



EMBASSY OF THE  
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN  
OSLO

**Press Statement by the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
Oslo, 21 July 2023**

*On  
“Condemning Provocative Act of Desecration of  
a copy of the Holy Qur’an in Sweden”*

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Oslo strongly condemns the provocative act of desecration of a copy of the Holy Quran in Sweden. This heinous and destructive action against the values of the Islamic nations and the Muslims of the world has nothing but the creation of hatred and intolerance as well as harming the peace and tranquility among the nations.

While violating the relevant provisions of international law and UN resolutions, these anti-human acts cannot be justified under any circumstances within the right to freedom of expression.

Exercising the right to freedom of expression requires special duties and responsibilities in light of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the role that the exercise of these rights plays in confronting all forms of religious intolerance.

The embassy urges the Swedish government and others to take urgent and necessary steps including adopting new laws in conformity with their obligations under international law, norms, and standards to prevent any desecration of religious values and to protect all individuals and communities from hatred and violence based on religion.

The world has many challenges. Solving them requires maturity, wisdom, tolerance, appropriate policies, and right decisions.