

Sender: _____

Head of Judiciary Ebrahim Raisi
c/o Embassy of Iran to the European Union
Avenue Franklin Roosevelt No. 15
1050 Bruxelles
Belgium

Date: _____

Re.: Monireh Arabshahi

Your Excellency,

I am deeply concerned about the fate of Ms **Monireh Arabshahi**. On 8 March 2019, together with her daughter Yasaman Aryani, she distributed flowers in the Teheran underground railway without putting her headscarf on, in order to denounce the discrimination against women and the veiling laws in force in Iran. They thus exercised peacefully their right to freedom of expression, but were sentenced to long prison terms, of which they have to serve 5½ years.

Monireh Arabshahi is detained in Kachuei Prison in Karaj. She was refused the necessary medication for her thyroid gland. In December 2020 a swelling of her thyroid gland led to respiratory distress. The prison doctor recommended a specialist examination and a possible operation on her thyroid gland, both of which have not been carried out so far.

As her illness may put her life at risk, due to choking and damage to her heart, I urge you to ensure an immediate and adequate treatment for Ms Arabshahi. Please also protect her and her daughter from ill-treatment and allow them to keep regular contact with family members.

I also appeal to you to end the criminalization of womens rights activists and their protests against the veiling laws.

Yours sincerely,