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OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

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**Statement at the 39th Special Session of the Human Rights Council
on the human rights situation in Iran**

23 January 2026

H.E. Ambassador Frank Büchel

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President,

Liechtenstein has supported the call for this special session out of concern for the thousands of Iranians who once again have carried their hope and demand for fundamental changes in the governance of their country to the streets.

We are deeply disturbed by reports of the widespread and systematic lethal use of force against peaceful protesters by Iranian security forces. While the numbers remain difficult to verify, it is clear that the force employed was manifestly excessive and raises grave concerns, and that the violence used to crack down on the protests was deliberate in its use and indiscriminate in its targets.

Mister President,

An independent investigation into the situation is of paramount importance. If confirmed, these acts would constitute crimes against humanity and warrant a referral to the International Criminal Court by the UN Security Council. The Court is an institution we have built collectively to address such situations by holding those responsible to account, thereby preventing future recurrence. In this way we protect the people whose rights were gravely and systematically violated by those who claim to represent their interests.

It is important that the Council sends a clear message in that regard.

I thank you, Mister President.