

# United States Senate

December 12, 2023

The Honorable Antony Blinken  
Secretary of State  
United States Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken:

We write to express our grave concern for the safety of the very courageous and bold Iranian-American human rights activist, Masih Alinejad.

As you know, Masih's "offense" is speaking out against the mullahs that run Iran. Her efforts to bring global attention to their brutal gender apartheid regime in Iran, and the role compulsory head covering plays in it, predates by a decade the "women, life, freedom" movement that took off last year in the aftermath of the tragic death of Mahsa Amini.

Since, however, Masih has gained even greater prominence for her boldness.

Unfortunately, as a result of her determined opposition to the Iranian regime, there have been 31 threats on her life and two actual attempts to kill her, on American soil. We are increasingly concerned that one day these thugs will succeed.

Masih's precarious situation is unacceptable. Equally unacceptable is any suggestion that she enter a witness protection program. This would be a significant hardship that would include going silent, changing her identity, and essentially disappearing. While we understand law enforcement is monitoring her predicament at both the local and federal level, we can do much better by her.

In many ways, Masih Alinejad represents what makes America great. As a people, we don't stay silent and idle in the face of oppression. We stand up to it. We strongly urge you to sit down with Masih to personally listen to her concerns. She deserves all the understanding the U.S. government can muster for speaking out about the suffering caused by the regime in Iran.

Sincerely,



Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator