Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the liberation of Nasrin Sotoudeh and other prisoners of conscience in Iran

Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, made today the following statement:

"I warmly welcome the release of a group of Iranian prisoners of conscience, including the prominent Human Rights Lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh, laureate of the 2012 European Parliament's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought, arrested in 2010.

I hope that this positive step will mark a new departure, in line with the commitments announced by the new leadership, and will pave the way for an improvement of the human rights situation in Iran."

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