

NEWS IN BRIEF

Borrell:

EU ready to pursue resumption of nuclear talks



EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell expressed the bloc's readiness to pursue the resumption of talks on the revival of Iran nuclear deal.

After a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian in New York, Borrell posted a message on his X account, stressing the need to "find diplomatic solution to nuclear issue through JCPOA".

Azerbaijan, Armenian forces reach cease-fire deal

AP - Azerbaijan and Armenian forces reached a cease-fire deal Wednesday to end two days of fighting in the Nagorno-Karabakh region, officials on both sides said. Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said that the intensity of the hostilities in the region "has decreased drastically." Azerbaijani authorities said they had halted the military operation launched a day earlier once separatist officials said they were laying down arms.

Leader: Iran's...

Ayatollah Khamenei recalled the years after the 1979 Islamic Revolution

when all the big powers of the world, including the US, European countries and the East joined in the war against Iran.

"The achievements of the Holy Defense are not one or two. This would be a book with dozens of volumes. The whole world fought behind Saddam [former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein] to break this border and tried for eight years, but not an inch of this country's soil was lost," said the Leader.

"The Iranian nation discovered the greatness of its capacities in the Holy Defense. The Iranian nation recognized itself in the Holy Defense."

The Leader explained that securing the country has been one of the achievements of the Holy Defense, which kept the country from possible future aggression to a great extent.

"It showed that if the enemy initiates an offensive, it will not be the one to terminate it."

Ayatollah Khamenei said the "The Holy Defense" of the Iranian nation is a prominent moment in the history of the country.

Raeisi: Discrimination in fighting terrorism amounts to giving terrorists a green light



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National Desk

Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi referred to the use of terrorism as a tool of foreign policy by some Western governments, saying rooting out terrorism requires comprehensive and targeted

efforts against its origins and manifestations, with unbiased punishment for terrorists worldwide. Addressing the 78th session of the UN General Assembly on Tuesday, Raeisi said the use of terrorism as a foreign policy tool by certain Western

governments undermines regional anti-terrorism efforts.

Operating and exploiting some Western security services from the base of extremist groups, especially the deliberate movement of foreign fighters across various geographical areas also fuels these concerns, he said.

Some European countries need to answer why, despite claiming to combat terrorism, they have become safe havens for a terrorist group responsible for the deaths of over 17,000 Iranian citizens on the streets, referring to the Mujahedin-e-Khalq Organization (MKO). Discrimination in the fight against terrorism means giving a green light to terrorists.

Global mericanization failed

"The project to Americanize the world has failed," Raeisi told the session in New York.

"Thanks to the Islamic Revolution, the Iranian nation prides itself on playing the biggest role in unmasking imperialists in the East and the West," said the president, according to Press TV.

"The world is irreversibly transitioning into a new order. The Western domination equation does not

work for the world anymore, and the old liberal order that used to serve the interests of imperialists and insatiable capitalists has been brushed aside," he said.

Iran's foreign policies

Elsewhere in his remarks, the president noted that Iran had opened up a new chapter of mutually beneficial relations with its neighbors.

"The Islamic Republic's good neighborly policy is a benevolent policy for the region. We firmly clasp any hand that is extended in friendship," Raeisi said.

The Islamic Republic supports maximal intra-regional and inter-regional economic and political convergence, and is interested in interaction with the entire world, on the basis of justice, he stated.

Desecration of Holy Qur'an

Meanwhile, the president condemned the desecration earlier this year of the Holy Qur'an in Sweden and Denmark.

"What defines humanity and elevates human values better than God Almighty's word?"

"The Qur'anic teachings for human communities shall never burn, while the flames of insult and dis-

ortion shall be no match for the truth," he said.

Iran against division of world into new 'East-West'

Now that the world's independent countries are moving towards further cooperation and convergence, Raeisi said, "We are witnessing endeavors on the part of some powers towards kindling the flames of conflict across various regions."

Maintaining a Cold War mentality, these powers are after dividing the international community into its former blocs, he said.

"This measure is reactionary and does disservice to nations' security and welfare. The Islamic Republic firmly believes that no new East-West dichotomy should be allowed to take shape [across the world]."

Victory against foreign plots

Raeisi hailed that last year, the Iranian nation managed to overcome "the biggest media offensive and psychological warfare in history."

He was referring to the incessant media and political campaign that followed the unfortunate death in police custody of a young Iranian woman, Mahsa Amini.

The president said certain

Western countries and their intelligence services had committed a "miscalculation" by underestimating the Iranian nation's strength.

'Israel cannot be a partner to peace'

The Iranian president considered the Israeli regime to be the world's last entity "based on apartheid and racism, which has been founded on the basis of war, occupation, terrorism, and violation of peoples' rights." Such an entity "cannot be a partner to peace," he asserted.

"Has not the time come for putting an end to 75 years of occupation of the Palestinian land and oppression of its people and massacre of its women and children, and for the Palestinian nation's rights to be recognized?"

Ukraine war

Raeisi reasserted Iran's opposition to the ongoing war in Ukraine.

"We do not consider warfare in Europe to be in the interest of any European party," he said.

Iran welcomes any initiative that is aimed at ending the conflict and initiation of the political process, he said, and voiced the Islamic Republic's readiness to play a constructive role towards the cessation of hostilities.

Russian defense minister: Ties with Iran reach new heights despite sanctions

Russia and Iran's ties have reached a new level in spite of the opposition from the US and its Western allies, Moscow's Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said on Wednesday.

"We are determined to implement the entire set of our planned activities despite opposition from the US and its Western allies. The pressure of sanctions on Russia and Iran is proving to be futile, while Russia-Iran cooperation is reaching new highs," Shoigu said at negotiations with his Iranian counterpart Brigadier Gen-

eral Mohammad Reza Ashtiani, as cited by state news agency TASS.

"Today, we have an opportunity to discuss in detail topical issues of bilateral military cooperation. Iran is Russia's strategic partner in the Middle East," he said.

Shoigu stated that Moscow was ready "to take further joint steps to strengthen stability and security in the Middle East." He added: "We are pleased to note that Russia-Iran dialogue has been particularly intense recently."

"The high intensity of meet-

ings confirms our common determination to continue boosting strategic defense partnership," said Shoigu.

Ashtiani, for his part, said that Iran-Russia cooperation in regional and international arenas can guarantee the interests and security of both states, Press TV reported.

"Dealing with common challenges, including US unilateralism, is one of the important and strategic issues regarding the joint cooperation."

Ashtiani described as successful bilateral cooperation in the counter-terrorism

fight in West Asia, saying military and defense ties will definitely continue within the framework of international peace and security.

The Iranian defense minister also expressed his opposition to the presence of extra-regional forces in West Asia.

"Preserving the territorial integrity of regional countries and international borders is among the red lines of the Islamic Republic," he said.

"In this regard, we consider the proposed 3+3 format a strategy for the peaceful res-



● IRNA

olution of problems in the Caucasus region," he said, referring to the cooperation mechanism that features the

three South Caucasus countries of Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan, plus Russia, Turkey, and Iran.



President Ebrahim Raeisi (R) hold talks with Prime Minister of Pakistan Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on the sidelines of the UNGA summit in New York, on September 19, 2023. ● IRNA



During a meeting with Iranians residing in the United States at the conclusion of his second day in New York, Raeisi emphasized Iran's significant accomplishments in technology, medicine, industry, defense, and security. He underscored the essential requirement of keeping Iranians abroad informed about the nation's advancements and proceeded to cite specific achievements and initiatives across various scientific domains. ● president.ir



President Raeisi meets his Tajik counterpart Emomali Rahmon on the sidelines of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, US, on September 19, 2023. ● IRNA