

Statement Against Anti-Humanitarian Activities on Anti-Hijab Protests in Iran

On the 13th of September, a 22-year-old Kurdish woman in Iran was arrested by Iran's "morality police" for allegedly not wearing a hijab in full compliance with mandatory requirements. After spending three days in a coma, she died in a hospital on the following Friday. Since her death, thousands have joined anti-government protests throughout the country. Security forces have responded to the protests, at times with violence. Many people have been injured, detained, or killed in the protests, leaving at least 70 people dead.

We as scientists conduct numerous cooperative studies established with respect and consideration for human rights, regardless of differences in gender or culture. KAIST has been closely following the ongoing protests in Iran and we acknowledge the need to respect human rights, including freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association.

We are increasingly concerned about reports of rising fatalities, including women and children. Accordingly, the 50th KAIST Graduate Student Association B-Side, the KAIST Graduate Student Association Human Rights Center, and the KAIST Social Inclusion Committee express our support for the people of Iran through this statement. It is our hope that security forces in Iran refrain from using unnecessary or disproportionate force during protests to avoid further escalation. We shall stand in solidarity with all Iranian, Muslim, and international communities within KAIST; we hope all friends and families of our students remain safe in such humanitarian crises.

The 50th KAIST Graduate Student Association B-Side
The KAIST Graduate Student Association Human Rights Center
The KAIST Social Inclusion Committee