



11 February 2026

Minister of Foreign Affairs

For approval by

18 February 2026

## Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans

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**BRIEFING**      Decision Submission

**PURPOSE**      To seek agreement to impose travel bans on 40 individuals who have perpetrated human rights abuses in Iran, and four individuals implicated in malign activities <sup>s6(a)</sup>

## Recommended referrals

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Prime Minister	For information by	25 February 2026
Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs	For information by	25 February 2026
Minister of Immigration	For information by	25 February 2026

## Contact details

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NAME s9(2)(g)(ii)	ROLE	DIVISION	WORK PHONE s9(2)(a)
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## Key points

- The situation in Iran remains complex. Credible reports from human rights organisations now put the death toll from the recent protests at almost 7,000, with a further 11,500 deaths under investigation. Arrests have topped 50,000. The underlying causes of disillusionment with the regime persist.
- In response, Australia, the United Kingdom, the European Union, and the United States have announced sanctions packages, including on Iranian Ministers who have perpetrated human rights abuses. <sup>s6(a)</sup> The EU has also announced that it will designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in its entirety as a terrorist entity.
- On 29 January 2026, officials recommended that New Zealand adopt additional measures in coordination with partners to amplify our longstanding concerns about Iran's behaviour. You agreed for New Zealand to continue registering our concerns through political and diplomatic channels, <sup>s9(2)(g)(i)</sup>
- In addition, officials **recommend** imposing travel bans on 40 individuals who have perpetrated human rights abuses in Iran, and four individuals implicated in malign activities carried out by Iran <sup>s6(a)</sup> While they are unlikely to travel to New Zealand, travel bans would have a strong signalling effect, especially when viewed together with partners' sanctions announcements. The bans would additionally <sup>s6(a)</sup>
- Officials **recommend** announcing the travel bans via a press release before the end of February, to leverage the momentum generated by partners. A draft press release is **attached**. We will work with your office to identify a suitable date for release and provide talking points.
- <sup>s6(a)</sup>  
It is <sup>s6(b)(i)</sup> cross-checked with open-source research. If you agree to impose travel bans on the named individuals, MFAT will give the list to Immigration New Zealand to prevent visas from being granted. The Ministry will also publish the names on our website, unless partners request that we keep the information confidential.
- This tranche of travel bans will bring the total number for Iran to 99 individuals. New Zealand has previously announced three tranches of travel bans on 55 individuals responsible for human rights violations in Iran. New Zealand has also imposed sanctions on 26 Iranian individuals and 18 Iranian entities who have provided support to Russia's illegal war in Ukraine.
- There are no additional resourcing implications to implementing the travel bans.

<sup>s9(2)(g)(ii)</sup>

for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans  
Recommendations

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It is recommended that you:

- |   |                                                                                                                                           |                 |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | <b>Agree</b> to impose travel bans on the individuals listed in this submission.                                                          | <b>Yes / No</b> |
| 2 | <b>Note</b> there are no resourcing implications.                                                                                         | <b>Yes / No</b> |
| 3 | <b>Refer</b> a copy of this submission to the Prime Minister, the Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Minister of Immigration. | <b>Yes / No</b> |

Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date:        /        /

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## List of individuals to be banned from travel to New Zealand

Bans on individuals who have perpetrated human rights abuses in Iran will be implemented pursuant to Immigration Instruction E2.135.<sup>1</sup> The Immigration Instructions will be amended to cover travel bans against the individuals implicated in malign activities.

Number	Name	Identifying Information	Information about involvement in human rights violations in Iran	Partner that provided name
1	Esmail KHATIB. Also known as Seyed Esmail KHATIB and Esmail KHATIB	DOB: 1960 or 1961 Place of birth: Ghayenat, South Kohrasan Province, Iran Citizenship: Iranian	s6(b)(i)	
2	Eskandar MOMENI	DOB: 1962 Place of birth: Qaem Shahr, Iran Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male		
3	Mohammad MOVAHEDI-AZAD	DOB: 6 September 1960 Place of birth: Qom, Iran Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male		
4	Yahya Hosseini PANJAKI. Also known as Yahya	DOB: 23 January 1975		

<sup>1</sup> The full text can be found here: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/opsmanual/#78966.htm>

## Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans

	HAMIDI, Yahya Hussein PANJAKI, Seyed Yahya HAMIDI, and Seyed Yahya Hosseiny PANJAKI	Place of birth: Karaj, Iran Citizenship: Iranian Passport number: T56344199 Passport expiry date: 30 March 2027
5	Mohamed SADEGHI. Also known as Mohammad SADEGHI	DOB: 1958 or 1959 Citizenship: Iranian
6	Mohammad Salah JOKAR. Also known as Mohammad Saleh JOKAR, Mohamad Saleh JOKAR, Mohammad Saleh JOKAR, and Mohammadsaleh JOKAR	DOB: April 1957, 5 May 1957, or May 1957 Place of birth: Yazd, Iran Citizenship: Iranian
7	Hassan SHAHVARPOUR. Also known as Hasan SHAHVARPOUR	Place of birth: Safi Abad, Dezful, Khuzestan, Iran Citizenship: Iranian National ID number: 2001624001
8	Rahim JAHANBAKHS	Citizenship: Iranian
9	Ali Saidi HOJATOLESLAM. Also known as Ali Akbar Aboutorabi FARD, Hojatoleslam Seyyed Ali Akbar Aboutorabi FARD, Hojatoleslam Ali SAIDI,	DOB: 1950 Place of birth: Shahrud, Semnan, Iran Citizenship: Iranian

## Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans

	Hojatoleslam Ali Saeidi SHAHROUDI, Ali SAIDI, Hojjat al Eslam Ali SAEEDI, Shahroudi Ali SAEEDI, and Hojjat al Eslam Ali SAIDI		s6(b)(i)
10	Abdollah ARAGHI. Also known as Abdollah ERAGHI, Abdollah ARAQI, Abdullah ARAQI, Abdullah ERAGHI, Abdollah ERAQI, and Abdullah ERAQI	DOB: 1945 Place of birth: Qazvin, Iran Citizenship: Iranian	
11	Ali FAZLI. Also known as Ali FAZLY	DOB: 1951 or 20 April 1961 Place of birth: Sarkan, Hamedan Province, Iran Citizenship: Iranian	
12	Ahmad-Reza RADAN. Also known as Ahmad Reza RADAN	DOB: 21 March 1963, 20 April 1963, 1963, or 1964 Place of birth: Ifsahan, Iran Citizenship: Iranian	
13	Mohammad Reza FALLAHZADEH. Also known as Abu BAGHER, Abu BAQER and Abu FATEMAH	DOB: 31 December 1961, 1962, or 1963 Place of birth: Yazd, Iran Citizenship: Iranian	
14	Mohsen CHIZARI. Also known as Muhammad Muhawad HANSURI	DOB: 1 April 1959 Place of birth: Tehran, Iran Citizenship: Iranian	
15	Alireza FADAKAR. Also known as Ali Reza FEDAKR and Alireza FADAKAR	DOB: 9 March 1966 Citizenship: Iranian Passport numbers: H46055007 (Iran),	

## Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans

		N35636890 (Iran), and U41671790 (Iran)	s6(b)(i)
16	Majid MOUSAVI. Also known as Sayyed Hosein Majid Mousavi EFTEKHARI, Sayyid Husayn Musawi IFTIKHARI, Seyyed Majid MOUSAVI, Seyyed Hosein Majid MOUSAVI, Sayyed Hosein Majid Musavi EFTEKHARI, and Sayyid Husayn Musawi IFTIKHARI	DOB: 17 February 1965 Citizenship: Iranian	
17	Sayyed Aminollah Emami TABATABAI. Also known as Aminallah Imami TABATBAYI	DOB: 26 August 1963 Place of birth: Meybod, Iran Citizenship: Iranian National ID no: 4489260229	
18	Ali Asghar NOUROUZI. Also known as Ali Asghar NOROUZI and Ali Asghar NOROWZI	DOB: 11 November 1962 Place of birth: Dashtestan, Bushehr Province, Iran Citizenship: Iranian Passport number: Y53914915 (Iran) Passport expiry date: 11 May 2026 National ID no: 4591967573 Address: Unit 29, 5th Floor, Talaieh Block B1, Elahiyeh Complex 1,	

## Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans

		Number 0, Alley 2-Shahid Sajjad Rushanai, Rabbaninejad Street, Zein Aldin Municipality, Qom 3739144673, Iran	s6(b)(i)
19	Hasan SABURINEZHAD. Also known as Ali SABURINEJAD, Hasan Saburi NAZHAD, Ali SABURINEZHAD, and Engineer Morteza	DOB: 9 January 1965 Citizenship: Iranian National ID no: 0383595282	
20	Naji Ibrahim SHARIFI-ZINDASHTI		
21	Mohammad Reza HASHEMIFAR		
22	Seyed Majid Feiz JAFARI	Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male	
23	Yadollah BOUALI		
24	Babak ZANJANI		
25	Ahmed AMINI		
26	Mohammad GHANBARI		
27	Ahmad Darvish GOFTAR		

Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans s6(b)(i)

28	Mehdi RASAKHI	
29	Mohammad ZAMANI	
30	Ahmad Ali FAIZULLAHI	DOB: 1966 or 1967 Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male
31	Ali Abdollahi ALIABADI	DOB: 1959 Place of birth: Aliabad, Rudbar County, Iran Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male
32	Ruhollah Momen NASAB	DOB: 21 January 1981 Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male

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## Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans

33	Haider OLFATI. Also known as Heydar OLFATI	Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male	s6(b)(i)
34	Morteza SHEYKHI. Also known as Morteza SHEIKHI	Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male	
35	Seyed Ali-Asghar POURBEHESHT	Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male	
36	Alireza NOSHAD. Also known as Alireza NOWSHAD	Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male	
37	Rasoul JALILI	DOB: 1961 Place of birth: Eqid, Fars, Iran Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male	
38	Masoud MOSADEGH. Also known as Masoud MOSSADEGH and Masoud MOSADDEG	Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male	

## Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans

39	Mohsen EBRAHIMI	Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male	s6(b)(i)
40	Mohsen FATHIZADEH. Also known as Mohsen FATHI ZADEH	Citizenship: Iranian Gender: Male National ID no: 4839651760	
41	Javad GHAFFARHADDADI. Also known as Javad GHAFFARI and the Butcher of Aleppo	DOB: 23 September 1964 Citizenship: Iranian Passport number: F57122360 Passport expiry date: 15 June 2027	
42	s6(a)		
43	Esmail QAANI		

Iran: Fourth tranche of travel bans

			(b)(6)
44	Mohammad Reza ANSARI		

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s9(2)(g)(i)

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