

Your Excellency,

Following the recent news of your election, I want to wish you well as the new president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. May the Almighty One bless you and the Iranian people especially after the turbulent times your country recently went through.

Iran is a significant partner in the Middle East for peace and stability and has signed and ratified important international human rights' treaties including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Your Excellency, I trust that you will take the commitments contained in these treaties seriously.

Allow me to highlight the fundamental right to freedom of religion or belief as several Farsi-speaking Christians and other non-Muslim believers have been arrested arbitrarily in recent years. Most believers are not allowed to meet in small groups when and where they like, not even in their own houses. In that respect, your country is not complying with its own Constitution and international obligations.

I ask that you not only grant freedom of religion of all Farsi-speaking Christians, but also protect them as they enjoy this freedom. Please ensure that all Christians can meet together whenever and wherever they want for prayer, worship, teaching and preaching in their own language.

In addition I respectfully urge you to start your Presidency with the immediate release of all prisoners held on the basis of their religious beliefs. That would be a marvellous start of your tenure as President.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

[name]

[country]