
3. MEMBERS' STATEMENTS



What is a Member's Statement?

Members of Parliament may speak on matters of their choice for up to one minute. The Speaker follows very rigid timelines and a member may be cut off after 60 seconds. The opportunity to speak is allocated equally to private Members of all parties.

Members' Statements take place immediately prior to Question Period, Monday through Thursday at 2:00 pm, and Friday at 11:00 am.

Example Member's Statement

September 21, 2000 IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY COURT

Mr. Irwin Cotler (Mount Royal, Lib.) : Mr. Speaker, I rise to express regret and concern at the decision of the Iranian Revolutionary Court to uphold the convictions of the 10 Iranian Jews, despite flagrant violations of the defendants' rights to a fair trial as guaranteed under Iranian law including: being held incommunicado in detention for over a year; denial of the right to the presumption of innocence; the absence of any evidence implicating the accused; denial of the right to counsel of their choice; and denial of the right to an independent judiciary as the Iranian Revolutionary Court serves as one and the same as investigator, prosecutor and judge.

This is justice delayed and justice denied. I call on Iranian authorities to vacate the convictions and release the accused, the whole in accordance with Iranian justice and Islamic law.