



## RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

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PETITION No.: **421-03697**

BY: **Ms. SGRO (HUMBER RIVER-BLACK CREEK)**

DATE: **MAY 9, 2019**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **SIGNED BY THE HONOURABLE CHRYSIA FREELAND**

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Response by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

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SUBJECT

**Saeed Malekpour**

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**ORIGINAL TEXT**

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**REPLY**

The Government of Canada is very concerned by the situation faced by Saeed Malekpour.

The protection and promotion of all human rights is a central feature of Canada's foreign policy, and core to its policies towards Iran.

While the details that can be shared are limited by the *Privacy Act*, Global Affairs officials are in contact with Mr. Malekpour's family and continue to provide support. Canada raises Saeed Malekpour's case with likeminded partners and has previously raised his case directly with Iranian officials.

Canada continues to advocate strongly for Iran to improve its human rights record. In December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly adopted an annual Canadian-led resolution on the situation of human rights in Iran. The resolution sends a strong message to the people of Iran that the international community remains concerned about the persistent human rights violations committed by the Iranian regime. It also urges the regime to address these grave human rights concerns.

Canada will continue to monitor the human rights situation in Iran closely and urge Iran to uphold its international and domestic obligations to protect and promote the fundamental human rights of its people. Canada will always stand up for the protection of human rights around the world, and will continue to seek the release of Mr. Malekpour.