

Initiative gegen die Todesstrafe e.V.



- 1. Vorsitzende -

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Baukräne der deutschen Firma Atlas bei öffentlichen Hinrichtungen im Iran genutzt

Kurze Zusammenfassung:

- Am 19. Februar 2014 erschien in der Online-Zeitung „The Washington Free Beacon“ ein Artikel über die deutsche Firma Atlas, deren Baukräne Fotobelegen zufolge im Iran bei öffentlichen Hinrichtungen verwendet worden seien.
- Der Artikel beruft sich auf die Organisation „United Against Nuclear Iran“ (UANI), die Kontakt zu Atlas-Geschäftsführer Filipov aufgenommen und ihn zur Beendigung von Geschäftsbeziehungen mit dem Iran aufgefordert habe.
- Hintergrund: „United Against Nuclear Iran“ hat 2011 eine „Cranes Campaign“ gestartet und fordert seither Hersteller von Baukränen auf, den Iran wegen des Missbrauchs der Kräne nicht mehr zu unterstützen. Mehrere namhafte Hersteller haben sich der Kampagne angeschlossen und zugesagt, ihre Geschäfte mit dem Iran zu beenden.
- Der Artikel berichtet weiter, Filipov habe dem „Washington Free Beacon“ per E-Mail u.a. mitgeteilt, seine Firma liefere keine Baukräne nach Iran und er wisse nicht, wie die Kräne in den Iran gelangt seien. Er habe keine Zeit, sich mit den „crazy people“ der Organisation „United Against Nuclear Iran“ abzugeben.
- Nach Bekanntwerden des Artikels hat die „Initiative gegen die Todesstrafe e.V.“ ihrerseits einen Brief an Atlas-Geschäftsführer Filipov geschrieben und um Aufklärung gebeten sowie zur Unterstützung der „Cranes Campaign“ aufgefordert.
- Zeitgleich sandte die „Initiative gegen die Todesstrafe e.V.“ eine Anfrage an das Bundesamt für Wirtschaft und Ausfuhrkontrolle (BAFA). Die sogenannte „Anti-Folter-Verordnung“ verlangt, dass Mittel und Gegenstände, die für die Vollstreckung der Todesstrafe missbraucht werden, einer Ausfuhrgenehmigung unterliegen. Nachdem diverse Medikamente, die in den USA für die tödliche Injektion Verwendung finden, in die „Anti-Folter-Verordnung“ aufgenommen wurden, wollten wir in Erfahrung bringen, inwieweit der Export von Baukränen in den Iran diesbezüglich ebenfalls einer Ausfuhrgenehmigung unterliegt oder eine solche Regelung angedacht ist.
- Rund vier Wochen nach Versenden unserer Briefe an die Firma Atlas und das Bundesamt hat die „Initiative gegen die Todesstrafe e.V.“ von keiner Seite eine Antwort oder irgendeine Reaktion erhalten.
- Anlagen: Artikel aus „Washington Free Beacon“ (S. 2-4), Schreiben der „Initiative gegen die Todesstrafe e.V.“ an Firma Atlas (S. 5-6) und BAFA (S. 7), „Cranes Campaign“ von UANI (S. 8-13)



German Company Denies Selling Death Cranes to Iran

Report: Cranes Used to Kill Dissidents, Human Rights Activists



An Atlas crane is used during a public hanging in Iran

BY: [Adam Kredo](#) [Follow @Kredo0](#)

February 19, 2014 5:00 am

The chairman of a German company whose cranes are reportedly being used for public hangings in Iran lashed out at critics and dismissed calls for his company to end its relationship with Tehran on humanitarian grounds.

German construction company Atlas has come under fire from advocacy groups for purportedly supplying cranes to Iran, which then uses them to publicly hang opposition leaders and others.

Iran is a world leader in executions, killing [529 citizens](#) last year mostly by hanging. Another [40 people](#) were hanged over two weeks in January, and about two Iranians are being executed a day under President Hassan Rouhani.

The name Atlas can be [seen](#) on the cranes in [several](#) photographs of Iran’s public hanging ceremonies, in which a masked executioner strings up a man as locals gather to watch, often with their children.

The photographs prompted the advocacy group United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI) to write Atlas Chairman [Fil Filipov](#) to demand that his company “immediately terminate all business activities in Iran.”

Atlas, which appears to be represented in Iran by an affiliate named [Hydro Atlas](#), says it is not doing business with Iran and does not know how its equipment made its way to the country.

“We do not ship any cranes to this country!” Filipov told the *Washington Free Beacon* via email when asked about the pictures showing its cranes being used in hangings.

Filipov dismissed humanitarian concerns in a series of emails to the *Free Beacon* and said he has “no idea” how his company’s equipment ended up in Iran.

Asked if he was concerned that Atlas cranes were being used in executions, Filipov responded, “We are not the police ... we make over 2,000 cranes per year and do not know who imports cranes where ... Atlas does not sell cranes to this country!”

“Sure we have an issue” with the equipment being used to kill people, because “cranes are made to be used in construction ... what do you suggest Atlas can do?” wrote Filipov, the author of [Filosophies: A Bulgarian Refugee’s Autobiography and Provocative Approach to Business Success](#).

When pressed further on the issue, Filipov said he has “no idea” if Atlas cranes have been used to hang Iranians.

“I have no idea—have NEVER been to that country and do not know it,” he wrote, adding he does “not understand” what exactly is taking place.

“I have no idea,” he wrote when asked how the cranes may have made it to Iran. “No one has given out any serial numbers so we can check where was the crane sold to???”

Asked if it was false for UANI to claim that Atlas cranes are being utilized in executions, Filipov again responded, “I have no idea.”

When presented with UANI’s letter and photographic evidence purporting to show people hanging from Atlas cranes, Filipov dismissed the group as “crazy people.”

“I have no time to deal with crazy people writing whatever without any substantiations ... already work 20 hrs per day to keep the businesses afloat and!! [sic]” he wrote.

UANI spokesman Nathan Carleton said Filipov should to be more accountable given Iran’s record of human rights abuses.

“It is regrettable that Mr. Filipov is not more concerned with this situation—it is a very serious matter,” Carleton told the *Free Beacon*. “Instead of making such flippant responses, Mr. Filipov should explain how his cranes got to Iran and why there is an Iranian firm calling itself his business partner and using his logo.”

UANI CEO Mark Wallace earlier this month called on Atlas to “leave Iran.”

“Lest there be any doubt about the risks for all responsible companies of doing business in Iran, each and every business worldwide that is considering entering the Iran market should look at the morbid pictures of dead Iranians hanging by their necks from Atlas cranes. Iran is not open for business,” Wallace said in a statement issued at the time.

Filipov did not publicly respond to Wallace’s letter, which was sent as part of UANI’s Cranes Campaign aimed at stopping companies from dealing with Tehran.

Several top crane manufactures – including Palfinger, Terex, Liebherr, Tadano, Konecranes, and UNIC—have ceased dealings with Iran since the campaign was launched in 2011.

Executions in Iran have spiked since Rouhani assumed office, leading several advocacy groups to level harsh criticism.

Iran hanged 19 prisoners in just one day in January, prompting outcry from human rights observers.

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Quelle: <http://freebeacon.com/german-company-denies-selling-cranes-to-iran/>

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25. Februar 2014

Atlas Maschinen GmbH
Filip S. Filipov
Stedinger Str. 324
27751 Delmenhorst

Sehr geehrter Herr Filipov,

wir beziehen uns auf den vor wenigen Tagen erschienenen Artikel "German Company Denies Selling Death Cranes to Iran" in der Online-Zeitung "The Washington Free Beacon". Dort wird unter anderem auf veröffentlichte Fotos verwiesen, die belegen, wie Kräne von Atlas bei öffentlichen Hinrichtungen im Iran eingesetzt wurden.

Dem Artikel zufolge nahm die Organisation "United Against Nuclear Iran" (UANI) zu Ihnen Kontakt auf. "The Washington Free Beacon" schildert, wie Sie auf Bitten von UANI reagiert und wie Sie Nachfragen der Redaktion beantwortet haben sollen.

Als ein den Menschenrechten und vor allem dem Kampf gegen die Todesstrafe verpflichteter, als gemeinnützig anerkannter Verein setzen wir uns weltweit aktiv für den Schutz der Menschenrechte ein. Dazu gehört unter anderem, sowohl die Einhaltung geltender Rechtsvorschriften einzufordern, als auch auf die Gesetzgeber einzuwirken, den Schutz der Menschenrechte gegebenenfalls durch Ergänzung von Reglementierungen weiter zu verbessern.

Der Sachverhalt erinnert stark an Fälle, in denen es um Medikamente aus Mitgliedstaaten der Europäischen Union ging, die in den USA zur Hinrichtung mit der tödlichen Injektion verwendet werden sollten. Nachdem die Präparate in den USA nicht mehr erhältlich waren, wollten Gefängnisbehörden einzelner Bundesstaaten die Mittel aus Europa importieren.

Die Europäische Union hat in ihrer EG-Verordnung 1236/2005 (der sogenannten „Anti-Folter-Verordnung“) die Ausfuhr von Mitteln und Gegenständen, die zur Vollstreckung der Todesstrafe gedacht sind, verboten, und solche, die für Exekutionen missbraucht werden können, mit einer entsprechenden Genehmigungspflicht eingeschränkt.

Vor diesem Hintergrund hat sich insbesondere die englische Organisation "Reprieve" bei der EU und diversen Pharmafirmen erfolgreich dafür eingesetzt, dass die betreffenden Medikamente nicht mehr zum Zweck von Hinrichtungen exportiert werden dürfen.

Sobald bekannt wurde, ein weiteres pharmazeutisches Produkt sollte in den USA für Exekutionen missbraucht werden, erweiterte die EU ihren Katalog entsprechend.

Darüber hinaus hat eine Reihe von Pharmafirmen freiwillig Ausschlussklauseln in ihre Verträge aufgenommen, die den Export von Medikamenten zum Zweck von Hinrichtungen wirksam unterbinden.

Ein dänisches Pharmaunternehmen zögerte besonders lange, moralischen Bedenken Vorrang über Umsatzzahlen zu geben. Ob es letztendlich an einer engagierten Presse lag oder doch am eigenen Prinzip, mit Medikamenten Menschen helfen zu wollen, statt sie damit zu töten, entzieht sich letztlich unserer Kenntnis, der mediale Druck scheint unserer Beobachtung nach allerdings nicht unerheblich gewesen zu sein. Das positive Ergebnis wurde jedenfalls ebenso in den Medien gewürdigt.

Bislang scheint die Meldung des "Washington Free Beacon" über Verkäufe der Firma Atlas Maschinen GmbH an den Iran hierzulande noch nicht aufgegriffen worden zu sein. Deshalb wenden wir uns auch zuerst an Sie.

Wir würden gerne von Ihnen erfahren, ob Ihr Unternehmen direkt oder indirekt Kräne nach Iran verkauft hat.

Darüber hinaus appellieren wir an Sie, mit der Organisation UANI zusammenzuarbeiten und deren "Cranes Campaign" zu unterstützen.

Bitte klären Sie, wie Kräne mit Ihrem Firmennamen in den Iran gelangt sind, damit Ihnen daraus kein Vorwurf gemacht wird, und legen Sie die Art der Verbindung mit der iranischen Firma Hydro Atlas offen.

Sorgen Sie dafür, dass keine weiteren Kräne mit Ihrem Firmennamen in den Iran gelangen, mit denen Menschen - häufig genug nach fragwürdigen Gerichtsverfahren - getötet werden könnten.

Wir hoffen, bald auch den Namen Ihrer Firma zusammen mit Liebherr, Gottwald und diversen weiteren bekannten international tätigen Firmen in der Liste der Cranes Campaign von UANI unter denjenigen zu finden, bei denen steht: "Ended the Business with Iran".

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Initiative gegen die Todesstrafe e.V.

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25. Februar 2014

Bundesamt für Wirtschaft und Ausfuhrkontrolle
Frankfurter Straße 29 - 35
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Betr.: „Anti-Folter-Verordnung“

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

ich habe eine Frage zu der sogenannten „Anti-Folter-Verordnung“. Diese besagt sinngemäß, dass Mittel und Gegenstände, die u.a. für die Vollstreckung der Todesstrafe missbraucht werden können, einer Ausfuhrgenehmigung unterliegen. In ergänzenden Anlagen sind in jüngerer Zeit Medikamente aufgeführt worden, die in den USA für die tödliche Injektion verwendet werden. Als Organisation, die sich für die weltweite Abschaffung der Todesstrafe einsetzt, begrüßen wir diese Maßnahmen.

Ich wüsste gern, ob es seitens Ihrer Behörde Bestimmungen gibt, die sich auf die Ausfuhr von Baukränen in den Iran beziehen. Es ist bekannt, dass im Iran die Todesstrafe zum Teil öffentlich vollzogen wird, wobei häufig Kräne benutzt werden. Der Artikel „German Company Denies Selling Death Cranes to Iran“ vor wenigen Tagen in der Online-Zeitung „The Washington Free Beacon“ erschienen (<http://freebeacon.com/german-company-denies-selling-cranes-to-iran/>), macht darauf aufmerksam, dass Foto-Belegen zufolge auch Baukräne deutscher Herkunft im Iran für die Todesstrafe missbraucht werden.

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UNITED AGAINST NUCLEAR IRAN CRANES CAMPAIGN

One of the Iranian regime's preferred methods of execution is public hanging from a construction crane. To address this egregious phenomenon, UANI launched its "**Cranes Campaign**" in 2011 with a launch op-ed in the *Los Angeles Times* entitled "[Iran's Execution Binge](#)."

In 2012 the Iran Human Rights Documentation Center reports that [522 people were executed in Iran](#). According to the United Nations Special Rapporteur for Human Rights in Iran, [670 people were executed in Iran in 2011](#). In Iran, offenses that carry the death penalty include homosexuality, adultery, and "enmity against God." Fair trials for these offenses are unheard of. A significant number of victims are publicly hanged from a construction crane, which is an especially [slow and painful method of execution](#).

Unfortunately, the cranes used for these hangings are primarily supplied to Iran by Western and Asian companies. Any company that exports cranes to Iran is directly aiding the regime in its cruel persecution of dissidents and other innocents. Thus far, UANI has succeeded in pressuring leading crane manufacturers [Terex](#) (USA), [Tadano](#) (Japan), [UNIC](#) (Japan), [Konecranes](#) (Finland) and [Liebherr](#) (Germany) to end their business with the Iranian regime.

Please e-mail any additional photos of trademark cranes being used in public executions to info@uani.com.

- [Atlas \(Germany\)](#)
- [Cargotec \(Finland\)](#)
- [Manitowac \(US\)](#)
- [XCMG \(China\)](#)
- [Kobelco \(Japan\)](#)
- [Zoomlion \(China\)](#)
- [Gottwald \(Germany\)](#)
- [Palfinger \(Austria\)](#)
- [Liebherr \(Germany\)](#)
- [Konecranes \(Finland\)](#)
- [UNIC \(Japan\)](#)
- [Tadano \(Japan\)](#)
- [Terex \(US\)](#)



- [Atlas Maschinen GmbH](#) is a German construction equipment manufacturer.
- [Hydro Atlas](#), based in Tehran, states that it is "the only official representative of ATLAS gmbh in Iran" and that it "was initiated in 1976 with the participation and partnership of the German company ATLAS."



Atlas cranes used in public executions in September and October 2013



- [Cargotec](#) is a cargo handling company that provides services for industrial, marine, harbor, and on-road cargo. Cargotec is based in Helsinki and had 2.6 billion euros in total sales in 2009. As of 2007 it was the world's second largest crane manufacturer.
- A 2007 company [press release](#) reveals that the company exported ship cranes to Iran as part of a 70 million euro batch of orders from Asia.



- [The Manitowoc Company](#) is a publicly traded American crane company and self-identified "world's largest provider of lifting equipment for the global construction industry." It was the world's third largest crane company as of 2007.
- In a [2002 press release](#), Iran is included as part of a Middle East sales area to be managed from a Dubai office. To that effect, Manitowoc's [website](#) lists this same Dubai office as its dealer serving Iran. In 2006, Manitowoc convened a [meeting](#) for Middle Eastern dealers of its Grove brand, which included representatives from Iran.



- Xuzhou Heavy Machinery ([XCMG](#)) is China's largest construction equipment manufacturing conglomerate, and the world's 6th largest crane manufacturer as of 2007.
- The full line of XCMG equipment is made available for purchase in Iran through exclusive dealer [Rahdar Sanat Machine Co.](#) Iran is specifically mentioned as an export destination on XCMG's [website](#).



- [Kobelco](#) is a brand of the Kobe Steel Group, a Japanese metals company that also manufactures construction equipment. As of 2007, they were the 8th largest crane manufacturer in the world. Kobelco has a strong U.S. presence through its subsidiary Kobelco North America.
- Kobelco cranes and construction equipment are sold through an exclusive Iranian distributor, [Persia Sanat Machine Co.](#)

which makes the full line of Kobelco construction equipment available for purchase in Iran.



- [Zoomlion](#) is a Chinese construction manufacturer specializing in cranes. As of 2007, it was the world's 11th largest crane manufacturer. Zoomlion has nearly 20,000 employees and operates out of nine industrial parks, one of which is in Milan, Italy.

- Zoomlion advertises its business with Iran on the front page of its [website](#). A June 2010 company [newsletter](#) trumpets its sale to Iran of twelve tower cranes including a TC7035B-16, "the largest tower crane that had been exported to Iran." The newsletter states that "By far, the tower cranes from Zoomlion have made up the main part of the total market shares of Iran."



- [Gottwald](#) manufactures equipment for material handling in ports and harbors, specializing in cranes. As of 2007, it was the world's 14th largest crane manufacturer. The company is based in Dusseldorf, Germany and is a subsidiary of Demag Cranes AG.

- In 2003, a company [press release](#) disclosed that Gottwald exported three mobile harbor cranes to the Iranian Ports and Shipping Organization. Gottwald maintains a sales and service [center](#) in Dubai which services Iran.

- [Palfinger](#) is an Austrian manufacturer of cranes, hydraulic lifting, loading and handling systems.

- A Palfinger crane was used on May 26, 2011 in the [public execution](#) of an Iranian convict in Qazvin, Iran.



Palfinger crane used in a public execution



Ended Business With Iran

- [The Liebherr Group](#) is a large German-based equipment manufacturer specializing in cranes, aircraft parts, and mining, with 8.4 billion euros in revenue for 2008. It has a workforce of 32,091 and comprises more than 100 companies. It was the world's largest crane company as of 2007.

- The Liebherr Group sold equipment in Iran through dealer Boron Marz Co ([Liebherr](#)). A company press release revealed that an "Iranian customer" purchased a total of 24 104-ton capacity cranes as of 2004 ([Press Release](#)). [Shenavar Sazeh Pooyesh](#) (SSP) acted as Liebherr's exclusive crane dealer in Iran, providing a variety of products, including marine and offshore cranes that have a wide application in the oil and gas industry. SSP stated on its website that its "major clients in Iran are shipbuilding industries, offshore industries and petrochemical plants."
- [Konecranes](#) is a Finnish construction equipment company and "world-leading lifting equipment manufacturer serving manufacturing and process industries, nuclear industry, shipyards and harbors with productivity enhancing lifting solutions and services." In 2009, Konecranes had a sales total of 1.67 billion euros ([Company Website](#)). As of 2007, it was the world's 4th largest crane company.
- Konecranes sold cranes through an Iranian dealer, Sepahan Lifter, which was listed on its [company website](#). Konecranes owns an American crane company, Morris Materials. Hoist Magazine, a trade journal, reported that Morris sold crane kits to the Iran-based Arian Company, which generated \$900,000 in sales in the year 2000 alone ("[Morris Firms Relationships in Middle Eastern Region](#)")
- [UNIC](#) is a Japanese hydraulic crane manufacturer specializing in truck mounted cranes and mini crawler cranes with a turnover of \$485 million and over 60 overseas sales locations. They are owned by the Furukawa Group. As of 2007, they are the world's 16th largest crane manufacturer.
- Recent [photos](#) show UNIC cranes being used in public hangings in Iran.



Ended Business With Iran



Ended Business With Iran



UNIC crane used in a public execution



Ended Business With Iran

- [Tadano](#) is Japan's largest manufacturer of cranes and lifting equipment, and as of the 2007, was the world's 7th largest. Tadano manufactures all-terrain cranes, aerial work platforms, truck cranes, boom trucks, and other construction equipment.

In 2010, Tadano had over [\\$1 billion](#) in net sales.

- Tadano listed an [Iranian subsidiary](#), IER Iran, on its website. IER Iran imported a wide variety of construction equipment, including Tadano cranes, into Iran.
- An Iranian construction equipment importer, [Part Loader Co](#), advertised on its website that it is “the only authorized dealer for sale of all type Tadano Cranes in Iran... Part Loader Co is determined to make Tadano the number one best seller crane in Iran.” Part Loader Co carried the Tadano trademark on its website but it was never referenced by Tadano’s own website.
- Recent [photos](#) have shown Tadano cranes being used to [hang Iranians](#) in public executions.
- According to [USASPENDING.GOV](#), Tadano has been the recipient of \$6.2 million in U.S. military contracts since 2000.



Tadano cranes used in public executions

- Terex Corporation ("Terex"), an American industrial equipment manufacturer based in Westport, Connecticut, does business with Iran through foreign subsidiaries. Terex is designated as the world's third largest construction equipment manufacturer following Caterpillar and Komatsu, which have both ended their Iran business in response to UANI campaigns.
- In 2009, the SEC's Office of Global Security Risk initiated correspondence over concerns regarding Terex's sales to Iran, Syria, and Sudan. Terex admitted to sales to these countries via foreign subsidiaries totaling \$11.8 million in 2008 but defended them as not "material to a reasonable investor." ([SEC Correspondence](#), 7/17/09)
- Terex brands formerly active in Iran include Terex Demag (Germany) Powerscreen (UK) and formerly Terex Atlas (Germany). Similar to Caterpillar and Komatsu, such industrial equipment is employed in Iran's oil and gas sector.
- For example, the Iranian company RAMPCO (Engineering, Construction & Maintenance of Petrochemical Industries Co.), a player in the Iran oil and gas industry, listed two "Terex-Demag" cranes in its list of equipment (RAMPCO website. "[Equipment](#)"). RAMPCO was part of a consortium that constructed the Mehr Petrochemical Complex (Tehran Times, "[Mehr Petrochemical Complex to be officially inaugurated.](#)" 6/24/09)
- Additionally, the "[Commercial Management](#)" website of the



Ended Business With Iran

National Iran Gas Company listed Terex Demag under its "foreign sourcing" section for the purchasing of cranes.

- Terex is a major U.S. defense contractor and has received \$300 million in U.S. contracts since 2000.
(USASPENDING.gov)

Quelle: <http://www.unitedagainstnucleariran.com/cranes>