



Hon. Judy A. Sgro

Member of Parliament for
Humber River-Black Creek



President Emmanuel Macron
President of France
Palais de l'Elysee
55 Rue du Fbg Saint-Honore
75008 Paris

March 21, 2025
Via Email and French Embassy

Dear Mr. President:

Re: Stop the Exploitation of Justice and Media to Appease Tehran

I welcome the release of two French hostages from Iran this week, yet two others remain unjustly imprisoned. Canadians had similar hostage issues with Iran over the past few years. While their freedom is a relief, the cost at which it comes is deeply troubling. Concessions that undermine the Iranian Resistance only embolden Tehran to continue its hostage-taking and terrorism. Though Olivier Grondeau has been freed, it is likely that more foreign nationals will soon take his place in Iran's prisons.

Even more concerning is the timing of this release, coinciding with a renewed wave of baseless accusations against the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) and its President-elect, Maryam Rajavi, in certain French media outlets. This synchronicity raises serious questions about whether the release of the two hostages was part of a broader political bargain orchestrated by Tehran.

On March 18, 2025, French media published reports filled with false accusations against the NCRI and Mrs. Rajavi, including claims of financial misconduct allegedly submitted to prosecutors. These allegations mirror a case fabricated two decades ago, which was thoroughly investigated for 12 years before being dismissed as baseless. The charges originated from the Iranian regime's false narratives and propaganda.

The NCRI has rightly condemned these reports as defamatory. It is deeply concerning that the press and judiciary are being weaponized against Iran's democratic opposition to appease the world's leading executioner regime and sponsor of terrorism.

I have no doubt about Mrs. Rajavi's unwavering commitment to democracy and justice, as I have known her for many years. Any attempt to tarnish her globally accepted reputation serves only the interests of a ruthless dictatorship. I strongly condemn this defamatory campaign and urge an immediate end to the misuse of democratic institutions for political agendas.

Sincerely,

Hon. Judy Sgro

