

# Bipartisan lawmakers voice support for Iran uprising, condemn Tehran's terrorism against dissidents

*Bipartisan members of congress joined Iranian Americans from 40 states at a Congressional event to express support for protesters in Iran.*

WASHINGTON, DC, USA, December 13, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Bipartisan members of congress joined Iranian Americans from 40 states at a Congressional event to express support for protesters in Iran, announce bipartisan congressional initiative H.Res.1034, and highlight Iranian regime's malign international role.

Timed to coincide with the anniversary of nationwide protests in Iran, the gathering, moderated by OIAC Advisory Board member Dr. Ramesh Sepehrad, showcased congressional and community support for the Iranian people and their democratic opposition movement.



Chairman Eliot Engel (D-NY)

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*Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY)*

In his opening remarks, congressman Tom McClintock (R-CA) noted, "As the journey of the mullahs has become more extreme, the international resistance to them has become more resolute. We've seen this in the liberation of the MEK freedom fighters trapped in Iraq." We've also "seen it with the 105 of my colleagues, here in the House of Representatives who co-sponsored my bill, House Resolution 1034 that we affirmed our committed support of the Iranian people's desire for a democratic, secular, and non-nuclear republic of Iran," Mr. McClintock added.

He was followed by [Rep. Eliot Engel \(D-NY\)](#), expected to be the incoming chair of the House Foreign Affairs

Committee, who referred to the street protests in Iran, "There have been lots of demonstrations going on in Iran where people are protesting...I'm here to stand in solidarity with the people of Iran and to say to the government of Iran: What are you afraid of? Fair and free elections? Let the people of Iran determine their destiny."

Congressman Ted Poe (R-TX) reminded the community members of their important role. "It's obvious that what you do is making a difference, because you have gotten the folks in Iran, the mullahs, real nervous," he said. "Don't ever let the mullahs keep you awake at night, because you see, you keep them awake at night by fighting for freedom in Iran."

"I'm proud to co-sponsor House Resolution 1034 which condemns Iran's state sponsored terrorism and expresses support for the Iranian people fighting for free, democratic, and secular future," added Congresswoman Judy Chu (D-CA).

Rep. Brad Sherman (D-CA) recognized U.S. Teamsters Union for, "joining in support of the Iranian truck drivers protesting for democracy in Iran." He commended the Iranian opposition leader Maryam Rajavi for "her continuing advocacy for women's rights and minority rights in Iran," while lauding the opposition movement, the MEK, for exposing the nuclear sites of the Iranian regime in 2002.

Congressman Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) noted, "The love of liberty burns in your heart. All the way from the time of Camp Ashraf where innocent people, unarmed people were being slaughtered by the mullah regime...and yes, right now...all freedom loving people, in supporting those people who are now in the streets in Iran demanding that the mullahs leave."

"I'm a co-chair of the Congressional Iran Human Rights and Democracy Caucus, and I'm proud of that. I will continue to condemn the Iranian regime's abuses of human rights and its support for terrorism," Rep. Steve Cohen (D-TN) said.

"The change of Congress will not stop us from fighting for victory," said Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX), adding, "as new majority is in power [in the House], please know that democracy will not be far from our heart, our mind and our lips."

Rep. Mike Coffman (R-CO) noted also that all must stand in solidarity with the people of Iran, but "it's so important for the United States to not lose its focus" on the Iranian regime.

Ms. Soona Samsami, the representative in the United States for Iran's Parliament-in-exile, the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) also addressed the gathering. She highlighted the organized nature of the ongoing protests in Iran and quoted regime's officials, including the following: "The decisive factor in the persistence and expansion of the protests is the organization of the rioters. They have created organized cells called the Units of Rebellion, which have both the capacity to increase in numbers and also replace leaders on the scene."



Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CA)



Soona Samsami, NCRI Rep. in Washington

Former U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain Adam Ereli, also addressed the event. "I think it's clear to anybody who follows Iran closely that the mullahs are afraid. And they're afraid of you...When Iran [regime] blames Maryam Rajavi, the Iranian opposition and the Iranian American diaspora for these protests, it just tells you how afraid they are, how vulnerable they are, and how effective you are," he said.

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