NAME

ADDRESS

ELECTROATE

REPRESENTATIVE

ADDRESS

**DATE**

Dear REPRESENTATIVE

**RE:** The Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi

I am an Australian Citizen of Iranian heritage. I am concerned that Australian Senators and Members of Parliaments support and/or endorse the organisation known as ‘National Council of Resistance of Iran’ as a legitimate political opposition to the current Islamic Republic of Iran.

NCRI President-elect Ms Rajavi is not considered by the majority of Iranians or the diaspora as a representative of Iranians. The organisation she represents opposed the modernisation program of Iran during 1960-1979, killed Iranians within its sovereign borders and abroad between 1961 to 1998 and maintains a Marxist-Islamic ideology which is contrary to western values and more importantly contrary to the aspirations of Iranians in Iran.

The exiled Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi represents majority of Iranians. It his mission for the Iranian people to prepare the landscape for a “national, democratic and elected government of the people”. His mission is delivered through the **National Council of Iran**, not to be confused with the aforementioned Nation Council of Resistance in Iran.

As an Australian with Iranian heritage seeking the values of liberal democracy in Iranian politics, and sees secularism as a vital and unavoidable basis for it, I call on the Australian Government to **recognise** the exiled Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi as the Representative of the Iranians and the Iranian diaspora and **recommend** to its partners in the UK, EU and US to exercise caution along with trepidation, when meeting with NCRI.

Regards

CONSTITUENT NAME

ELECTORATE

**Appendices**

**Facts, key points and opinions:**

1. NCRI members includes Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK), (AKA the People’s Mujahideen Organisation of Iran, PMOI). The MEK is known to Australia and the international community through publications by the ‘RAND National Defense Research Institute’1. MEK is also known the Department of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Group2.
2. The MEK is no longer a Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) in the United Kingdom (delisted 2008), Europe (delisted 2009), or the United States of America (delisted 2012). *Its decision to delist has been influenced by Courts ruling3,4,5,6,7 between the period 2006 to 2011). It is in my opinion, Australia did not relist MEK on the DFAT “Consolidated List” after its expiration on 25 November 2013 based on court rulings and mounting pressures from the UK, EU and the US delisting the organisation.*
3. Ms Maryam Rajavi (formerly Ms Maryam Azodanlu married Masoud Rajavi in 1985) was the Joint-Leader of MEK between the period 1985 to 1989, Secretary General of MEK between 1989 to 1993 and is currently President-elect of the NCRI since 19938.

During Ms Rajavi’s leadership of MEK:

* 1986 the French expelled MEK
* 1987-88 Iraq welcomed MEK - Baghdad armed MEK with heavy military equipment and deployed thousands of MEK fighters in suicidal, mass wave attacks against Iranian forces.
* 1991 MEK assisted the Iraqi Republican Guard’s bloody crackdown on Iraqi Shia and Kurds who rose up against Saddam Hussein’s regime
* 1992 attacks on Iranian embassies and consular missions in 13 countries, including against the Iranian mission to the United Nations in New York

MEK has become increasingly adept at crafting and promoting its image as a democratic organisation. It is alleged that MEK fundraising primarily came from the Saddam Hussein Government in the 1980s’1; in 2002 United States v Rahmani determined MEK undertook fraudulent fundraising activities for the then FTO9 in 1997. In 2003 Clive Williams (then the Director of Terrorism Studies at the Australian National University) described MEK as ‘basically a fundraising arm’10.

The United States Courts of Appeals concluded NCRI and PMOI (AKA MEK) “are one” in the same organisation11.

*It is therefore fair to perceived, Ms Rajavi between the period of 1985 and present, a Joint-Leader of MEK (1985-1989), General Secretary of MEK (1989-1993) and President-elect of NCRI (1993 to present day) is an unknown character of questionable intent, and caution must be exercised along with trepidation.*

1. Article 7 of the NCRI Constitution12, Ms Rajavi remains President-elect of the NCRI; NCRI note that for the provisional period for transfer of power to the people. Her presidential term will end following ratification of a new constitution in the Constitutional Assembly and the election of a new president for Iran13. *The NCRI has not described how the Constitutional Assembly membership will be determined.*
2. Hansard report14 from 26 October 2010, then MP Mr Kelvin Thomson, stated:

*“I do not think we should be supporting it (Islamic Republic of Iran) either, and yet this is what we and the United States have been doing by outlawing and branding as terrorists a key Iranian opposition group—the PMOI, known in Iran as the Mujaheddin-e-Khalq, or MEK. The Iranian opposition should receive our support and the terrorist listing, which has been withdrawn in England and in Europe, should be withdrawn here.”*

*Mr Thomson is inferring a political opposition to the current Regime is welcomed.*

On 16 November 2023 a conference was held in the Australian Parliament in Canberra. Speakers at the session included Senator Matt O’Sullivan, Senator David Shoebridge, MP Rowan Ramsey and MP Susan Templeman. *Their respective offices have not confirmed this, though images of the event show Senator Matt O’Sullivan15.* The NCRI President-elect message was broadcasted to Senators and Members of Parliament which Ms Rajavi promoted NCRIs plans. *To the credit of Australian Parliamentary Representatives, it is understood from notes of the meeting, they did not support or dismiss NCRI. The position held by the Australian Parliamentary Representatives was for most part, an acknowledgment of a political opposition to the Regime and holding the current regime accountable for human rights violations.*

1. Other known groups operating in Australia aligned to NCRI are the Australian Committee of Democracy Supporters in Iran, co-chaired by Mr Peter Murphy; Iran Freedom Network; Alliance for Public Awareness.

**Bibliography to Facts**

1. Goulka, J. Hansell, L, Wilke E, Larson, J. 2009, ‘The Mujahedin- Khalq in Iraq: a policy conundrum’, RAND National Defense Research Institute, Santa Monica CA, Sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of Defence, available at National Library of Australia: call number YY 363.32509567
2. Commonwealth, 2003, ‘Behind the Mujahideen-e-Khalq (MeK)’, Research Note 2003-03 No. 43, 16 June 2003, https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22library%2Fprspub%2F10N96%22 [accessed 6 March 2024]

**Court Cases and Orders**

**UK**

1. Appeal: Proscribed Organisation Appeal Commission – Lord Alton of Liverpool and Others (In the Matter of the People’s Mojahadeen Organisation of Iran) and Secretary of State for the Home Department, PC/02/2006, https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/PC022006-PMOI-FINAL-JUDGMENT.pdf [accessed 01 March 2024]
2. Judgement: The Secretary of State for the Home Department and Lord Alton of Liverpool and Others, [2008] EWCA Civ 443, https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWCA/Civ/2008/443.html [accessed 01 March 2024]

**EU**

1. Annulment of Council Decision: Organisation des Modjahedines du peuple d'Iran v. Council, T-228/02, European Union: Court of Justice of the European Union, 12 December 2006, https://www.refworld.org/jurisprudence/caselaw/ecj/2006/en/53105 [accessed 01 March 2024]

**US**

1. Decision: People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran, Petitioner v. United States Department and Hillary Rodham Clinton, in her capacity as Secretary of State, Respondents, No. 09-1059
2. Order: Re: People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran before Henderson and Tatel, Circuit Judges, and Williams, Senior Circuit Judge, September Term 2011, No. 12-1118
3. Goulka, J. Hansell, L, Wilke E, Larson, J. 2009, ‘The Mujahedin- Khalq in Iraq: a policy conundrum’, Appendix C, RAND National Defense Research Institute, Santa Monica CA, Sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of Defence, available at National Library of Australia: call number YY 363.32509567
4. United States of America v Roya Rahmani, et.al., United States District Court, C.D. California, 209 F. Supp. 2d 1045 (2002)
5. Commonwealth, 2012, ‘Delisting the Mujahideen-e-Khalq (MeK)’, https://www.aph.gov.au/About\_Parliament/Parliamentary\_Departments/Parliamentary\_Library/FlagPost/2012/December/Delisting\_the\_MujahideeneKhalq\_MeK [accessed 1 March 2024]
6. National Council of Resistance v Department of State, United States Court of Appeal District of Columbia Circuit, 251 F.3d 192 (D.C. Cir. 2001)
7. NCRI Constitution 1982, adopted unanimously by [NCRI](https://www.ncr-iran.org/en/about-ncri/ncri/alternative/) in 1982, ‘Constitution of the National Council of Resistance of Iran’, https://www.ncr-iran.org/en/about-ncri/ncri-platform/the-constitution-of-the-national-council-of-resistance-of-iran/ [accessed 1 March 2024]
8. NCRI Structure, full quote *“Maryam Rajavi is the President-elect of the NCRI for the provisional period for transfer of power to the people. Her presidential term will end following ratification of a new constitution in the Constitutional Assembly and the election of a new president for Iran.”* https://www.ncr-iran.org/en/our-structure/, [accessed 1 March 2024]
9. Commonwealth, Ministerial Statements, House of Representatives, Tuesday 26 October 2010, page 1725, Mr Kelvin Thomson, https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22chamber%2Fhansardr%2F2010-10-26%2F0158%22 [accessed 1 March 2024]
10. NCRI Media Release of 16 November 2023 Conference with Australian Parliamentarians, https://www.ncr-iran.org/en/news/iran-resistance/parliamentary-conference-in-australia-honors-irans-november-2019-uprising-supports-free-iran/ [accessed 6 March 2024]