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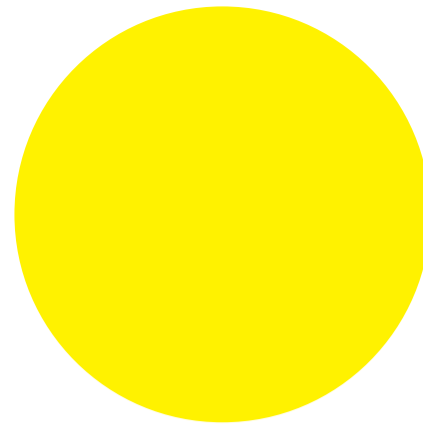
EXCLUSIVE

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# Israel desperate due to Palestinian groups' power: *Iran Leader*

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Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi (3rd-L) and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega (3rd-R) attend a welcome ceremony at the Olof Palme Convention Centre in Managua on June 13, 2023 upon the arrival of the Iranian president in the Latin American country. **JAIRO CAJINA/NICARAGUAN PRESIDENCY/AFP**

## Raeisi: U.S. fails to stop Iranian nation with threats and sanctions

International Desk

President Ebrahim Raeisi said the United States has failed to stop the Iranian nation with threats and sanctions, which have been turned into opportunities by the Iranian people.

Raeisi made the comments at a joint appearance with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega after he was officially welcomed by Ortega on Tuesday evening during a state visit to the Latin American country. "The U.S. sought to stop our nation through sanctions and threats, but not only did our nation not give in, but it created an opportunity out of threats and sanctions and made progress," Raeisi said after he was officially welcomed by his Nicaraguan counterpart, Daniel Ortega,

upon arrival.

He said that the Iranian nation has succeeded in turning the sanctions and threats into opportunities.

He argued that the Nicaraguan people's resistance against excessive demands and hegemonic powers led to their victory, adding that the two nations share a common desire for independence, freedom and justice.

False claims

He rejected "false" claims by Western powers about their advocacy for democracy and human rights and urged the West, especially the U.S., to respect governments that are based on the people's votes.

"But they do the opposite," he said. Raeisi compared the U.S. role in creating Daesh to the Islamic Republic's support for the fight against

terrorism, saying, "They claim to fight terrorism but they martyred [Iran's] anti-terror hero, General Qassem Soleimani."

The Iranian president further noted that Tehran and Managua enjoy "strategic" relations. He expressed the Islamic Republic's readiness to improve mutual ties in various sectors, particularly science and technology.

Similarities in revolutions

Ortega, for his part, said the Iranian and Nicaraguan revolutions have deep roots in the fight against the dominance of arrogant powers, especially the United States.

He said imperial powers intrinsically seek to dominate other countries, and they exert pressure on independent countries under the pretext of

human rights and democracy.

Nevertheless, he went on, the independent nations continue to firmly stand up to them.

Heading a high-ranking politico-economic delegation, Raeisi arrived in Nicaragua on the second leg of his three-nation tour of Latin America. Earlier, he visited Venezuela and will also travel to Cuba to meet the country's officials.

In Venezuela, the two countries' ministers and other top officials signed a total of 19 cooperation agreements and memoranda of understanding.

The agreements are aimed at expanding cooperation between Tehran and Caracas in many areas, including in the field of petrochemicals, as the two sides move to expand overall cooperation in the oil sector.

## Iran's global standing

By Hassan Hanizadeh  
International affairs expert



EXCLUSIVE  
OPINION

President Ebrahim Raeisi received special receptions during his visits to Venezuela and Nicaragua, underscoring Iran's privileged status and growing popularity among South American nations. President Raeisi is also expected to receive a warm welcome in Cuba as he further extends Iran's diplomatic engagements. The countries in this region share a common historical experience of breaking free from decades of colonial rule imposed by Western powers, which has fostered cultural and political affinities with the Iranian nation. Consequently, the President has been warmly embraced not only by

officials but also by ordinary citizens.

Iran, alongside Venezuela, Nicaragua, and Cuba, has been subjected to sanctions imposed by the United States. By visiting these countries, Raeisi aims to explore potential collaborative strategies to render these sanctions ineffective or mitigate their impact through shared experiences. Raeisi's tour of Latin America serves as an opportunity to foster solidarity and cooperation among these nations.

During the tour, President Raeisi emphasized the establishment of a new world order built upon the principles of multilateralism and the pivotal role of independent nations. Tehran seeks to position itself and other independent countries as active contributors to the international system, promoting constructive engagement.

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## Russian envoy: U.S. bid to isolate Iran, Russia 'impossible'

Russian Ambassador to Tehran Alexey Yurievich Dedov said it is "impossible" for the United States and its allies to succeed in isolating Iran and Russia through sanctions. During an exclusive interview with Press TV on Tuesday, Dedov spoke about a host of issues, including sanctions targeting the two countries as well as Russia's "special military operation" in Ukraine.

Asked about US attempts to isolate Iran and Russia, he quipped: "I am afraid they are too sure of themselves." "You are right that they tried to isolate Russia, [and] they tried to isolate Iran," he said, adding, however, "The task is impossible."

The Russian envoy further explained that Russia's trade exchanges with India and China have grown significantly despite the US-led sanctions, adding that his country's trade with Iran is also growing at a good pace. The United States and its European allies have been spearheading tough economic sanctions against Russia ever since it launched what it calls a special military operation in Ukraine in February 2022.

Iran has also been hit by unilateral sanctions imposed by Washington after former president Donald Trump declared an unprovoked withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the Iran deal, in May 2018.

Russia and Iran – the first and second most-sanctioned countries in the world – have been cooperating to neutralize the sanctions by finding alternative ways to trade with other nations.

The Russian diplomat also said Moscow's ongoing special operation in Ukraine is not in fact an operation against Kiev, but "against forces of the West which try to impose their will over the whole territory of the world."

Dedov added that the West tries to portray various events related to the conflict in its own favor and interpret that "they are right and we are wrong."

"But we try to circulate the objective picture of the events, what is really happening there and who is responsible for this," he said.

The envoy further hailed "wide understanding" in Iran vis-à-vis the operation in Ukraine and also the threat of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) eastward expansion.

"We also appreciate that in Iran there is wide understanding that one of the reasons of the situation is the uncontrollable growth of NATO and its movement towards the East, just embracing one country after another," he said. The ambassador emphasized that NATO expansion would constitute "damage and a threat to our security as well."



A record 110 million people worldwide are now forcibly displaced: UN

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Isfahan carpets in the Safavid era

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Iran U17 team marches to Asian FS wrestling crown

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## Iran, Qatar review ways to promote trade cooperation

Economy Desk

Iran and Qatar emphasized the necessity of promoting monetary, banking and financial cooperation between the two countries.

Governor of Central Bank of Iran, Mohammad Reza Farzin, who traveled to Qatar on Wednesday, said that promoting monetary, banking and financial cooperation would pave the way for the expansion of trade exchanges between Tehran and Doha.

Farzin made the remarks in a meeting with his Qatari counterpart Sheikh Bandar bin Mohammed bin Saoud Al Thani. Given the economic capacities which exist

in both countries, strengthening the bilateral and multilateral banking relations is on the agenda, Farzin said.

"With the development of monetary and banking relations between Tehran and Doha, the volume of trade between the two countries will grow significantly. Accordingly, the relevant cooperation should be increased more rapidly and, to realize this goal, it is necessary to pay attention to all capacities," the Iranian official said. The chiefs of the central banks of Iran and Qatar also emphasized the use of financial platforms and companies active in the monetary and banking spheres in order to achieve the economic and commercial goals of both sides.