Together we are strong.

With solidarity greetings,

Marianne Coopman
General Secretary COV, Belgium

Rohnny Michiels
President COV, Belgium

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