



International Federation of Journalists
From the General Secretary

H. E. Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahroudi
Head of the Judiciary,
Ministry of Justice,
Park-e Shahr,
Tehran,
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Email: irjpr@iranjudiciary.org

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Your Excellency,

I am writing you on behalf of the International Federation of Journalists, which has over 600,000 members worldwide, over concern for journalist Adnan Hassanpour who has been sentenced to death after he was convicted of “subversive activities against national security, “espionage” and “separatist propaganda.”

The IFJ believes that Mr. Hassanpour was targeted because of his writing on Kurdish issues for the weekly *Asou*, which was banned by the ministry of culture and Islamic orientation in August 2005, and his contributions to foreign media, including Voice of America and Radio Farda.

While his conviction was not linked to his writings we fear that it was motivated by his outspoken reporting. We have no information that Mr. Hassanpour was engaged in illegal activity.

We urge you to overturn his death sentence, which was confirmed by the Tehran Supreme Court in November, and show that the Iranian judicial system is not being used to stifle freedom of expression. We ask you to release him immediately and clear him of these unfair charges.

Kind regards,

AIDAN WHITE
General Secretary

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