Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the continuing detention of opposition leaders in Iran

Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, made the following statement, one year on from the house arrest of Mir Hossein Moussavi and Mehdi Karroubi in Iran:

"One year ago, Iranian opposition leaders Mehdi Karroubi and Mir Hossein Moussavi, as well as Mr Moussavi's wife, Zahra Rahnavard, were put under house arrest. This was done without any legal process and in violation of Iran's international obligations to respect the fundamental rights of all its citizens. Despite repeated calls by the international community, they have had severely limited access to visits, including from their own family members. I once again urge the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran to grant them the freedom of movement to which they have a right."