

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Astana talks on Syrian crisis to be held next week**



REUTERS - Deputy foreign ministers from Iran, Russia, Syria, and Turkey will meet in the capital of Kazakhstan, Astana, on June 21. The four countries have been discussing Syria's future after 12 years of war, during which Russia and Iran supported President Bashar al-Assad while NATO member Turkey backed political and armed opposition to him. Foreign ministers from the four countries met in Moscow on May 10, and Russia said at the time that deputy ministers would be tasked with preparing a roadmap to advance Syria-Turkey ties.

**FM: Defying unilateralism common policy of Iran, Nicaragua**

IRNA - Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said that defying unilateralism is the common policy of Iran and Nicaragua. In a tweet hours after President Ebrahim Raeisi arrived in the Nicaraguan capital Managua on Wednesday, Amir-Abdollahian wrote that capitalizing on the potential that exists in Latin America is part of the Raeisi administration's balanced foreign policy.

**Sanctions undermine efforts to combat climate change: Envoy**

IFP - Iran's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Amir Saeid Irvani said unilateral sanctions act as barriers to the targeted countries' contributions to global efforts aimed at combating climate change problems. He also demanded an immediate end to the coercive measures. "Iran, like other nations, confronts environmental challenges and climate change impacts such as pollution, water scarcity, sand and dust storms, desertification, and biodiversity degradation," he stated in an address to the UN Security Council session on Tuesday.

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

## International Desk

Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on Wednesday said Israel has plunged into a "state of inaction" thanks to the growing power of Palestinian resistance factions. "Today, the Zionist enemy finds itself in a state of inaction and reaction, indicating that the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) and other resistance groups have accurately discerned the best course of action and are moving forward prudently," Ayatollah Khamenei told PIJ chief Ziyad al-Nakhalah in Tehran. The Leader hailed Palestinian resistance groups' increasing military power and credibility in the face of Israel, adding that the Israeli defeat during the five-day conflict against the Gaza Strip in May served as evidence of this fact. "The PIJ showcased its formidable capabilities during the recent battle in Gaza, which resulted in a shift in the circumstances for the Zionist regime, unlike battles witnessed sev-



Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei (R) receives the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Secretary General Ziyad al-Nakhalah (2nd-R) in Tehran on June 14, 2023. [khamenei.ir](#)

enty years ago," Ayatollah Khamenei said. The Leader pointed out that Israeli leaders were "rightfully concerned" as the possibility that the regime can endure ten more years appears uncertain. He noted that Palestinian factions

have found "the key to bring the Zionist regime to its knees" in the occupied West Bank. "They (Palestinian factions) should continue this path." Ayatollah Khamenei further expressed Iran's unwavering support for the Palestinian cause and

commended Palestinian groups for forming a united front against Israel. Nakhalah, for his part, appreciated Iran's continued support for Palestine and hoped that the "final victory" against Israel would be achieved "soon" by the liberation of Al-Quds.

## Iran to restore diplomatic ties with Bahrain, Egypt



## International Desk

Manama and Cairo are likely to resume diplomatic ties with Tehran soon, said top American and Iranian officials, respectively. Speaking about the possibility of Bahrain restoring diplomatic ties with Iran, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Barbara Leaf told lawmakers, "I think it will happen sometime soon." Bahrain cut diplomatic ties with Iran in 2016, a day after Saudi Arabia did so. However, Iran and Saudi Arabia announced

in March that they would restore diplomatic ties, and Tehran reopened its embassy in Riyadh on June 6. On Monday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said that Tehran welcomes the restoration of ties with Manama. He added that Bahraini officials have voiced their readiness to resume relations with Iran. Similarly, Tehran and Cairo have expressed their willingness to restore their diplomatic ties, which were cut in 1980. A member of the Irani-

an Parliament stated on Wednesday that Oman has taken up the task of mediating and exchanging messages between the two sides, as discussed during the visits of the Sultan of Oman to Cairo and Tehran. Fada Hossein Maleki noted that a Tehran-Cairo rapprochement will undergo the same lengthy process as that of Tehran-Riyadh. He speculated that a meeting between the foreign ministers of Iran and Egypt is likely to be the first step.

## IRGC smashes anti-revolution groups in West, terrorists in SE



## National Desk

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Ground Force smashed anti-revolution hostile groups in Iran's western province of Kurdistan, as well as a team of terrorists in the southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan. Therefore, it has been revealed that the purpose of a recent military exercise in Iran's Kurdistan Province was to cleanse the mountainous areas in Sarvabad city of the forces affiliated with anti-rev-

olution groups, according to Tasnim news agency. Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the war game on Wednesday, the commander of one of the nearby bases of the IRGC said the remaining hostile elements hiding in the zone are being removed. Denouncing the anti-revolution forces for upsetting security in the region, General Mohammad Taqi Osanlu noted that the anti-revolution elements had been harassing local residents. The IRGC Ground Force's

Quds Base said in a separate statement that a team of terrorists has also been smashed before it could carry out its plans in southeastern parts of the country. The anti-terrorism operation was held in cooperation with the Intelligence Ministry forces, the statement added. Two terrorists were killed and a third has been arrested in the attack. The operation also resulted in the confiscation of ammunition, weapons, and explosives.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist



## Iran's global ...

Given its positive relations with South American countries, Iran can serve as a vital link between East Asia and South America. The signing of cooperation agreements and contracts between Iranian authorities and the aforementioned countries not only enhances bilateral cooperation but also establishes a foundation for potential multilateral agreements between the Islamic Republic and other Latin American nations. Beyond the energy sector, Iran possesses valuable expertise in the con-

struction of power plants, the development of new industries and technologies, and advancements in medicine. These areas of expertise can prove mutually beneficial for the target countries while also bolstering Iran's standing. Hence, the president's visit to South America, in addition to its economic advantages, symbolizes Iran's power and spiritual influence stretching from East Asia to South America. It is also a testament to Iran's international prestige and standing on the global stage.

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