

IRAN: AGGRESSIVE REPRESSION ON THE INSIDE - HOSTAGE DIPLOMACY ON THE OUTSIDE Averting fates through political sponsorships



Iran: Aggressive repression on the inside – hostage diplomacy on the outside  $\mid$  2



Iran: Aggressive repression on the inside – hostage diplomacy on the outside | 3

fifteen former Iranian hostages (prisoners with dual citizenship) made a critical appeal to the Swedish government to work effectively for his release.

At ISHR, we are convinced that only public attention will spur diplomats to make the needed effort that will save lives. We receive a great deal of support towards this goal from political figures who use their reputational weight to campaign for the freedom of the person in custody. They contact the media and the embassy directly and ask questions about political imprisonment. In the past, the commitment of politicians has led to considerable improvements for the vast majority of prisoners, such as the mitigation of their sentence or even their release. The political sponsorship programme of the ISHR's German section is constantly growing. The related expenditures for research, translations, maintaining contacts and accompanying media work are considerable. Thus, any form of support is highly appreciated.