

A tribute to Nazanin Nabi Nia, PhD student of the Executive Director of the IOCD

Nazanin, a PhD student in my team, passed away on 8 August 2026.

Nazanin was from Iran, a country whose people suffered enormously in recent times. She bravely left to start a PhD in Italy, hoping for a better future. She was young, kind, intelligent and hardworking. Her husband was about to join her to start his own PhD.

Destiny had other plans. She was taken away from us way too soon. On the night of 8 August, she lost a brave battle against a very aggressive disease.

I told the other team members: cherish your loved ones. We are all on borrowed time. There are no words, in any language I know of, that can adequately express the sense of loss, grief and sadness.

Rest in peace, Nazanin.

Federico Rosei