



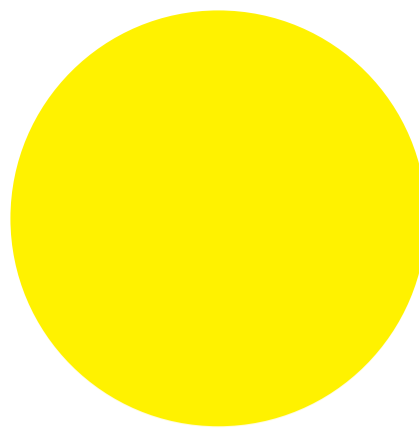
**Iran raises oil prices for Asia amid China optimism**

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**Iranians donated around \$0.5b to charity**

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# Iran Daily

## European Officials Rule Out IRGC Blacklisting

No 'legal grounds' for blacklisting IRGC: German FM

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Boats are pictured in a canal during a severe low tide in the lagoon city of Venice, Italy, on February 17, 2023.

MANUEL SILVESTRI/REUTERS

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## New chapter in Syria-Arab world ties



Reza Sadrolhosseini  
Middle East affairs expert

Bashar al-Assad's visit to Oman and other developments in recent days indicate that the Syrian government has been able to stabilize the country after

several years of war fueled by foreign interference and terrorism. There are reports about the return of Arab ambassadors to Syria as well as visits by Arab officials to Damascus for talks with authorities. These reports coupled with Arab nations' aid to quake-hit Syrians show that Syria's relationship with the Arab world is being restored gradually.

Historically, Syria has a special status among Arab nations as it has been among the leading countries in the fight against Israel. During the reign of former president Hafez al-Assad, although there were disputes between Syria and some Arab states, including Saudi Arabia, one could hardly imagine that Arab nations someday would finance a devastating war to bring down the Syrian government. They began to stoke the war soon after Syria plunged into turmoil in 2011 in a bid to bring about regime change or partition the country.

However, since five years ago, Syria has managed to take out terrorists with the help of its allies, foiling plots for toppling the government or disintegrating the country.

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## Raeisi: Avenging Iranians main motive behind US sanctions

International Desk

President Ebrahim Raeisi said the motive behind the U.S. imposition of sanctions on Iran is avenging the people of the country for their 44 years of resistance against Washington and success to foil its plots. Raeisi made the remark in an interview with China's Xinwen Lianbo during his trip to Beijing in an answer to a question about the US unilateral sanctions against Iran and Washington's claims that they are targeting the country's government rather than its people, according to president.ir.

The United States reimposed its unilateral sanctions on Iran following its 2018 withdrawal from a 2015 nuclear deal

between Tehran and the world powers.

Mainly targeting Iran's oil and banking sectors, the sanctions were aimed at bringing Iran to the negotiating table to hammer out a new nuclear agreement, but they failed to produce the desired result, as confessed by the US officials.

Commenting on his trip to China, as one of Iran's most important trade partners, Raeisi said it was in line with Tehran's strategic approach toward expanding cooperation with Beijing.

He stressed that such a strategic outlook is physically manifesting itself today in the form of Iran-China comprehensive partnership document.

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## Iran envoy: EU sanctions 'another failed miscalculation'

European Union's fresh sanctions against a number of Iranian entities and individuals were illegal and "another failed miscalculation" by the bloc, an Iranian ambassador said. "The so-called EU sanctions list has no basis in international law. It is just

another failed miscalculation," Iran's Ambassador to Vienna Abbas Bagherpour said in post on his Twitter account on Tuesday, according to Press TV. The envoy said that the EU's move to impose sanctions on the head of Iran-Austria (and Iran-Ger-

many) friendship group, despite his outstanding efforts, indicates a "serious deviation from the principle of dialogue". The European Council on Monday announced a decision to impose restrictive measures on 32 Iranian individuals and two entities

over what it claimed to be Tehran's "crackdown" on the recent foreign-backed riots in the country. Among the Iranian individuals in the sanctions list are Iran's Culture Minister Mohammad Mehdi Esmaili, Minister of Education Yousef Nouri, the

deputy commander and spokesperson of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), a number of MPs, members of the police and Judiciary in various parts of the country, as well as prison wardens.

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**Rainbow Valley on Hormuz Island, a dream place for geologists and nature lovers**

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**The Universal Declaration of Human Rights hasn't done much good for the Islamic world**

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**Iranian handicrafts bridge of cultural communication in Mideast: WCC chief**

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## Putin blames West for war in Ukraine

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday blamed the West for starting the conflict in Ukraine, saying Western countries, led by the United States, were seeking "unlimited power" in world affairs. Putin said that Russia wanted to solve the conflict in Ukraine peacefully but that Western countries had prepared a "different scenario" behind its back, according to Reuters. He made the remarks during his state of the nation speech. "We were doing everything possible to solve this problem peacefully, negotiating a peaceful way out of this difficult conflict, but behind our backs a very different scenario was being prepared," Putin told lawmakers from Russia's parliament.

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Russian President Vladimir Putin delivers his annual address to the Federal Assembly in Moscow, Russia, on February 21, 2023.

PAVEL BEDNYAKOV/SPUTNIK

## Iran, China to use national currencies for trades: Minister

Iran's minister of economic affairs and finance said that using the rial and yuan can solve challenges facing Iran-China financial transactions and trade. In his press conference on Tuesday, Ehsan Khandouzi added that Iran and China enjoy strong economic ties, Iran Press reported. He added that the government is seeking to minimize in-dollar trades with its partners. "The policy of Raeisi's government in commercial transactions with its main trade partners is to use the capacity of local currencies and minimize the need for global currencies such as the euro and the dollar."

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Iran's Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Ehsan Khandouzi speaks in a press conference in Tehran on February 21, 2023.

IRNA