

UNDSS Travel Security Information File – I.R. Iran; Central Iran

Emergency Contact Information		
	Email: undss.iran@un.org UNCP, No.8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darous, Tehran, Iran <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adnan Alshabibi, UNDSS Security Advisor: +98-912-3380967 • Seyed Ali Zeidi, UNDSS Field Security Associate: +98-912-2030675 • Amir Safi, UNDSS Field Security Associate: +98-912-2202558 • UN Emergency 24/7 Mobile Number: +98-912- 2897947 • UN Emergency 24/7 Mailbox: +98-21-89349377 	
UN Radio Room / Security Operations Centre (Working hours is from 0700 hrs to 2100 hrs, 7 days a week)	Email: unsoc.iran@undp.org UNCP, No.8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darous, Tehran, Iran <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Landline: +98-21-22869489 • Mobile: +98-912-2156932 • Satellite: +881632710418 	
Host country emergency services Police, fire department, ambulance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police/Emergency – 110 • Roads Information – 141 • Fire Brigade – 125 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambulance – 115 • Red Crescent Society – 112
Security Situation		
<i>Location-specific security conditions, threats/risks</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrations take place for economic, political, or social reasons, peaceful in general but can turn violent. Sanctions imposed on Iran have had a negative impact on the socio-economic conditions and have contributed to social and political unrest. Geopolitical developments in the region have also resulted in protests and demonstrations outside UN Premises, though peaceful. Protest events could occur at short notice. They usually lead to movement disruptions. Large-scale protests could lead to internet services be interrupted. Stay away from areas of demonstrations. If you unexpectedly meet a demonstration, leave the area and seek an alternative route. Monitor notifications and follow security advisories. • The tensions between the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) and the USA, dispute over the future of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and regional developments are indicative of the general situation in the country. Provocative rhetoric between US/Israel and Iran continues. This has reached the peak after Israel attacked the Iranian diplomatic premises in Damascus followed by retaliatory attack by in April 2024. This resulted in temporary closure of airspace on different occasions. The situation deescalated, yet the assassination of Hamas leader in Tehran increased the potential for further escalation. The situation is dependent on the general regional dynamics. Personnel are advised to be security cautious always and monitor for updates and advisories. • UN personnel are likely exposed to crime related risks being non-observant of precautions. Acts of armed robbery, car brake-ins and bag and mobile phone snatching do occur. Remain alert and take sensible precautions to protect yourself and belongings whether at home or in the street. Avoid carrying large sums of cash or visible valuable items on your person or your car. • Natural disasters. Tremors are frequent in the country with fault lines crisscrossing entire country's landscape. The likelihood of earthquakes in any part of the country is high. A major earthquake is the primary concern. Personnel are advised to take precautions and be aware of actions to do in case of earthquake. 		

Travel Preparation	
Security clearance procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Security Clearance is required through TRIP at https://dss.un.org. Requests should be submitted at least 5 days prior to travel. Assistance is available at https://dss.un.org/dssweb/contactus.aspx. Subsequently security clearance is also required for any travel within the country. To receive alerts, ensure eTA application is installed and activated in your mobile.
Visa / entry permits	Check the visa requirement through Iranian embassies at the origin prior to travel.
Required security training prior to travel	All UN personnel must complete the BSAFE UNDSS mandatory course through training.dss.un.org .
Arrival	
Arrival arrangements at airport / seaport / road entry	No specific restrictions are in place at present. It is recommended to cross check possible restrictions or inspection regimes at the transit and destination airports through appropriate channels.
Specific border entry requirements & restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All mobile devices are required to be registered at the customs on arrival if a local SIM is going to be used on the device. If a foreign SIM is used, no registration needed. If you use a local SIM card on a non-registered device, it will be locked in one month period. You can find detailed information about the customs regulations relating to goods and currencies of passengers entering into I.R. Iran on the website of the https://www.ikac.ir/en/customs-commodity-regulations. The entry visa is usually valid for one month. Check with your protocol officer on entry/exit procedures to avoid overstaying your visa period. This may subject you to legal repercussions upon exit.
Currency restrictions/exchange/usage	<p>The national currency is the Iranian Rial. In daily dealings, an old term is used: Tuman. One Tuman is worth 10 Rials. You can exchange USD, EUR, GBP, and some other currencies for rials, either at banks or with certified money changers. The exchange rate is not stable. You need to take your passport along when you want to change money.</p> <p>International credit / debit cards cannot be used in Iran. ATM facilities are only available for local accounts. Bring enough hard currency to cover your stay. There is no international money transfer available. Due to economic sanctions on Iran, international financial institutions have been known to block or freeze accounts of persons accessing financial accounts via the Internet from Iran.</p>
Security Briefing / SSAFE <i>Location and schedule</i>	Security briefings are available and mandatory for all UN international staff or travellers who intend to stay more than 7 days. You can coordinate it personally or ask your agency Security Focal Point to arrange the session through undss.iran@un.org .

Movement, Accommodation, Security Advisories and Restrictions

<p>Transport to accommodation / office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN transport arrangements - Use of taxis - Use of public transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no specific transportation restrictions. Missions by land to be conducted with SRM complaint vehicle(s). Most of the major towns and cities are connected by regular flights and trains. Subway system in the capital is adequate but overcrowded during rush hours. In Tehran, the traffic is heavy most of the time, with little adherence to road traffic laws. Pre-booked taxis are safer than those hailed from the street. For field travel, have adequate cash in foreign and local currencies, communication equipment and emergency supplies. • If you are using taxis, hire official taxis from agencies or hotel-based companies. Take pre-booked official taxis, which are safer than those hailed from the street. • Iran has a high rate of traffic accidents. If involved in an accident, no matter how minor, do not leave the scene; wait until the police arrives. Carry identification with you and avoid getting into disputes. • Aviation Safety: Please contact your agency focal point for Air Operators related recommendations for official travel.
<p>Movement restrictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restricted/prohibited areas and roads - Curfew - Other restrictions/requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise caution throughout the country, especially in the southeastern region of Sistan-va-Baluchistan and the northwest of the country. For these security areas, refer to the specific Travel Advisories for those regions.
<p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommended hotels and guesthouses, - Restricted zones/areas - Accommodation arrangements where staff is required to reside in UN compounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International personnel are advised to reside in areas within the international Warden zones (no more than a 5 KM radius from the nearest concentration point). Please consult UNDSS for residential advice. • While no specific restrictions are in place in the security area, there are some hotels recommended for official missions in some major cities. Contact UNDSS Iran or agency security focal point for more information.
<p>Communications equipment, mobile phone networks, internet</p>	<p>Mobile network coverage is satisfactory for most parts of I.R. Iran. The access to social media such as Facebook and YouTube is blocked. The authorities may block or reduce internet bandwidth thereby slowing down internet services without warning on several occasions.</p>
<p>Security equipment</p>	<p>Not required at present. Please contact UNDSS for any inquiries.</p>
<p>UN security advisories and restrictions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iran is an Islamic Republic country with certain codes strictly enforced. Consumption of and dealing with alcohol is prohibited. • The dress code is strictly enforced in Iran. Women must wear a headscarf and long clothes covers the arms and upper legs while in public. Men cannot go bare-chested, wear shorts or tank tops in public. • Handshake with opposite sex people should be avoided. Avoid also showing affection in any form in public. Extra-Marital relations are illegal. • In general, ask before taking photographs of people and places. Hobbies like photography and those involving the use of binoculars (e.g., birdwatching) can be misunderstood and cause trouble. • Hybrid-based warden system is in place. SMS and eTA app advisory network is in place. Ensure to be a part of these system to receive advisories by UNDSS via e-mail, SMS and eTA app (Download: iOS or Android and activate it). Contact UNDSS for assistance.

Health

Health advice to be obtained from UN Medical Services Division and/or local UN physician; Chief Medical Officer in mission environments

Health advisory and recommendations	<p>Malaria is common outside major towns, especially in the south and south east. Consider taking antimalarial medication if you are travelling to these areas. Other insect-borne diseases are common, including leishmaniasis and tick-borne encephalitis.</p> <p>Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) starter kits are available within each AFP. Waterborne, foodborne, parasitic, and other infectious diseases occur. These include cholera, typhoid, and hepatitis. Drink only boiled or bottled water. Avoid raw or undercooked food.</p> <p>Air pollution and sandstorms/dust storms happen often.</p>
Vaccination requirements	There is no specific vaccination requirement in I.R. Iran.
Hospitals	The quality of healthcare in I.R. Iran is generally good however varies from region to region. There are both public and private hospitals in I.R. Iran. Private hospitals provide more personalized care.
UN doctor / clinic	Please contact undss.iran@un.org to assist to obtain the contacts of doctors and hospitals who have an agreement with UN Iran.

Gender

Security threats and risks related to sex, sexual orientation, gender expression and gender identity

Types of incidents, social and legal aspects affecting women and LGBTI personnel	LGBTI group members are not socially accepted by various sectors of the Iranian society. They also face legal challenges as well. Same-sex sexual activities are also forbidden. Hijab must be worn by women when in public. Incompliance with Hijab code could lead to legal charges.
Advisory to mitigate risks for women and LGBTI personnel	Ladies need to remember that this is a very conservative society, and they are required to adhere with Islamic dress standards. LGTBI visitors are advised to keep their gender orientations to the minimum while in Iran.