

# URGENT ACTION

## LIFE OF TORTURED NOBEL LAUREATE AT RISK IN PRISON

Iranian authorities are recklessly putting the life of human rights defender **Narges Mohammadi** at risk by subjecting her to torture or other ill-treatment through the deliberate denial of timely and adequate specialized healthcare. She had a heart attack on March 24, 2026 in Zanzan prison, Zanzan province, and has suffered from chest pain, blood pressure fluctuations, severe headaches, dizziness, nausea and double vision since her unjust imprisonment in December 2025. Despite this, authorities are denying her the urgent specialized medical treatment she requires in a hospital outside prison in Tehran.

### TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **Fourteenth UA 105.15**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Head of judiciary, Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei

*Send a copy of your letter to the address below*

Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei  
c/o Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of  
Iran to the United Nations  
622 3rd Ave, 34th floor,  
New York, NY 10017  
Email: [iranunny@mfa.gov.ir](mailto:iranunny@mfa.gov.ir)

To Mr. Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei,

The life of Nobel Peace Prize laureate and human rights defender **Narges Mohammadi** is at immediate risk. In Zanzan prison, authorities are denying her timely, specialized care for a serious heart condition, which may amount to torture or other ill-treatment. Reports indicate she suffered a heart attack on March 24, 2026, was found unconscious, and was treated only in the prison infirmary despite the need for hospital care. A cardiologist who examined her on March 30 warned that medication given in prison may have contributed and that she remains at risk of another attack. Her family and lawyers report ongoing chest pain, severe deterioration, and a 20 kg weight loss since her December 12, 2025 arrest. The Legal Medical Examiner recommended a one-month medical suspension on April 13, yet prosecutors continue to refuse temporary release or transfer to Tehran for specialist treatment.

Following her arbitrary arrest in Mashhad on December 12, 2025, she was reportedly beaten, denied adequate care, and later transferred to Zanzan prison without notice after detention by the Ministry of Intelligence. She is held with prisoners convicted of violent offences and has received multiple sentences totaling over 20 years' imprisonment and 154 lashes solely for her human rights work.

I urge you to immediately and unconditionally release her as a prisoner of conscience and quash her convictions and sentences. Pending release, ensure prompt specialist treatment outside prison, including transfer to Tehran as medically required, and protect her from further ill-treatment. Please also order an independent, impartial investigation into her allegations of torture and ensure those responsible are brought to justice in fair trials.

Yours sincerely,

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Before her heart attack on March 24, 2026, officials at Zanzan prison denied **Narges Mohammadi** adequate care for chest pain, blood pressure fluctuations, and severe headaches, nausea and double vision that began after alleged torture or other ill-treatment following her December 22, 2025 arrest. She was arrested in Mashhad while peacefully attending the memorial of lawyer Khosrow Alikordi. In a Ministry of Intelligence detention centre, she reportedly became seriously unwell on several occasions—including dizziness and loss of consciousness—yet was denied proper healthcare. Sources also say interrogators pressured her to sign a public statement condemning the nationwide uprising that began on December 28, 2025, which she refused.

Authorities have repeatedly delayed or denied her access to healthcare in custody. She reportedly suffered multiple heart attacks on February 16, 2022 and underwent emergency surgery, but was returned to prison on February 19 against medical advice. On November 11, 2023, officials blocked hospital transfer unless she complied with compulsory veiling, despite doctors finding fluid around her heart and up to 80% blockage in two arteries requiring angioplasty; she was finally taken to hospital on November 16 and returned the same day. Family reports say medical assessments in July and September 2024 showed further deterioration, including blockage of a stent inserted in 2022, later replaced in late October 2024. Her sentence was temporarily suspended on December 4, 2024, but she was re-arrested on December 12, 2025 and has remained imprisoned since.

For nearly 25 years, Iranian authorities have targeted Narges Mohammadi for her human rights work through repeated unfair prosecutions and prison terms. Her recent harassment includes a May 2021 conviction (two years and six months) linked to her peaceful participation in a December 2019 sit-in in Evin prison protesting the unlawful killings during the November 2019 protests. Arrested on 16 November 2021 to serve that sentence, she later faced several further cases tied to peaceful activism, including Revolutionary Court convictions on national-security charges, prison terms and other sanctions such as flogging. On February 8, 2026, she told a lawyer that Branch 1 of the Revolutionary Court in Mashhad sentenced her to seven years and six months and other penalties. She received the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize on October 6, 2023.

Amnesty International reports that people in Iran, including prisoners, face lethal domestic repression alongside unlawful US and Israeli attacks. Between 28 February and April 7, 2026, the USA and Israel carried out extensive air strikes across Iran, causing grave civilian harm; families and rights defenders reported explosions near several prisons, including near Zanzan prison, and shortages of food, safe water and sanitation products during and after the April 7 ceasefire. These attacks occurred amid mass killings of protesters and bystanders during the January 2026 uprising, heightening risks of atrocity crimes from both internal repression and external military action.

**PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET:** Persian, English or your own language.

**PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL:** July 3, 2026

**NAME AND PREFERRED PRONOUN:** Narges Mohammadi (she/her)