

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release 17th November 2020

**SENIOR POLITICIANS WARN IRAN IS PREPARING 'DIRTY BOMB' FOR
TERROR STRIKE IN EUROPE**

The exposure of a top secret nuclear weaponization complex on the outskirts of Tehran has prompted senior politicians to send a letter to the leaders of the EU, warning that the Iranian regime may be planning to use a 'dirty bomb' or small tactical nuclear device in a future terrorist attack on European soil.

The letter from the International Committee 'In Search of Justice' (ISJ), was signed by Alejo Vidal Quadras, a former Senior Vice President of the European Parliament, Giulio Terzi, former Foreign Minister of Italy, Struan Stevenson, former UK MEP and Paulo Casaca, former Portuguese MEP. The ISJ letter was sent in advance of the opening of the trial in Belgium on 27th November, of Assadollah Assadi, a senior diplomat from the Iranian Embassy in Vienna. On 1st July 2018, Assadi was arrested and charged with passing 500gms of TATP high explosives and a detonator to an Iranian couple from Antwerp. He allegedly had ordered them to drive to Paris and detonate the bomb at a major rally organised by the National Council for Resistance in Iran (NCRI) and attended by over 100,000 people, including leading international and European parliamentarians and senior government officials like Rudy Giuliani, Newt Gingrich and Stephen Harper, the former Prime Minister of Canada. The four signatories to the ISJ letter were also in attendance at the rally.

Speaking from Madrid, Alejo Vidal Quadras, president of ISJ said: "A bomb attack of this magnitude, which would certainly have killed and maimed hundreds on European soil, could only have been validated by the Iranian regime's Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei and by its so-called 'moderate' President Hassan Rouhani. Mohammad Javad Zarif, the Iranian foreign minister, as the minister in charge of all of the clerical regime's diplomats, must have been a key party to the terrorist plot, along with the minister of intelligence & security Mahmoud Alavi and the leaders of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) and their extra-territorial terrorist offshoot the Quds Force.

"The theocratic regime has demonstrated its intention to use terrorist bomb attacks to wreak death and destruction in Europe. They have made repeated frantic efforts to have Assadi released, claiming diplomatic immunity, but the Belgian authorities have stood firm. According to a report by Reuters, Assadi has warned the Belgian police that if he is found guilty there will be violent reprisals against European targets by unidentified groups. Having learned of the existence of a top secret nuclear weaponization complex in the Sorkheh-Hessar region to the east of Tehran. We fear

that the mullahs will deploy a 'dirty bomb' or even a small tactical nuclear device, in a renewed terrorist strike in Europe. It is therefore imperative that the EU ends its ludicrous determination to restore the toxic JCPOA nuclear deal with the Iranian regime. To do so, against the background of these latest developments, would constitute a betrayal of EU citizens and place their safety in jeopardy."

Notes to Editors:

A copy of the ISJ letter has been attached.

ISJ

The International Committee in Search of Justice (ISJ) was initially formed in 2008 as an informal group of EU parliamentarians to seek justice for the Iranian democratic opposition. In 2014 it was registered as a non-profit NGO in Brussels expanding its membership beyond elected parliamentarians to former officials and other dignitaries with an interest to promote human rights, freedom, democracy, peace and stability.

ISJ LEADERS:

ALEJO VIDAL-QUADRAS - President ISJ - Spanish professor of atomic and nuclear physics. Vice-president of the European Parliament from (1999-2014).

GIULIO TERZI - Chair ISJ Committee on the Protection of Human Rights & Justice in Iran. Minister Foreign Affairs Italy 2011-2013, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in New York 2008-2009 and Ambassador of Italy to the United States 2009- 2011.

STRUAN STEVENSON - Chair ISJ Committee on the Protection of Political Freedoms in Iran. Member of the European Parliament representing Scotland 1999-2014. President of the European Parliament's Delegation for Relations with Iraq (2009-14) and chairman of Friends of a Free Iran Intergroup (2004-14).

PAULO CASACA – Member of the European Parliament (1999-2009) Chair of European Parliament's delegation for relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. Founder and executive director of the "South Asia Democratic Forum"; founder of the international co-operation association ARCHumankind, 'Alliance to Renew Co-operation among Humankind'.

ISJ LETTER SENT TO:

Prof. Dr. Josep Borrell, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy.

Charles Michel – President of the European Council.

Ursula von der Leyen – President of the European Commission.