COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/846 of 24 April 2023

implementing Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 of 12 April 2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran (1), and in particular Article 12(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) On 12 April 2011, the Council adopted Regulation (EU) No 359/2011.
- (2) On 25 September 2022, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy issued a declaration on behalf of the Union deploring the widespread and disproportionate use of force by the Iranian security forces against non-violent protestors, noting that it had resulted in the loss of lives as well as a large number of injuries. The declaration also spelled out that those responsible for the killing of Mahsa Amini must be held accountable, and called on the Iranian authorities to ensure transparent and credible investigations to clarify the number of deaths and arrests, to release all non-violent protestors and to provide due process to all detainees. Furthermore, the declaration stressed that Iran's decision to severely restrict internet access and block instant messaging platforms blatantly violates freedom of expression. Finally, the declaration stated that the Union will consider all options at its disposal to address the killing of Mahsa Amini and the way Iranian security forces have responded to the ensuing demonstrations.
- (3) In this context, and in line with the Union's commitment to address all issues of concern with Iran, including the human rights situation, as confirmed in the Council Conclusions of 12 December 2022, eight persons and one entity should be included in the list of natural and legal persons, entities and bodies subject to restrictive measures set out in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 359/2011.
- (4) Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Luxembourg, 24 April 2023.

For the Council
The President
J. BORRELL FONTELLES

The following eight persons and one entity are added to the list of natural and legal persons, entities and bodies set out in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 359/2011: Persons

	Name	Identifying information	Reasons	Date of listing
'214.	NOBAVEH VATAN Bijan بیژن نوباوه وطن	DOB: 1959/1960 POB: Tehran, Iran Nationality: Iranian Gender: male Function: Member of the Iranian Parliament; First Deputy Chairman of the Culture Commission of the Iranian Parliament	Bijan Nobaveh Vatan is an Iranian lawmaker and hardliner as well as the First Deputy Chairman of the Culture Commission of the Iranian Parliament. He is one of the 227 members of parliament who signed a statement on 6 November 2022 praising security forces for killing protestors and urging the judiciary to accelerate trials and sentence protestors to death by declaring them as "Muharebeh", or "enmity against God". Moreover, he is a driving force behind legislation enforcing restrictive clothing rules on women by enacting penalties for institutions, businesses and individuals that interact with non-compliant women, thus creating a boycott against them. As a Member of the Iranian Parliament, Nobaveh Vatan supported the killing, detention and torture of people during the 2022/2023 nationwide protests in Iran. He further supports legislation that substantially revokes the social and economic rights of women in Iran. He is therefore responsible for serious human rights violations in Iran.	24.4.2023

ANNEX

	Name	Identifying information	Reasons	Date of listing
215.	YAZDIKHAH Ali على يزدى خواه	Nationality: Iranian Gender: male Function: Member of the Iranian Parliament; Member of the Culture Commission of the Iranian Parliament	Ali Yazdikhah is an Iranian lawmaker and hardliner as well as a member of the Culture Commission of the Iranian Parliament. He is one of the 227 members of parliament who signed a statement on 6 November 2022 praising security forces for killing protestors and urging the judiciary to accelerate trials and sentence protestors to death by declaring them as "Muharebeh", or "enmity against God". Moreover, he is a driving force behind legislation enforcing restrictive clothing rules on women by enacting penalties for institutions, businesses and individuals that interact with non-compliant women, thus creating a boycott against them. As a Member of the Iranian Parliament, Yazdikhah supported the killing, detention and torture of people during the 2022/2023 nationwide protests in Iran. He further supports legislation that substantially revokes the social and economic rights of women in Iran. He is therefore responsible for serious human rights violations in Iran.	24.4.2023

	Name	Identifying information	Reasons	Date of listing
216.	ALIBABAEI Mehdi محدى على بابايى (a.k.a. ALI BABAEI Mehdi, BABAEI Ali Mehdi)	Nationality: Iranian Gender: male Rank: Major Function: provincial deputy of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in Qom	Major Mehdi Alibabaei is the provincial deputy of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in Qom. He directs IRGC and Basij forces in the city of Qom. Following the death of Mahsa Amini in September 2022, some of the most intense protests have been seen in the city of Qom. Security forces, including the IRGC and the Basij militia were deployed to violently crack down on these protests. Since March 2023, the IRGC and Basij militia have also been instructed to enforce the mandatory hijab law by new methods of oppression. Alibabaei revealed a new scheme to deploy members of the Basij militia in each Qom neighbourhood to enforce the hijab law. The new scheme includes installing programs such as "Be a famous leader in our neighbourhood", ordering IRGC/Basij forces to conduct neighbourhood patrols, the use of intelligence, intimidation, and enforcing accountability of regular citizens (for example by appealing to the responsibility of building and residence managers for "badly veiled" residents). This scheme represents a new level of denunciation and information gathering by the general population to oppress women. Under the command of Alibabaei, the local IRGC and Basij forces in Qom are ordered to enforce certain selected laws, by means and methods that intimidate citizens and violate their fundamental rights. As provincial deputy of the IRGC in Qom, Major Mehdi Alibabaei is responsible for the acts of oppression committed by the local IRGC and Basij forces and their violations of the rights of freedom of expression and privacy. He is therefore responsible for serious human rights violations in Iran.	24.4.2023

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	Name	Identifying information	Reasons	Date of listing
217.	(a.k.a. NOROUZI Ali Asghar) POB: Dasi	DOB: 11.11.1962 POB: Dashtestan, Bushehr province, Iran	Ali Asghar Nourouzi is the chairman of the board of directors of the EU-listed Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation.	24.4.2023
		Address: Unit 29, 5th Floor, Talaieh Block- B1, Elahiyeh Complex 1, Number 0, Alley 2-Shahid Sajjad Rushanai, Rabbaninejad Street, Zein Aldin Municipality, Qom 3739144673, Iran	The IRGC has been at the forefront of the repression of the 2022/2023 protests in Iran which has seen more than 520 people killed, over 70 of whom were minors, and more than 22 000 arrests/imprisonments effected.	
		Nationality: Iranian	The IRGC Cooperative Foundation is the body responsible for managing the IRGC's investments and in that framework it is responsible for	
		Gender: male	funnelling money into the regime's brutal repression.	
		Passport no: Y53914915 (Iran) expires 11.5.2026	As chairman of the board of directors of the IRGC Cooperative Foundation, Ali Asghar Nourouzi is therefore responsible for willingly and knowingly providing the instruments with which the brutal and ongoing repression has been carried out.	
		Iranian national ID no: 4591967573		
		Function: chairman of the board of directors of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation	He is therefore responsible for serious human rights violations in Iran.	
		Associated individuals: Seyyed Aminollah; Emami Tabatabai; Yahya Alaoddini; Jamal Babamoradi; Ahmad Karimi		
		Associated entities: Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation/Bonyad Taavon Sepah		
		IRGC		

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Name	Identifying information	Reasons	Date of listing
TABATABAI Seyyed Amin Ala Emami (a.k.a. TABATBAYI Aminallah Imami)	DOB: 26.8.1963 POB: Meybod, Iran Address: Tehran, Iran Nationality: Iranian Gender: male Iranian national ID no: 4489260229 Function: vice-chairman of the board of directors of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation; managing director of the IRGC Cooperative Foundation Associated individuals: Ali Asghar Nourouzi; Yahya Alaoddini; Jamal Babamoradi; Ahmad Karimi	Seyyed Amin Ala Emami Tabatabai is the vice-chairman of the board of directors as well as the managing director of the EU-listed Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation. The IRGC has been at the forefront of the repression of the 2022/2023 protests in Iran which has seen more than 520 people killed, over 70 of whom were minors, and more than 22 000 arrests/imprisonments effected. The IRGC Cooperative Foundation is the body responsible for managing the IRGC's investments and in that framework it is responsible for funnelling money into the regime's brutal repression. As vice-chairman of the board of directors and managing director of the IRGC Cooperative Foundation, Seyyed Amin Ala Emami Tabatabai is therefore responsible for willingly and knowingly providing the instruments with which the brutal and ongoing repression has been carried out.	24.4.2023
	Associated entities: Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation/Bonyad Taavon Sepah IRGC	He is therefore responsible for serious human rights violations in Iran.	

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	Name	Identifying information	Reasons	Date of listing
220.	BABAMORADI Jamal Ali	DOB: 24.5.1960 POB: Tehran, Iran Address: Tehran, Iran Nationality: Iranian Gender: male Iranian national ID no: 0036824240 Function: member of the board of directors of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation Associated individuals: Ali Asghar Nourouzi; Ahmad Karimi; Yahya Alaoddini; Seyyed Amin Ala Emami Tabatabai Associated entities: Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation/Bonyad Taavon Sepah IRGC	Jamal Ali Babamoradi is a member of the board of directors of the EU-listed Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation. The IRGC has been at the forefront of the repression of the 2022/2023 protests in Iran which has seen more than 520 people killed, over 70 of whom were minors, and more than 22 000 arrests/imprisonments effected. The IRGC Cooperative Foundation is the body responsible for managing the IRGC's investments and in that framework it is responsible for funnelling money into the regime's brutal repression. As member of the board of directors of the IRGC Cooperative Foundation, Jamal Ali Babamoradi is therefore responsible for willingly and knowingly providing the instruments with which the brutal and ongoing repression has been carried out. He is therefore responsible for serious human rights violations in Iran.	24.4.2023

	Name	Identifying information	Reasons	Date of listing
221.	KARIMI Ahmad Hasan	DOB: 11.12.1962 POB: Qom, Iran Address: Tehran, Iran Nationality: Iranian Gender: male Iranian national ID no: 0382947983 Function: member of the board of directors of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation Associated individuals: Ali Asghar Nourouzi; Yahya Alaoddini; Seyyed Amin Ala Emami Tabatabai; Jamal Ali Babamoradi Associated entities: Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation/Bonyad Taavon Sepah	Ahmad Hasan Karimi is a member of the board of directors of the EU-listed Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Cooperative Foundation. The IRGC has been at the forefront of the repression of the 2022/2023 protests in Iran which has seen more than 520 people killed, over 70 of whom were minors, and more than 22 000 arrests/imprisonments effected. The IRGC Cooperative Foundation is the body responsible for managing the IRGC's investments and in that framework it is responsible for funnelling money into the regime's brutal repression. As member of the board of directors of the IRGC Cooperative Foundation, Ahmad Hasan Karimi is therefore responsible for willingly and knowingly providing the instruments with which the brutal and ongoing repression has been carried out. He is therefore responsible for serious human rights violations in Iran.	24.4.2023'
		IRGC		

	Name	Identifying information	Reasons	Date of listing
'35 .	Ariantel	Address: Ariantel Head Office, No 15, 15th alley, South Gandhi Street, Tehran, Iran Website: http://www.ariantel.ir Type of entity: private company	Ariantel is an Iranian mobile service provider which has been at the forefront of rolling-out the comprehensive telecommunications surveillance architecture mapped out by the Iranian Government to quash dissent and critical voices in Iran. Ariantel has actively sought, and makes use of, cyberware products used to monitor, geolocate and intercept calls and other mobile communications activities of its users at the request of the Iranian Government. This information has subsequently been used to quash and disrupt protests and to identify, target and arrest peaceful protesters and activists. Therefore, Ariantel is responsible for serious human rights violations in Iran.	

Entities