

Geneva, 27 April 2015

Mr. Hassan Rouhani
President
Islamic Republic of Iran

Sent via Mr. Mohsen Naziri Asl
Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Geneva Office
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IndustriALL Global Union demands President Rouhani of Iran: Hands off May Day

Dear Mr. President Hassan Rouhani,

I am writing to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industriall-union.org), which represents more than 50 million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing industries in some 143 countries, to strongly urge the Iranian Government to stop the current inhumane and illegal activities of the Iranian authorities aimed at blocking Iranian workers from marking May Day.

Our Iranian trade union partners report that your government is cracking down against workers organizing May Day celebrations. The government treats all worker disputes and protests as security issues and not labour issues. This creates a justified climate of fear when workers demand unpaid wages, improved working conditions or recognition of their right to organize.

This heavy government repression keeping unions small creates a catastrophically dangerous working environment. High levels of workplace accidents and deaths occur because no mechanism exists for workers to refuse dangerous work or demand protective measures and safe conditions.

IndustriALL stands with the Iranian unions in their urgent demands of your executive office:

- Ratify and implement ILO Conventions 98 and 87 on freedom to establish trade unions, and remove of the ban on trade union activities in accordance with Article 26 of the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran
- Recognize and immediately start to implement the right of Iranian workers and trade unions to organize May Day in accordance with Article 27 of the constitution
- End all harassment, threats and persecution of trade union activists, especially on the eve of May Day
- The release of all prisoners who have been arrested in connection with their trade union and legitimate activities.

Sincerely,



Jyrki Raina
General Secretary