

# Research Plan Proposal: Assembly of Iran in Diaspora - A Coalition

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*Open Source Iran*  
*Open Science Iran*  
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## I. ABSTRACT

In this work we explore the feasibility and design of a representative system for the people of Iran living inside of the country by Iranian diaspora. We investigate and propose solutions and further scientific research of the several key factors in the formation of such a coalition, including the ideal size, objectives, core principles, membership, selection process, decision-making methods, and operational strategies. We dissect the problem of creating a coalition into the following research questions. This is an open source open science work and anybody can contribute through the Github<sup>1</sup> repository. This version was released in January 2023 1:15 AM.

## II. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

### A. How many members should the coalition have?

This coalition should represent the people of Iran; therefore small numbers such as 7 would only represent some of the people of Iran. It is essential that the representatives of Kurds, Balouch, Azari, and all the ethnicities of Iran are present in this coalition. This coalition can become an assembly/council of hundreds to represent majority of the people of Iran.

### B. What are the objectives of the assembly?

This assembly should represent the people of Iran to the world, and plan ahead for the future of Iran. It is crucial that we have a plan for all governmental aspects before the Islamic Republic is overthrown. All of the plans for the future in this council must be open science peer-reviewed research. A ready plan for the future would clear the uncertainties about what will happen in the future and help the people of Iran in their efforts for governmental change and a better path toward the future.

### C. What are the core principles of the assembly?

In this section, we propose three principles:

1) *Openness and Transparency*: Openness and Transparency would provide validity and trustability to the assembly. All the operations of this assembly, therefore, shall be digitally transparent. The members communicate through the internet and the data is publicly available and any form of communication in person or online is live-streamed. All the finance in this assembly is digitally transparent and all the software is open source.

2) *Deliberative Democracy*: Deliberative democracy means that political decisions should be the product of fair and reasonable discussion and debate among citizens. In deliberative democracy, citizens exchange arguments and consider different claims that are designed to secure the public good. The decision-making process of this assembly must be democratic and deliberative to find the best solution. Deliberate democracy does not need a leader and the assembly can be a heterarchy.

3) *Only open scientific plans can be selected for the future of Iran*: Only open source open science peer-reviewed plans that are result of research can be implemented in the future. Open source science means that the progress of the work, and all its digital artifacts are presented to the public. This opens up collaboration with anyone in the world. Including the people of Iran inside the country. Open science is the movement to make scientific research and its dissemination accessible to all levels of society, amateur or professional. Open science is transparent and accessible knowledge that is shared and developed through collaborative networks.

### D. Who are the members of the assembly?

This assembly should have representatives of all ethnicities and minorities in Iran and include the best candidates for creating the plans. Therefore the main body of this assembly can be formed by activities, scientists, engineers, and artists. Groups of experts can be formed by these members for each governmental aspect and research into banking/financial infrastructure, utilities infrastructure (water, electricity, gas), communications infrastructure (television, internet, radio), policing, national military, public health, rule of law, environmental sustainability, transitional government, transitional justice, democratic elections, education, economy & commerce. There can be a team of at least 5 to 10 experts and researchers in specific fields to research proposing the plans.

<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/osAIran/os-plan-coalition-iran>

*E. What is the selection process for the members of the assembly?*

This selection process first and foremost must be transparent. Anyone that accepts the core principles can apply to be on the council by submitting a resume and proposal of why they should be present in the council; this data is available to the public. Representatives of the organization can only be considered if the organization complies with the transparency and openness protocol of the assembly. The selection process and interviews of the candidates are live-streamed. The members are selected from the candidates based on merit and meritocracy for each role in the assembly. The data is analyzed by multiple NGOs to find the members and reach rough consensus on the best candidates for this assembly.

*F. What is the selection process for plans?*

Any open science peer-reviewed research proposal can be submitted by anyone to be considered for the future of Iran. In the case of multiple plans for a specific subject, deliberations are used to find the best possible plan for Iran and the process continues until a rough consensus is formed.

*G. How do involve the people inside Iran to participate in the assembly?*

Digital tools can be implemented for remote secure participation. Analyzing the data of how people think in social media can also be used to find what the people of Iran want. Scientific analysis can be done by a third parties to ensure transparency and openness.

*H. What do Iranian people want?*

To answer this question, we must look at the past and research into what they are asking. With a possible secure internet channel and social democracy platform, data can be gathered to be analyzed and answer this question.

*I. What is the decision-making process?*

*J. What are the operational strategies?*

*K. Can we make an assembly of thousand with participatory deliberate digital democracy platforms?*

### III. FUTURE WORK

Future work includes answering the open research questions, and writing a scientific peer-reviewed blueprint.