



## Minimum demands' Charter of 20 Guilds and Civil Organizations

### And the necessity presence of Organized Social Movements

The ruling class in Iran is economically, politically and socially in crisis; therefore the governing body is in a deadlock, which is why these structural changes are necessary.

The working class struggle against economic policies, like cutting jobs, layoffs, temporary contracts and the reduction of living standards, arrears... have increased in the past two decades.

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Other sectors of the workforce, like teachers, nurses, and retirees as well have protested vastly in streets against the process of privatization of education, health, and the elimination of various social insurances. The increase in the cost of living, lack of access to the basic needs of life, along with various oppressions and social pressures, arrests, torture, imprisonment & executions have led to waves of social upheavals.

The deepening class gap and the continuous mass protests in society in past years, has made it clearer than ever, the necessity of organizing and organizing masses of workers and activists in different sectors of social life, as a precondition for the success of these protests.

The new wave of social protests, under the slogan of "Women, Life, Freedom", has made it necessity for serious political and social changes among various strata's of society, which is why the minimum demand's charter of 20 guilds and civil organizations was published in February 2023.

Even though the minimum demands listed in this charter had been mentioned many times beforehand, in proposed statements and the demands

of political organizations and activists, but due to the created political atmosphere of the reactionary forces of opposition and in contrast to the riding of the wave of different oppositions, with the strategy of regime change and neutralizing the society's fundamental protests, this is just the beginning and much more needs to be done. The charter of minimal demands played a different role this time, based on

the social and economic inequality in Iran. In the current situation, the importance of such a minimal charter is that it relies on social organizations and also it is a way to spread organized and persuasive movements.

Although the demands listed on this charter requires revision and resolve its serious ambiguities, and in accordance with the updating of its literature proportional with the signatory worker organizations, which has attracted the attention of this charter, is the combination of various workers and civil organizations, based on the current political conditions in Iran's society.

The key demands put forward in this charter, like the release of political prisoners, unconditional political and social freedom, equality of men and women, welfare and environment demands and ... for decades, have been pivotal demands of all workers and social forces.

The declaration of widespread support for this charter, not only has created an atmosphere for the social left orientation to move, but also, once more proved that achieving the class goals of the workers is possible, only by collective and organized actions.

We, the following signatories, whilst supporting the minimal demands' charter and do realize that this charter in continuation requires serious revision in some of its areas, but also, we do believe that the realization of its contents depends on the organizing and social organization of the working class.



### ***Concomitance Council with Workers Alternative in Iran***



### ***Campaign in Support of Iranian Workers***



### ***Solidarity Committees with Iranian Workers Movement-abroad***

February 2023



**WOMAN, LIFE, FREEDOM**

## *Charter of minimum demands of independent trade union and civil organizations of Iran*

On the 44th anniversary of the 1979 revolution, the country's economic, political and social formation has plunged into such a vortex of crisis and disintegration that no clear and attainable prospect can be imagined to end it within the framework of the existing political superstructure. It is also for this reason that the oppressed people of Iran, freedom-loving and equalitarian women and youth, have turned the streets of cities across the country into the center of historic and decisive confrontations to end the existing inhumane conditions, and despite the bloody repression by the medieval fundamentalist Islamic regime, for the past five months protest continues non-stop in streets of Iran.

Fundamentally, the flag of protests raised today by women, students, teachers, workers, petitioners and artists, "LGBTQIA+", writers and the oppressed people from all walks of life in Iran from Kurdistan to Sistan and Baluchistan and attracted the widespread international support. It is a protest against misogyny, gender

discrimination, endless economic insecurity, labor slavery, poverty, misery and class oppression, national and religious oppression, and it is a revolution against every form of religious and non-religious tyranny that has existed for more than a century which has been imposed on the entire population of Iran.

These subversive protests arise from the context of great and modern social movements and the rise of an invincible generation that are determined to put an end to the history of over hundred years of backwardness and remaining on the sidelines of the ideal of a modern, prosperous and free society in Iran.

After the two great revolutions in the contemporary history of Iran, now the major social movements leading the workers' movement, the teachers' and retirees' movement, the women's, students' and youth's equalitarian movement and the movement against the death penalty, etc., are in a massive dimensions and from below in a position of influence which has been placed in a historical and decisive position in shaping the political, economic and social structure of the country.

Therefore, this movement aims to end the formation of any power from above forever and be the beginning of a modern social and human . . . . revolution to free people from all forms of oppression, discrimination, exploitation, tyranny and dictatorship.

We, the trade unions and civic organizations and institutions that signed this charter, focusing on the unity and interconnectedness of social movements and demands with focusing on the struggle to end the existing inhumane and destructive situation with realization of the following minimum demands as the first orders and the result of the protests. We believe that the people of Iran are the only ones to build a new, modern and humane society in the country, and we ask all the honorable people who believe in peace and justice and equality to raise the flag of these minimal demands from factories to universities and schools and neighborhoods to the world stage.

- 1- The immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners, the prohibition of criminalization of political, trade and civil activity, and the public trial of the perpetrators of the suppression of popular protests.
- 2- Unconditional freedom of speech, formation of parties and thought, local and public trade union organizations, assemblies, strikes, marches, social networks and audio and video media.
- 3- Immediate outlaw and enforcement of any punishment of death, execution, retribution and ban on any kind of mental and physical torture.
- 4- The realization of the complete equality of women's rights with men in all political, economic, social and cultural and family spheres, the unconditional abolition and cancellation of discriminatory laws and forms against sexual and gender orientation and tendencies, to recognize the rainbow society of

"LGBTQIA+" , Decriminalization of all gender (sexual) orientation and unregistered adherence to all women's rights on their body and destiny and prevent patriarchal control.

- 5- Religion is a private matter of individuals and must not be involved in the political, economic, social, and cultural laws of the country.
- 6- Providing work safety, job security and immediate increase in the wages of workers, teachers, staff and all the toiling working and retired and to be involved with the presence and interference of the elected representatives of their independent and national organizations.
- 7- Erasure of laws and any attitudes based on national and religious discrimination and oppression and create appropriate support and equitable distribution of government facilities for the development of culture and art in all parts of the country and provide the necessary and equal facilities for learning and teaching all common languages in the society.
- 8- Dismantling of repressive apparatus, limiting the authorities of the government and direct and permanent interference of the people in the administration of the country's affairs through local and national councils. The dismissal of any government or non-government official by the voters at any time should be among the fundamental rights of the voters.
- 9- Confiscation of the property of all real and legal persons and governmental and quasi-governmental and private institutions that have taken the properties and social wealth of the Iranian people hostage through direct looting or government bribery. The resulting wealth from these confiscations should be urgently spent on the modernization and reconstruction of education, pension funds, environment and the needs of the regions and sections of the Iranian people who were completely deprived and had fewer or no facilities during the two regimes of the Islamic Republic and the monarchy regime.
- 10-Ending environmental destruction, implementing fundamental policies to restore the environmental infrastructure that has been destroyed over the past hundred years, and make them as publicly own those parts of nature (such as pastures, beaches, forests, and foothills) that in the form of privatization, people's rights have been taken away from them.
- 11-Prohibition of children's work and provision of their life and education apart from the economic and social status of the family. Creating public welfare through unemployment insurance and strong social security for all people of legal age ready to work or unable to work. Free education and healthcare for all people.
- 12- Normalization of foreign relations at the highest levels with all the countries of the world based on fair relations and mutual respect, banning the acquisition of nuclear weapons and striving for world peace.

From our point of view, the above minimum demands can be realized immediately, considering the existence of potential and actual natural resources and wealth in the country and the existence of an informed and capable people along with generation

of young people who have a lot of motivation to enjoy a happy, free and prosperous life. The demands raised in this charter include the general axes of the demands of our signatories, and obviously we will deal with them in more detail in the continuation of our struggle and solidarity.

**coordinating Council of Trade Union Organizations of Iranian Teachers**

**free Union of Iranian Workers**

**Union of Student Organizations of United Students**

**Center for human rights defenders**

**Workers Syndicate of sugarcane Heft Tappeh Company**

**Council for organizing protests of oil contract workers**

**Iranian teachers' house (KHAFA)**

**The awareness of women**

**The call of Iranian women**

**The independent voice of Ahwaz National Steel Group workers**

**Center for the defenders of workers' right**

**Kermanshah Electrical and Metal Workers Union**

**Coordinating committee to help build labor organizations**

**Union of retirees**

**Council of Retirees of Iran**

**Organization of Progressive students**

**Council of Free-thinking Students of Iran**

**Painters Syndicate of Alborz Province**

**Follow up committee for the establishment of labor organizations in Iran**

**Council of Retirees of the Social Security Organization (BASTA)**

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