Sanctioning Human Rights
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After 12 years of talks, finally in July 2015 the Islamic Republic of Iran and the group known as 5+1 (Russia, China, Britain, France, Germany and the United States) reached an agreement on the peaceful Iranian nuclear programme “Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action” or JCPOA. Through suspension of some nuclear activities of Iran, the agreement lifted some of the heavy sanctions imposed on the country. The agreement received its official support by the UN Security Council through Resolution 2231 which placed JCPOA in international law, and made it enforceable.

Right from the outset, the United States failed to stay fully committed to lifting the nuclear related sanctions against the Iranian people and ultimately in May 2018 US President Donald Trump pulled out of the agreement. He announced that severe sanctions would be re-imposed on Iran.

Over the last few months, despite the objection of the rest of the JCPOA signatories and 12 IAEA reports unequivocally confirming Iran’s commitment to the agreement, the United States imposed even harsher sanctions against Iran, and what is usually forgotten in this unilateral and unfair measure is the adverse human rights consequences of such sanctions for Iranian people.

This booklet is a brief glance at the pain and sufferings of the ordinary Iranians from the unlawful unilateral sanctions imposed by the United States. We hope we reach a day that with the help of the United Nations, NGOs and human rights activists, the illegal, inhuman “unilateral coercive measures” are erased from the international relations literature ending the unjust sufferings of civilians.
Sanctions of Iran's Civil Aviation Industry

Sanctions on Iran aviation industry has made many aircrafts in the country's aviation network inactive, due to lack of access to engines, spare parts and components.

JCPOA/ Paragraph 22
The United States will ... allow for the sale of commercial passenger aircraft and related parts and services to Iran
Sanctions & Violation of the Right to Development

Same of the companies that stopped working with Iran in the field of green technology under US sanctions are:
- Danish Company (Vestas) on Wind Turbines
- Malaysian Company (SolarBee) on Solar Powered Water Treatment Plants
- German Company (VARTA) on Solar Battery
- Norwegian Company (Stadtoil) on reduction of CO2 emission

Sustainable Development Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
Sanctions of Iran’s Oil Export

The sanctions on Iran’s oil export are considered as violation of the common Article 1 of ICESCR and ICCPR, as well as the ICJ ruling.

The International Court of Justice notes that Iran v. US oil production is a vital part of the country’s economy and constitutes an important component of its foreign trade.

ICESCR and ICCPR, Article 1: All peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international economic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit, and international law. In no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence.
Violation of the Right to Development

Global Maritime Companies such as Maersk Line and Mediterranean Shipping Company limited their cooperation with Iran following the USA withdrawal from JCPOA.

Dozens of maritime insurance companies and about 200 Iranian vessels are on the US sanctions list. The vessels are critical to Iran economy.

The Iranian Ambassador to the UK Hamid Baedinejad, Twitter, 22nd Nov. 2018

The International Maritime Organization’s Council in London, following an inquiry into Iran’s proposed document against US sanctions, called on the United States and other member states to refrain from taking any action that endangers the safety and security of international shipping and shipping freedom.”
Violation of the Right to Health

Ghazal, a student, was thinking of purchasing Warfarin - an anticoagulant mostly imported from Finland - when a pharmacist in Tehran told her, “You better buy it today, or tomorrow you might not find it anymore.” In only a few months, the price of the drug has tripled due to the currency devaluation triggered by the US exit from the nuclear deal. While US President Donald Trump on Nov. 2 amused his Twitter followers with a “Game of Thrones”-themed announcement of the re-imposition of a second wave of penalties targeting Iran’s economy, Ghazal and millions of other Iranians are suffering the real-life consequences of his politics.

“Under economic sanctions, people also die but from lack of food and medicine, rather than from explosive devices. This form of warfare that relies on starvation and disease deserves the same concern from the international community as any other conflict.” Special Rapporteur on UCM, Nov, 8th, 2018.

Violation of the Right to Health

To Me
Limitation of Access to Medicine Means “Silent Death”

Article 12 of ICESCR recognises the right of everyone to "the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health".
Violation of the Right to Health

Surgery gloves and Suture material are the basics of emergency and essential surgical care. US sanctions on swift limit Iranians’ access to basic healthcare.

41. States parties should refrain at all times from imposing embargoes or similar measures restricting the supply of another State with adequate medicines and medical equipment. Restrictions on such goods should never be used as an instrument of political and economic pressure. CESCR General Comment No. 14: 11 August 2000
Violation of the Right to Health

Pars Isotope Company, the only supplier of nuclear medicine in Iran, is enlisted in the list of US sanctioned companies, therefore one million people using nuclear medicine are directly targeted.

According to the ICJ ruling the United States of America... must remove ... any impediments arising from the measures announced on 8 May 2018 to the free exportation to the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran of (i) medicines and medical devices; (ii) foodstuffs and agricultural commodities.
Violation of the Right to Health

Is Walking Taken for Granted?
Sanctions limit access to medical equipment by preventing financial interbank transactions.

Article 25 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities states that persons with disabilities have the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health without discrimination on the basis of disability.
Sanctions are “unjust and harmful”

| H. E. Mr. Idriss Jazairy; 
The Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of the Unilateral Coercive Measures on Human Rights: |

The United States’ sanctions are “unjust and harmful … destroying the economy and currency of Iran, driving millions of people into poverty.” 22 August 2018

“There is a need for differences between States to be resolved through peaceful means as advocated by the UN Charter, while avoiding exposing innocent civilians to collective punishment. Causing hunger and disease through economic instruments should not be accepted in the 21st century.” 8 November 2018

“There can be no justification for not including blanket protections for the importation of food, medicine, and other necessities of life without first requiring lengthy and complex approval processes,” 8 November 2018

“Under economic sanctions, people also die but from lack of food and medicine, rather than from explosive devices. This form of warfare that relies on starvation and disease deserves the same concern from the international community as any other conflict.” 8 November 2018
Lack of access to various apps

Iranians can not use some google services and other apps!
Blockade of International Financial Transaction

Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) disconnected on 5 November 2018 on Iranian banks. Financial interbank transactions are the most important pre requisit for import of food, medicine and humanitarian goods.
Lack of access to online education

Iranian’s access to many education websites has been limited.

ICESCR, Article 13, 2 (c)
Higher education shall be made equally accessible to all, on the basis of capacity, by every appropriate means, and in particular by the progressive introduction of free education;
The Right to Education

Due to the sanctions imposed by the United States, Iranian students are facing numerous challenges including, receiving visas, transferring money and being banned from enrolment in some university courses.

The US government and private banks pay student loans to the people who are enrolling in American universities, while Iranian students are not eligible for such loans.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights
Article 26: Everyone has the right to education
... Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

Thank you for checking your eligibility!
Your application is not eligible for a loan for the below reason(s):
The U.S. Treasury’s Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) restricts U.S. companies from doing business with citizens of Cuba, Iran, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic.
Let's clear the unjust and inhuman phrase of Unilateral Coercive Measures off the human rights literature.