



# General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General  
26 June 2024

Original: English

General Assembly  
Seventy-eighth session  
Agenda item 83

Security Council  
Seventy-ninth year

**The rule of law at the national and international levels**

## **Letter dated 26 June 2024 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

Upon instructions from my Government, I would like to bring to your attention a blatant violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations committed by the Government of Canada against the Islamic Republic of Iran. In an unlawful, dangerous and politically motivated act, Canada has designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) – an official and constitutionally-based branch of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran – as a so-called “terrorist group”. This is not the first time Canada has systematically violated norms, rules and principles of international law against Iran. Canada has repeatedly breached fundamental principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations for which my country has already been prompted to institute legal proceedings against that country before the International Court of Justice for grave violations.

The Islamic Republic of Iran condemns in the strongest possible terms this illegal and provocative action by the Government of Canada and considers it a hostile act against the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as a grave threat to regional and international peace and security given the significant role of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in fighting against terrorism and extremism, as well as in preserving peace and stability in our region. This unlawful and irresponsible action constitutes a breach of generally recognized principles of international law and of the Charter of the United Nations, including the well-established principles of sovereign equality and non-interference in internal affairs.

Given the role, tasks and mandate of IRGC, which include ensuring maritime safety and security in the Persian Gulf, Sea of Oman, and beyond, the Government of Canada is well aware that its irresponsible and provocative act will heighten tensions and increase the risk of accidents and incidents between IRGC forces and the Canadian armed forces, whether acting independently or as part of the so-called coalition, in a region already facing unprecedented challenges. It is self-evident that Canada – along with the United States and those who have publicly supported this internationally wrongful act – will bear full responsibility for all consequences of such reckless behaviour.



It is noteworthy that the Iranian armed forces, particularly the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, have consistently played a pivotal role in safeguarding Iran's sovereignty and territorial integrity, notably during the 8-year war imposed by Saddam's regime in Iraq against Iran from 1980 to 1988. The role of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, especially Major General Qasem Soleimani, the hero Commander of the Quds Force of IRGC, who was assassinated by United States forces at Baghdad International Airport on 3 January 2020 during an official visit to Iraq at the Iraqi government's invitation, in battles against the Security Council-designated terrorist groups like Al-Qaeda, ISIS, Al-Nusra Front and other terrorist groups in the region, has been widely recognized and commended by affected people and governments in the region.

The armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are resolute in their commitment to fulfil its regional responsibilities and counter-terrorism efforts, as well as to support regional nations and governments, upon request, in their efforts to eliminate foreign-backed terrorist groups. This provocative action taken by the Government of Canada will neither affect nor obstruct this firm determination.

The Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its inherent right to take appropriate countermeasures in accordance with international law in response to this illegal action and serious violation by the Government of Canada.

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 83, and of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Amir Saeid **Iravani**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

---