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## **Presidency Statement on the continued imprisonment of two Iranian Human Rights Defenders in poor health**

The Presidency of the European Union wishes to express deep concern about the deterioration in the health of two prominent imprisoned Iranian Human Rights Defenders, Mr Emadeddin Baghi and Mr Mahmoud Salehi.

While noting the one month bail which has been granted to Mr Baghi for medical treatment in a hospital, the Presidency of the European Union urges Iranian authorities to guarantee complete physical and psychological integrity of Mr Emadeddin Baghi and Mr Mahmoud Salehi in all circumstances, and in particular ensure that they are granted any medical treatment required, if necessary in specialist medical facilities outside the prison where they are held.

Mr Baghi's case is one which the European Union previously raised with the Iranian authorities in November 2007.

The Presidency of the European Union urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to comply with all international and regional human rights instruments ratified by Iran, and would like to underline the need to comply with Article 14, on the right to a fair trial and Article 19, on the right to freedom of expression, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

The Presidency of the European Union calls upon the Iranian authorities to put an end to all acts of harassment against all Iranian human rights defenders.