

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Diplomat:**  
JCPOA 'window  
of opportunity'  
not open  
forever



● TASNIM

## International Desk

Ali Bagheri Kani, Iran's deputy foreign minister for political affairs and top negotiator for JCPOA revival talks, said the United States dealt a devastating blow to the international rule of law by withdrawing from Iran nuclear deal some five years ago, adding that the opportunity to revive the deal is not always there.

Bagheri made the remarks on Tuesday on the fifth anniversary of the United States' withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in May 2018.

"A critical reminder: 5 years ago, the U.S. rendered a fatal blow to 'rule of law at the international level' by unlawfully withdrawing from JCPOA. Ever since, the U.S. has failed to reverse its wrongful act. Iran's legitimate remedial measures will continue," Bagheri Kani wrote on his Twitter account. "The full implementation of JCPOA (with effective sanctions lifting at its core) could be resumed, should the reneging party (and EU/E3) demonstrate credible political will to that effect. No opportunity is forever!" Iran's top negotiator cautioned.

## Chemical arms threaten int'l peace:

Envoy



**PRESS TV** - Iran's envoy to the UN says the Islamic Republic, which is historically one of the main victims of chemical weapons, denounces the use of such weapons altogether as it is a serious violation of international law and a crime against humanity.

Amir Saeed Iravani, Iran's permanent ambassador to the United Nations, made the remarks while addressing a UN Security Council meeting in New York on Monday.

He added that the use of chemical weapons constitutes a threat to international peace and security.

Pointing to the systematic use of chemical weapons against the Iranian people by former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein during the imposed war against Iran, he said the Iranian people will never forget the role of certain Western countries in helping Saddam's regime get its hands on such weapons.

# Iran, Iraq sign MoUs on judicial, legal cooperation

## International Desk

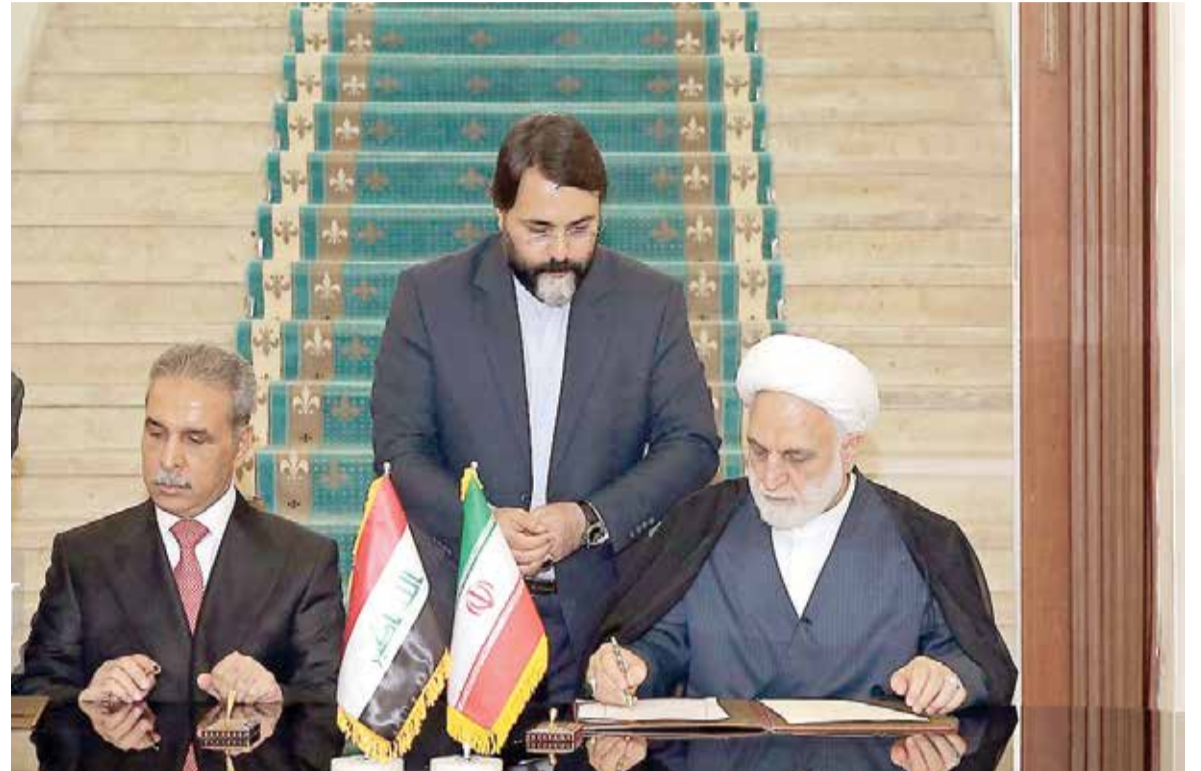
Iran's Judiciary Chief Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei, has called for the implementation of the judicial and legal cooperation documents between Iran and Iraq.

Ejei made the remarks in a meeting with his Iraqi counterpart Faeq Zeidan, who has traveled to Iran, heading a high-ranking judicial delegation.

During this meeting, Ejei referred to the deep and broad commonalities and relations between the nations and governments of Iran and Iraq, stating, "The relations between Iran and Iraq are not just focused on neighborly issues, but are beyond that. The main root of these close and old connections is based on cultural and religious commonalities. The vast majority of Iranian people tend to travel to Iraq every year, as much as they can afford, to visit the holy shrines."

Iran's top Judiciary official went on to note that in recent years, both sides have seen extensive judicial, cultural, political, security and economic cooperation. Additionally, the role of judicial institutions of the two countries in the development of these extensive connections is prominent and effective, Ejei said.

"In the past years, good



Iran's Judiciary chief Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Ejei signs a Memorandum of Understanding with his Iraqi counterpart, Faeq Zeidan in Tehran on May 9, 2023.  
● ALI SHIRBAND/MIZAN

memoranda of understanding and agreements have been concluded between the judicial branches of the two countries, some of which have been implemented, yet, the implementation of these understandings requires further measures," Iran's top Judiciary official highlighted, adding that the judicial bodies of the two countries must expand interaction between them and solve judicial needs as

soon as possible through mutual understanding and via developing electronic facilities and using new technologies."

Ejei stated that Iran believes that regardless of how much the relations between Iran and Iraq develop in the fields of culture, politics, economy and the fight against terrorism and corrupt agents and organizations, the judicial relations between them should be equally expanded.

"In the past, preliminary agreements have been signed between the judicial authorities of Iran and Iraq, but we are a little behind in the implementation of the provisions of these agreements and we must speed up the implementation process. We must try to implement the agreements reached during the 2020 visit of the then head of the Judiciary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Iraq as quickly and fully as possi-

ble," Ejei highlighted. Zeidan, for his part, said that the Iraqi judicial branch at all levels and with all its sub-committees is making great efforts to consolidate positive and constructive relations with Iran. At the end of the meeting, Ejei and Zeidan signed two memoranda of understanding (MoU) on comprehensive judicial and legal cooperation between Tehran and Baghdad.

## Optimism on ...

In the past, Iran has tried several times to normalize relations with Egypt, but the framework of Iran's relations with Arab countries

and, of course, the occurrence of some regional and international crises prevented these efforts from bearing fruit. Now, however, the situation has changed and the West Asian region is moving in the direction of reducing tensions, strengthening stability, and promoting cooperation. Considering recent positive developments such as the conclusion of the

war in Yemen, the return of Syria to the Arab League, the visit of a Hamas delegation to Saudi Arabia, we can be optimistic about the normalization of relations between Iran and Egypt. The improvement of ties between Tehran and Cairo would be beneficial to the interests of both countries and would have a positive impact on the situation of the entire region.

In general, any country that can establish bilateral or multilateral relations with more countries in the world will be more successful in securing its national

interests. The agreement between Iran and Saudi Arabia will be the source of good events for both countries and the entire region. Therefore, talks between Iran and Egypt should be welcomed.

The media have also quoted Egyptian sources as saying that the two sides are considering a meeting between the presidents of the two countries. Not long ago, it was announced that the king of Saudi Arabia has invited the Iranian president to visit Riyadh.

These reports are clear signs of new conditions in the framework of cooperation and relations between Iran and Arab countries.

## VP: Iran, US to negotiate in ICJ

## International Desk

Iran and the United States will engage in direct negotiations over the International Court of Justice's ruling that said Washington had illegally allowed courts to freeze Iran's assets.

Mohammad Dehqan, vice president for legal affairs, said Tuesday that there has been a mechanism for holding dialogue with the litigants for a long time.

"There is a court called 'Iran and the US court' that deals with the claims between the two countries, and both countries have representatives there," the vice president said.

He then reiterated that this is an entirely legal issue, and therefore, Iran's Foreign Ministry won't be conducting the talks.

"The talks will be held by the representa-



Iran's agent Tavakol Habibzadeh (C) and delegation members wait for judges to enter the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands on March 30, 2023.  
● PETER DEJONG/AP

tive of the president's legal office," Dehqan emphasized.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist



## Iran's military chief: New world order will be regional

## International Desk

The chief of the general staff of Iran's Armed Forces said on Tuesday that the principle policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran has always been based on the formation of regional security arrangements, without the involvement of extra-regional powers. Major General Mohammad Baqeri made the remarks while visiting the University of Strategic and Defense Studies of Oman in Muscat.

Baqeri, who arrived in Oman on Sunday to discuss security developments with high-ranking Omani authorities, addressed the professors and students at the university. Exploring the dimensions of the new world order, Iran's military chief said that the new world order will be a regional one. "What is certain is that there are definite and vast fields of convergence in the nations of the region and, sooner or later, they

will overcome pretentious differences and divergence indicators," Baqeri stated. Explaining Iran's idea of regional security, the top Iranian military official highlighted that just as Tehran considers one of the basic indicators of the basic indicators of reassuring defense to be of indigenous nature, which is self-reliance, it also considers the basis of reassuring security to be a sort of regional security, in which all the countries of the region participate and no foreign power is involved.