

07.12.22

Ref: Gender Equality Activists sentenced to death by the Islamic Republic.

Miss Zahra Sedighi-Hamadani, 31, aka Sareh, is a gender equality activist. In October 2021, she was arrested by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps when she attempted to cross over to Turkey in a bid to apply for asylum.

Sareh and her friend Elham Choubdar, 24, have been charged with promoting homosexuality, fraud, promoting sexual relationships, and corruption on earth.

There exists no evidence for these baseless allegations. It is believed that the two accused were forced into a confession after being tortured and her family and two children threatened.

In September 2022, Sareh and Elham were sentenced to death for the crime of corruption on earth.

The Islamic Republic has condemned to death two innocent civilians after conducting a sham court with no legal process. Once again, the Iranian LGBT community has suffered the arrest and potential loss of two innocent lives.

The Iranian Association of Iranian Human Rights and Allies echoes the concerns raised by AllOut and condemns the Islamic Republic for the unjustified arrest, detention, and unfair trial of Sareh and Elham.

We ask for the international communities and all LGBT organisations to condemn this illegal and cowardly act by the Islamic Republic and take immediate action;

- 1) Write to the United Nations Human Rights Council
- 2) Write to the Council of Europe Human Rights Committee
- 3) Sign AllOut's campaign https://action.allout.org/en/m/66561cda/

Kind Regards,

Association of Iranian Human Rights and Allies