



The National Council of Resistance of Iran

Introduction

- The National Council of Resistance of Iran was founded in 1981. As the parliament-in-exile of the Iranian Resistance, it is a democratic coalition of various Iranian groups and personalities representing different political outlooks. The NCRI has 560 members, which includes representatives of Iran's religious and ethnic minorities. The NCRI seeks to establish a pluralistic, multi-party and democratic system in Iran. Half of the members of the NCRI are women.
- Mrs. Maryam Rajavi is the President-elect of the NCRI for the transitional period after the clerical regime's overthrow. As a national and unifying figure, Mrs. Rajavi guarantees a smooth transition of power to the people.
- The NCRI has established 25 committees to serve as the basis for the Provisional Government, which will run the country for no more than six months, during which its primary task is to set up free and fair elections for a National Legislative and Constituent Assembly.

The NCRI Program

- Considers democracy to be the only guarantor of progress in the country.
- Recognizes general elections and voting as the only channel for the legitimacy of elected officials.
- Equality of political and social rights for all Iranians, regardless of gender, religion or ethnic orientation.
- Respects the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its related international covenants.
- Complete freedom of expression, belief, the press, political parties, gatherings and associations.
- Separation of church and state.
- Equality between women and men in all aspects.
- Abolition of all kinds of discrimination against religious and ethnic minorities.

- Recognizes free-market economy and is committed to uphold "national capitalism and the bazaar, private and personal ownership and investment. "
- Believes that Iran "cannot and must not want to live in isolation from the outside world." The NCRI is eager to return Iran to the family of nations and improve relations with regional as well as western countries.
- NCRI supports peace in the Middle East and has exposed Iranian regime's efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction.

Congressional support for NCRI

- The Congress has described the NCRI as the "democratic coalition" with "democratic goals" that are supported by "majority of Iranians " and "contribute to peace, human rights and regional stability." Some of the statements issued by members of congress that support the NCRI are as follows:
- August 2001 : 32 members of the Senate state in a "Policy Statement on Iran" that "Goodwill gestures toward the current regime have proven futile. US. policy should reach out to those working to establish a democratic and pluralistic system in the country. In this context, support for the democratic goals of the National Council of Resistance of Iran and its President-elect, Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, whose objectives are supported by the majority of Iranians, can contribute to peace, human rights and regional stability."
- October 2000: 228 members of the House of Representatives declared support for the NCRI.
- September 1998: 220 members of the House of Representatives declared support for the NCRI
- July 1997: 225 members of the House of Representative announced support for NCRI by stating "Support for advocates of democracy such as the Iranian Resistance's President-elect Maryam Rajavi, would contribute to peace and stability in the region."
- June 1995: 202 members of the House of Representative announced that "The National Council of Resistance of Iran led by Massoud Rajavi, will contribute to the realization of political pluralism and democracy in Iran."
- July 1992: 219 members of the House of Representatives declared in a statement that "We are convinced that support for the National Council of Resistance will contribute to the achievement of peace and stability for all the countries of the region."
- In addition NCRI enjoys extensive support in various European countries. In 2001 alone, the UK House of Commons majority (331 MP) and 122 members of the House of Lords as well as the majority of the parliament in Italy, Belgium and Luxembourg declared their support for the NCRI

The NCRI in the US

- The NCRI in the United State is represented by the NCRI, US Representative Office (NCRI-US), its activities include contacts with members of Congress, experts and the media.