



## **Organization for Defending Victims of Violence**

### **Item 3- ID with Special Rapporteur on Unilateral Coercive Measures**

*Mr. President,*

We thank Madam Special Rapporteur for her six-year tireless efforts to document the humanitarian impact of unilateral sanctions.

The recent US-Israeli aggression against Iran should not be seen as an isolated incident, but as the culmination of a long-term strategy supported by a systematic campaign of sanctions led by the United States. These measures went far beyond mere economic pressure, creating a web of restrictions that deliberately blocked Iran's access to essential defensive arms and technology, aiming to disarm the country and set the stage for planned aggression.

A state's right to self-defense, as affirmed by Article 51 of the UN Charter, is more than a prerogative; it is a fundamental obligation to protect its citizens' lives, security and territorial integrity. Accordingly, the right to self-defense is not merely a matter of State discretion, but a "human right owed by the government to its people".

This deliberate deprivation of advanced defensive systems directly contributed to the deaths of at least 1100 Iranians, many of them women and children, in clear violation of their fundamental right to life.

We call on the international community to address this serious concern under the category of sanctions, recognizing UCMs as a catalyst for aggression and considering their broader consequences for the country and its people.