

## Prevention Association for Social Harms

### Item 6: UPR; Islamic Republic of Iran

There are a number of factors the international community need to consider while contributing to promotion and protection of human rights in different countries, including:

1. Respecting universality of human rights;
2. Having an impartial approach while assessing human rights situation;
3. Avoiding politicization of human right issues and
4. Applying a problem solving approach based on negotiations and dialogues.

Universality is one of the essential characteristics of human rights. If international community focuses on human right issues in one country while overlooking worse human right situations in another, then universality of human right would be under question, and there will be doubts over the honesty and good intentions behind the efforts to promote human right situations.

While evaluating the human rights situation in a country, due attention should be paid to the achievements and strengths as well as weaknesses and areas that need improvements, otherwise the evaluations will lack impartiality. It is regrettable to see some countries because of political reasons, often focusing on weaknesses failing to pay due attention to the achievements.

Another point to keep in mind is that human rights is a widespread concept, encompassing economic, social, humanitarian, political and even security issues. In order to promote human rights, having a holistic view towards promotion of all these rights must be considered.

Also, an approach based on communications and problem solving would be effective for promotion of human rights in countries. This is the true spirit of UPR, which by making attempts to move toward a problem solving approach, analyzes different allegations of human rights violations as well as government responses, and civil society interventions. We believe that if some countries refrain from politisizing human rights and allow the UPR mechanism to walk its original path, it will play an important role in promotion of human right situations.