

## **UM 5**

### **Urgent Motion from the Association of Iranian Journalists on the suppression of journalist rights and press freedom**

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists, meeting in Angers from June 7th-10th 2016,

Deploing the detainment of five journalists in November 2016, without charge. They were taken to the Revolutionary Court on the 27th of April and received to heavy sentences - Afarin Chetsaz was jailed 10 years, Ehsan Mazanderani 7 years, Davood Asadi 5years, and Saman Safarzaei 5 years. One of the five journalists, Isa Saharkhiz is in hospital and another Ehsan Mazanderani is in hunger strike in the prison to protest his charges.

Concerned of the crackdown on newspapers that continues as well as the campaign to intimidate journalists.

Further concerned that, despite the appeal by the IFJ and promises by the new president to improve media freedoms and re-establish a climate of trust and democratic debate, the headquarters of the Association of Iranian Journalists (AoIJ) remains closed since August 2009

The Congress instructs the IFJ Executive Committee to:

- Call on the Iranian authorities to put an end to the media crackdown, release the journalists in jail, and reopen the office of the Association of Iranian Journalists;
- Reaffirms the IFJ global network's solidarity with Iranian journalists and the AoIJ; and
- Asks the new IFJ Executive Committee to continue supporting the AoIJ and Iranian journalists, in particular taking the case of the repression of their union to the ILO.