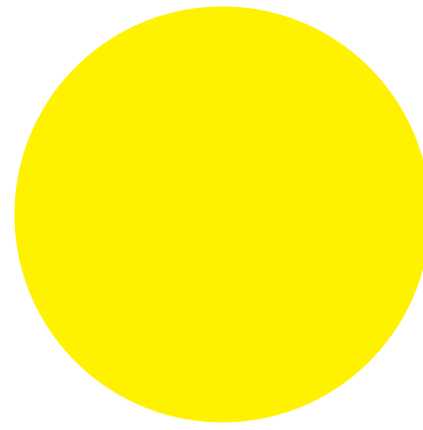


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Iran Daily

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Iranian conductor Arash Amini plays the violin as the National Orchestra performs works of several Iranian musicians after a hiatus of more than a year, at Tehran's Vahdat Hall, on June 22, 2023.
● AMIN JALALI/IRNA

JCPOA 'best possible' framework: **EU negotiator**



Russia calls for Western 'political will' to revive Iran deal

International Desk

The 2015 nuclear deal is the "best possible" option to resolve issues surrounding Iran's nuclear work, a senior European Union official said Friday amid renewed diplomatic efforts to bring back the tattered accord to life. "For the EU, JCPOA is the best possible, if not the only, framework to address the legitimate non-proliferation concerns of the international community on the Iranian nuclear program," EU mediator Enrique Mora tweeted, referring to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. Mora's tweet came two days after holding what he called "intense talks" with Iran's chief negotiator Ali Bagheri Kani in Qatar's capital Doha on "difficult" issues. Bagheri Kani called his talks with Mora in Doha "serious and constructive". Nabila Massrali, an EU spokesperson for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, said on Friday the Doha meeting was part of efforts for "keeping diplomatic channels

open" with Iran. Iran and other parties to the JCPOA – France, Germany, Britain, China and Russia – abandoned months of marathon talks to revitalize the deal in September without reaching an agreement. Iran wants the United States to lift all the sanctions it re-imposed and reinforced after walking out of the deal in 2018 and give firm assurances that it would not ditch the accord again. The West demands that Iran scale back its nuclear activities, which the latter increased in retaliation for the U.S. withdrawal, to the limits set by the JCPOA. On Thursday, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov urged the U.S. to end its "gross violation" of the UN Security Council's Resolution 2231, which was passed to endorse the JCPOA. Ryabkov added that the troubled deal is "fully prepared" to be restored and the U.S. and European parties "just need to show political will" to resuscitate the JCPOA.

Iran's FM: Cooperation mechanism among Persian Gulf states more necessary than ever

International Desk

Iran's foreign minister said setting up a joint mechanism for dialogue and cooperation among all countries in the Persian Gulf is more necessary than ever, as he wrapped up a three-day tour of Persian Gulf Arab neighbors. While welcoming an initiative proposed by the UN chief about a meeting of the top diplomats of the Persian Gulf countries in New York, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian proposed the idea of forming a "Dialogue and Coop-

eration Assembly" with the participation of all Persian Gulf countries, the details of which will be presented to them in the near future. Amir-Abdollahian noted that people of the Persian Gulf region deserve a better and more prosperous future and that Tehran is determined to redouble its efforts for this purpose. He made the remarks in a message posted on his Instagram account after he wrapped up a three-day trip to the UAE, Qatar, Oman and Kuwait to improve relations with neighbors and secure

the region. He described the meetings with the countries' officials as "positive and constructive". In the UAE on Thursday, he discussed "bilateral relations and ways to enhance cooperation" in a meeting with President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi. He later met with his Emirati counterpart Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed. The two top diplomats placed a premium on the need for the promotion of cooperation between the

two neighbors as they discussed issues of mutual interest, regional developments, and expansion of bilateral relations. Iran and the UAE also signed a major agreement to cooperate on air transport services. The agreement will help Iran and the UAE expand their aviation connections in order to boost trade and tourism opportunities in the two countries. "In the framework of economic and commercial cooperation, we will have very good news for our beloved

nation and the people of these four countries in the future," he said. "The cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the countries on the southern coast of the Persian Gulf has entered a new chapter. In each of these countries, we have seriously put bilateral issues on our agenda," he added. The trip followed stops in Qatar, Kuwait and Oman – the latest in a flurry of diplomatic moves by Tehran to improve relations with neighbors and secure the region.



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UN slams Israel's use of advanced military weaponry in Jenin

The violence in the occupied West Bank "risks spiralling out of control", according to the United Nations human rights chief who condemned Israel's use of deadly force in a raid in the Jenin refugee camp that killed at least seven Palestinians, including children. Israeli forces stormed the Jenin refugee camp on Monday to arrest two Palestinians. What followed was a 20-year first: the use of helicopter gunships in the occupied West Bank, with the gunships pummeling the

camp and, in addition to the deaths, injuring 91 people. The UN's Volker Turk made the remarks on Friday, warning that the situation was deteriorating sharply due to the use of heavy weaponry, urging Israel to stop the violence. "This week's violence in the occupied West Bank risks spiralling out of control, fuelled by strident political rhetoric, and an escalation in the use of advanced military weaponry by Israel," Turk said in a statement. He added that the raid was a "major intensification of



● AFP

the use of weaponry more generally associated with the conduct of armed hostilities, rather than a law enforcement situation". He called the air strikes with helicopter gunships a "major intensification of the use of weaponry more generally

associated with the conduct of armed hostilities, rather than a law enforcement situation". Turk called on Israel to abide by international law, also adding that the current situation serves "only to drive Israelis and Palestin-

ians deeper into an abyss". A day after the deadly raid, Palestinian gunmen killed four Israeli settlers at a petrol station between the Palestinian cities of Ramallah and Nablus. Hours after that shooting, Israeli settlers stormed through Palestinian towns, torching property and smashing cars, killing one Palestinian man. A large-scale military incursion on the Jenin camp has happened in the past as well. In 2002, 52 Palestinians were killed in a raid.