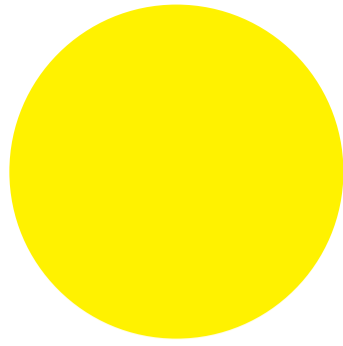


**Pezeshkian:**  
Iran favors  
peace,  
opposes  
wider war  
in West Asia



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# Iran Daily

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## Iran ready for nuclear talks at UN if other parties willing: **FM**

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### New era for Iranian diplomacy



By **Abed Akbari**  
International affairs  
analyst

**EXCLUSIVE  
OPINION**

President Masoud Pezeshkian's first-ever visit to New York to participate in and address the annual United Nations General Assembly meeting provide a unique opportunity to reshape perspectives in the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy.

The trip comes at a time when West Asia is in its most critical state in recent decades, with the region being a powder keg, and tensions with the Zionist regime of Israel can spiral into an all-out war at any moment. The Zionist regime has been playing a dangerous game in recent months, and its intensified crimes may trigger a full-blown war.

The president's speech at the General Assembly is a chance for Pezeshkian to highlight the Zionist regime's atrocities and convey Iran's concerns about Israel's warmongering actions to the international community. This visit is also a golden opportunity for the new Iranian government to articulate its stances on regional and international developments, particularly regarding the lifting of sanctions, which was one of Pezeshkian's key campaign promises. Possible negotiations in New York could very well serve as the springboard for actualizing these promises.

The presence Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, as a key player in the JCPOA talks for over a decade, can help iron out potential wrinkles in any upcoming negotiations. [Page 8 >](#)

## Israeli Strikes on Lebanon Kills Over 270

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Smoke billows from a site targeted by Israeli shelling in the southern Lebanese village of Zaita on September 23, 2024. **MAHMOUD ZAYYAT/AFP**

### New York, a fresh start for Iran, West

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### Renewables play key role in solving power shortages: **VP**

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### Time to teach Israel a lesson



By **Syed Ali Hassan**  
Iran Daily's  
correspondent  
in Pakistan

**PERSPECTIVE**

On Sunday morning, Lebanon's resistance movement, Hezbollah, attacked Israeli-occupied cities and paralyzed Tel Aviv's military power. For the first time, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu admitted in an address to Israeli citizens that Hezbollah had inflicted serious damage on the occupying forces across various fronts with

organized and ideological strength. While Netanyahu did not detail the losses Israel suffered, it is clear that Hezbollah and other resistance forces have been targeting Israel's military, economic, and banking sectors since October 7, crippling the occupying regime. This is why Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has shortened the timeline for Israel's demise—a sentiment echoed by Hezbollah chief Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

The Lebanese resistance movement has turned northern Israeli-occupied cities into "no-go" areas, forcing approximately 60,000 Jewish settlers to become a financial burden on the Israeli regime. The right-wing Israeli cabinet hopes to secure concessions from Hezbollah, without agreeing to a ceasefire in Gaza, in order to resettle Jewish settlers in the north—a highly unlikely scenario. [Page 2 >](#)

## Iran's services exports hit \$12b in year to March



Iran's exports of services, including technical and engineering services, reached a total of \$12 billion in the year to late March, according to an official in the country's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO).

TPO's deputy head for promotion of international businesses Mohammad Sadegh Qannadzadeh said that services exports from Iran had increased by nearly 20% in value terms in the calendar year to March 19 compared to the year before that, Press TV reported.

Qannadzadeh noted that Iran counts on services exports as a major and reliable source of earning hard currency revenue, adding that increased services exports from the country would lead to a rise in exports of goods and commodities in the future.

The official said technical and engineering services from Iran had reached nearly \$2.5 billion over the past calendar year.

He added that Iranian suppliers of engineering services face various problems in other countries, including sanctions on banking services which restricts their access to letters of credit issued by the banks to guarantee payments for their projects and services in those countries.

Qannadzadeh said the Iranian government has plans in place to resolve the issue, adding that the country plans to triple the value of its engineering and technical services exports to \$6 billion in the next two years. Iran has sought to rely more on non-oil exports in the past years as part of a campaign to reduce the impacts of US sanctions on its oil exports.

## Iran-Uzbekistan trade hits \$255.8m in seven months

The trade between Iran and Uzbekistan amounted to \$255.8 million during the first seven months of 2024. The figure represents a 17.2% decline compared to the same period in 2023 when bilateral trade was \$299.9 million, daryo.uz reported on Monday.

During the seven months to July 2024, Uzbekistan's exports to Iran amounted to \$86.8 million, reflecting a decrease of 27.6% from \$110.8 million in the same period last year. Conversely, imports from Iran totaled \$169.1 million, a drop of 11.8% compared to \$189.1 million from January to July 2023.

# Renewables play key role in solving power shortages: VP

Renewable energies, especially solar energy, play an important role in solving Iran's electricity shortages, especially during peak hours in summer, due to their environmental effects and high efficiency.

Iranian First Vice President Mohammadreza Aref made the remarks at a session of addressing deficiencies in Iran's power industry on Monday which discussed the main plans and strategies for the shortages of the industry, according to [fvpresident.ir](http://fvpresident.ir).

The meeting was attended by Minister of Energy Abbas Aliabadi, Head of the Plan and Budget Organization (PBO) Hamid Pourmohammadi, Governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) Mohammadreza Farzin, and Spokesperson of the Government Fatemeh Mohajerani as well as officials from related decision-making bodies.

The development plan on renewable energies



Iranian First Vice President Mohammadreza Aref (C), flanked by Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi (L) and Head of the Plan and Budget Organization Hamid Pourmohammadi, speaks at a session of addressing deficiencies in Iran's power industry in the capital Tehran on September 23, 2024. [fvpresident.ir](http://fvpresident.ir)

should be implemented in cooperation with the PBO and the CBI, said Aref who chaired the meeting. Increase in electricity production should be observable in residential and industry sectors, the vice president stated, calling

for raising electricity production with the extensive support of the private sector to minimize outages. "In this regard, several effective plans have been presented by the PBO and the Ministry of Energy," he added.

He urged forming a taskforce comprised of officials from the CBI, the PBO and the Energy Ministry to work on methods of financing, calculations of economic indicators, and the details of the plan for the development of

renewable power stations to be proposed at the government's economic headquarters. Speaking at the meeting, Aliabadi, referred to the technical progress in the construction of power plants and equipment in

the power industry and said plans to solve the shortages in the power industry, along with paying more attention to the energy economy, are among the most important short-term and long-term plans of the Ministry of Energy.

## Russian envoy, Iran top rail official discuss INSTC



Russia's ambassador to Tehran and Iran's top rail official explored ways of transport cooperation between the two countries, emphasizing the importance of boosting that cooperation, especially in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC). Managing Director of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways Jabbar-Ali Zakeri and Ambassador Alexey Dedov held their talks in Tehran, according to a press release by the Public Relations De-

partment of Iran's Railways on Monday, IRNA reported. Zakeri proposed that Iranian and Russian rail experts hold a joint meeting to address the existing problems in the way of bilateral cooperation, and also identify Russia's investment opportunities in Iran. The proposal was welcomed by the Russian diplomat. Meanwhile, Dedov proposed that Iran host an international summit by the countries taking part

in the INSTC project as the Islamic Republic has time and again stressed the need for collective cooperation in the major plan.

The INSTC is a multi-modal transportation route established by Iran, India and Russia on September 12, 2000.

Aimed at promoting transportation cooperation among the member states, the corridor connects the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea via Iran and is then connected to the Russian city of St. Petersburg and northern Europe.

More countries have in the past years joined the major project, which includes the Republic of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Belarus, Oman, and Bulgaria.

## UAE main source of Iran's imports: IRICA

The Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) said in a report on trade in the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year that the United Arab Emirates is the main source of goods imported by Iran. IRICA added that over 15.688 tons of non-oil goods, valued at \$26.317 million, were imported into the country in the first five months of the current Ira-

nian calendar year (March 21 to August 22, 2024), showing a 7.93 and a 5.5 percent growth in weight and value, respectively, ISNA reported.

According to the report, the volume of the country's foreign transit of goods registered a 52.86 percent growth in the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year compared to last year's corresponding period.



## Time to teach...

Lebanon has demanded that Israel dismantle its [Page 1 >](#) military bases in the north, which pose a major threat to Lebanon's security and sovereignty. On Sunday, Hezbollah targeted dozens of Israeli military and regime installations with Fadi-1 and Fadi-2 missiles. A key target was the Ramat David airbase, located about 20 kilometers southeast of Haifa, which was severely damaged. The Fadi-1 is

a missile with a 220mm diameter and an 80km range, while the Fadi-2 has a 303mm diameter and a 105km range. In addition, 20 rockets were launched at the Israeli airbase, where warplanes, helicopter gunships, and advanced electronic warfare systems were housed. Since October 7, Hezbollah has carried out numerous attacks on the Israeli military. According to Hezbollah, these actions are both retaliatory against the

Israeli regime and in support of the war-stricken people of Gaza. Hezbollah's military media stated that Sunday's operations were a response to repeated Israeli attacks on Lebanon, including airstrikes that martyred Hezbollah commanders. Previously, Nasrallah had accused Israel of using walkie-talkies and pagers in attacks, asserting that Israel had infiltrated their security systems. He also accused Israel of committing terrorism through

explosions using electronic devices. Nasrallah emphasized that Hezbollah and the Lebanese people would not retreat until Israeli aggression in Gaza ends. He made it clear that Israel's attacks would be met with responses that would gradually intensify, likely beyond Israeli expectations. Addressing Netanyahu and Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, the Hezbollah chief sent a message that Lebanon would not back down from its

front until the aggression in Gaza ceases. As Nasrallah spoke, there was a clear sense of calm on his face, reflecting his confidence in Hezbollah's ability to respond effectively to Israeli terrorism, something the Israelis experienced firsthand on Sunday morning. Tel Aviv has, for decades, carried out an organized plan of Jewish settlement in the northern occupied areas, posing a constant threat to Lebanon's security. Israel, along with the

US and Saudi Arabia, has already devastated Lebanon's economy. Given the responses from resistance forces in Yemen and Iraq, the Israeli security establishment is growing increasingly nervous that if the Islamic resistance forces collectively launch a ground operation in northern Arab areas under Israeli control, it will be difficult for Tel Aviv to maintain control over the Golan Heights bordering Syria.

# Garah Ban village; a Russian architectural treasure in Kermanshah



● [karnaval.ir](http://karnaval.ir)

## Iranica Desk

Garah Ban village is one of the notable tourist attractions in Kermanshah Province, particularly recognized for the distinctive Russian architecture of its buildings, which has gained popularity among visitors. The village is celebrated for its cleanliness, orderly pathways, and beautifully designed gardens and fountains. Additionally, Garah Ban produces high-quality rosewater that is not only popular within Iran but also has a significant following abroad, making it one of the country's key exports.

To reach Garah Ban, travelers must journey approximately 60 kilometers from the city of Kermanshah to Harsin. The presence of a village with Russian architecture in such a remote area of Iran may seem improbable, as if a modern tourist destination has emerged unexpectedly amid the dusty roads and wilderness, as noted by IRNA.

Garah Ban also serves as a resting place for religious figures and distributes its rosewater and herbal distillates across Iran and to foreign countries, including France, where they are utilized in high-quality perfume production on a

large scale. The villagers engage in agriculture, gardening, animal husbandry, and the cultivation of saplings, Mohammadi roses, and medicinal plants. Interestingly, based on artifacts discovered in the area, some believe that Garah Ban dates back approximately 2,000 years.

Upon entering the village, visitors are greeted by a large, beautifully landscaped boulevard adorned with colorful flowers. The main building of the village is located at the end of this boulevard, captivating the attention of every tourist. This boulevard extends

to the base of the mountain, where a stairway path is situated. After navigating the steep path, you will reach an area that is blocked off by a guardian and barriers.

Garah Ban can be regarded as the origin and main capital of the Ahl-e Haq (People of Truth). During your visit, many tourists can enjoy free accommodation and food, reflecting the hospitality of the villagers.

The best time to travel to Garah Ban in terms of weather is from mid-spring to mid-summer, as winter's chill is absent during this period, and the scorching

heat has not yet arrived. The village becomes filled with colorful flowers and lush trees in spring, creating an ideal atmosphere for photography and enjoying the surrounding scenery.

Please note that visits to the village are not possible in May, August, November, and March, as villagers focus on repairing buildings, managing internal affairs, and planting and harvesting crops during these months.

Mint extract and rosewater are among the region's exported products and are considered some of the best souvenirs from the area.

## Visit Hasht Behesht Palace; historical marvel in Isfahan

Located in the heart of Isfahan, Hasht Behesht Palace is a mesmerizing relic of Iranian classical architecture, set amidst a sprawling garden that has since transformed into a public park. Once the opulent summer residence of former kings, this historic palace attracts visitors with its enchanting design and serene surroundings. While entrance to the palace grounds is free, a small fee is required to access the palace itself, though only the ground floor is open for exploration.

Hasht Behesht Palace, a testament to the grandeur of Shah Soleiman Safavid's reign, captivates with its intricate tile work and fascinating designs, offering a glimpse into a bygone era. Al-

though much of the original grounds have been lost to time, the remnants of Hasht Behesht still resonate with historical significance. The surviving tile work, adorned with captivating motifs, provides a vivid snapshot of the palace's former glory.

Visitors can stroll through the lush garden, imagining the splendor that once was, while the palace stands as a silent witness to the opulence and architectural prowess of the Safavid era. Isfahan's grandeur owes much to the visionary endeavors of the Safavid period, particularly under the reign of Shah Abbas, the first king of the Safavid Empire. Declaring Isfahan as the capital, Shah Abbas sought to elevate its

status by commissioning the creation of Chahar Bagh Street, a magnificent thoroughfare flanked by verdant gardens. Unfortunately, time has claimed many of these lush retreats, leaving only the Chehel Sotoun and Hasht Behesht Gardens.

Despite the loss of much of its original splendor, Hasht Behesht Palace remains a vibrant testament to Iran's history and culture.

Constructed in 1669, Hasht Behesht Palace quickly garnered a reputation as "the most beautiful palace in the world."

Although the passage of centuries has eroded the allure of the surrounding garden, the palace itself endures as a

lively historical monument. In 1964, stewardship of the garden was entrusted to Iran's Culture and Art Ministry, ensuring its preservation for future generations. The palace's enduring charm offers a glimpse into the lavish lifestyle of the Safavid kings and the architectural prowess that defined an era.

In the realm of architecture, Hasht Behesht Palace exemplifies a distinctive floor plan prevalent in Persian and Mughal designs, where eight chambers elegantly encircle a central room. This layout, characterized by its octagonal forms, symbolizes the eight levels of paradise in Islamic belief. However, the inspiration for this architectural style extends beyond Islamic traditions,

drawing upon diverse cultural influences.

The architectural paradigm of Hasht Behesht Palace also resonates with the ninefold schemes prominent in Indian mandalas, which serve as cosmic maps in Hinduism and Buddhism. These multifaceted influences highlight the cross-cultural exchange of ideas and aesthetics that shaped the palace's design. The intricate blend of symbolism and practicality in Hasht Behesht's architecture not only showcases the sophisticated artistry of its creators but also reflects a rich tapestry of cultural interconnectedness spanning from the Islamic world to China and India.



● [jamaran.news](http://jamaran.news)

# New York, a fresh start for Iran, West



By Ebrahim Beheshti  
Staff Writer

## EXCLUSIVE

as the new president of Iran, who won the recent presidential election as a reformist candidate. His main slogan is Interaction within and outside, which has led to the formation of a national unity government with representatives from various political factions. Now, everyone is eagerly waiting to see the outcome of his constructive engagement policy with the world in the realm of foreign policy.

On Sunday, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian set off for New York to attend the annual United Nations General Assembly. The president will outline his stances in a speech at the UN on Tuesday. Iran has always capitalized on the opportunity to participate in the annual UN General Assembly. This marks Pezeshkian's first appearance in New York

The annual UN General Assembly, along with the accompanying meetings and potential negotiations on the sidelines, provides an opportunity for the Iranian delegation, led by the president, to showcase a more tangible representation of their foreign policy stances. In fact, other countries are also waiting with bated breath to hear the Iranian president's views on the most key regional and international developments. Domestically, many are pinning their hopes on the Iranian delegation's negotiations with other countries, particularly Western nations, on contentious issues and the nuclear file and sanctions. Therefore, it seems that high expectations are riding on the president's trip to New York. However, the reality is more complex and nuanced than the high expectations surrounding this trip and its outcomes. The most contentious issue between Iran and the West, namely the nuclear file and sanctions, is not in a favorable position. The differences between Iran and the US remain unresolved, and to make matters worse, relations between Iran and Europe have become more strained compared to two or three years ago.

### Ukraine war, Iran-Europe's strained relations

A series of developments over the past three years has

complicated the regional and international landscape, casting a shadow over Iran's foreign relations. At the forefront of these developments is the Ukraine war, which has taken a toll on Iran-Europe relations more than any other factor. The previous Iranian government's Look East policy, which led to increased interactions and cooperation with Moscow and Beijing, coincided with Russia's war in Ukraine, sparking European claims of Iranian cooperation with Russia and the alleged supply of military aid to Russia against Ukraine. The latest example of such claims dates back to just a few weeks ago, with European countries alleging that Tehran had sent ballistic missiles to Russia. Iranian officials have dismissed such claims. Both Pezeshkian and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi have acknowledged various forms of cooperation between Iran and Russia, while emphasizing that no ballistic missiles have been provided to Russia. In any case, the developments surrounding the Ukraine war have put a chill on Iran-Europe relations, to the point where Europeans, who view Russia as a security threat, also see Tehran as a security threat to the continent due to its close ties with Moscow and alleged military cooperation between the two countries. This situation

suggests that getting back on track with normal relations, restarting dialogue to clear up misunderstandings and ambiguities, and resuming economic cooperation and new agreements will not be a smooth ride. Not to mention that European human rights claims and criticisms against Iran remain unresolved and have only added fuel to the fire.

### Gaza war, widening rift between Iran, West

The Gaza war is another significant event at the regional and international level that has had its own distinct impact on Iran. As one of the main supporters of the resistance movement in Palestine and Lebanon, Iran has pulled out all the stops to broker a ceasefire and prevent the war from escalating, but these efforts, as well as other mediation attempts led by the US, Egypt, and Qatar, have yet to bear fruit, leaving the region more unstable and tense than ever. Israel's terrorist actions against Iranian interests and positions, as well as Tehran's responses to Israel's provocations, have brought the two sides to the brink of direct confrontation. Iran has repeatedly stated that it does not want war, but it appears that there is a clear intent within Israel's hawkish cabinet to drag Iran into war and subsequently draw the US into a war with Iran. Nev-

ertheless, despite the widespread outrage and protests in Western countries against Israel's atrocities and war crimes in Gaza, which are no secret to anyone, and despite the fact that public opinion in these countries does not align with their governments' policies of supporting Israel, Western political and military backing for Israel continues unabated. Therefore, the Gaza war has become another development that has further widened the rift between Iran and the West.

### Nuclear deal in limbo

The nuclear file, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and the continuation of sanctions against Iran are another point of contention between Iran and Western countries that has remained unresolved over the past three years, with the situation becoming increasingly complicated. In response to the US withdrawal from the nuclear deal and the Europeans' failure to fulfill their commitments

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, at the head of a high-ranking delegation, arrived in New York, on September 23, 2024, to attend the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly. [president.ir](http://president.ir)



under the agreement, as well as in reaction to the Western parties' unconstructive actions, such as the continued imposition of sanctions and the issuance of political resolutions at the International Atomic Energy Agency's Board of Governors, Iran has reneged on some of its JCPOA commitments and ramped up its nuclear activities. The accusations against Iran, as well as the claims made by the West and the IAEA, continue, and therefore, no clear horizon is in sight on this issue, especially with the US presidential election on the horizon. It is not expected that any positive developments will occur on the nuclear file and sanctions relief until the next US administration takes office, which will take several months.

### Painting realistic picture of Iranian government

The developments mentioned earlier are indicative of the fact that improving relations between Iran and the West is not a smooth ride, or at least, it's a time-consuming process. Therefore, expecting a breakthrough in a few sideline-talks during the UN General Assembly is not a realistic expectation. However, one achievement that can be anticipated from the Iranian delegation's trip to New York is to paint a realistic picture of the new government in Iran. The president's announcement of his stances from the UN podium will undoubtedly help to shed light on the new political landscape in Iran. The fact that the new government in Iran is seeking constructive engagement with the world and striving to pursue a balanced foreign policy, meaning that cooperation and friendship with one power bloc or country does not imply hostility and non-cooperation with another, will become clearer. The Iranian delegation's diplomatic negotiations with other delegations in New York will also help to flesh out this realistic picture of Iran. In a recent press conference, the president of Iran emphasized that Iran supports no war and has never initiated a war in the past 100 years. Pezeshkian once again underscored his government's willingness to engage with the world. Therefore, it is expected that the president's announcement of his stances in New York will mark the beginning of a new chapter in Iran's relations with the world. Just as the historic speech of former Iranian president Mohammad Khatami in 1998, who introduced the idea of a "Dialogue of Civilizations," showcased a peaceful image of the Islamic Republic of Iran. New York can be the starting point of a new path for Iran and the West. The talks held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly can provide a suitable opportunity for both sides to express their views, concerns, and expectations of each other. The encouraging point is that both sides are well aware that escalating tensions is not in anyone's interest, and that mutual interests can only be secured through dialogue and engagement. The experiences of the past may lay the groundwork for new understandings, although reaching these understandings may take time.

## Iran's power, concerns on display at UNGA



By Ramin Mehmanparast  
Ex-Foreign Ministry spokesman

### OPINION EXCLUSIVE

The stances taken by Pezeshkian during the presidential election and the remarks made by Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi indicate that Iran is pursuing a balanced foreign policy, prioritizing the development of relations with various countries, particularly neighboring ones. Iran also aims to reduce conflicts and ease tensions and crises with different countries to ensure its foreign policy follows a more regular course, alleviating pressure and yielding positive economic outcomes. Pezeshkian's visit to New York presents a great opportunity to address regional issues, particularly the Gaza crisis, tensions, wars, and atrocities committed by the Zionist regime of Israel. Strengthening ties with neighboring countries, moving toward collective cooperation to create a secure and

*Whenever new governments take the reins in any country, their foreign policy stances can be quite captivating for others, who scrutinize them with great interest. In our country, with Masoud Pezeshkian at the helm as the new president, high-ranking officials from various countries are undoubtedly eager to hear his government's views and understand the direction Iran's foreign policy will take. The General Assembly of the United Nations is one of the best opportunities to elucidate Iran's current foreign policy status, long-term and medium-term plans, and objectives.*

stable region, and deepening economic cooperation can be the outcomes of this trip. Alongside these issues, Iran's relations with powerful countries will be on the agenda. Global powers like Russia and China will be present at the UNGA, and Iran should emphasize the frameworks of its foreign relations, ensuring mutual benefits and bilateral interests with these countries. Iran also has the opportunity to utilize vast capacities to share its views and sensitivities toward regional developments, which the major powers, including Russia and China, should acknowledge. The approach to managing relations with Western countries, particularly in the context of Europe, remains to be defined. Serious negotiations with powerful countries like Russia are necessary to secure long-term mutual interests,

while striving for harmonious coordination and dispelling misunderstandings. Constructive dialogue with Western countries, especially European ones, should be on the agenda. In such talks, Iran should pursue numerous common interests that can benefit both parties, reducing conflicts that European countries use as leverage against Iran's national interests.

It must be made clear to European countries that Iran is a powerful nation, and a powerful Iran in the region can be much more effective in a constructive cooperation with Western countries to serve the interests of both sides. A constructive and positive approach, focused on cooperation, should replace destructive ones. The UNGA meeting is an opportunity for Western countries to tap into Iran's vast capacities to

create regional stability and security and benefit from Iran's significant economic potential.

During this trip, the Iranian delegation is expected to defend the country's rights and interests. The unfair and cruel sanctions must be lifted as Iran believes its nuclear work is solely for peaceful purposes. Western countries should adopt a realistic approach, recognizing Iran as a regional power, and engage with it cooperatively. To lift sanctions, constructive measures should be taken. The upcoming UNGA meeting is a great opportunity to expound upon Iran's foreign policy stances, deepen extensive cooperation with friendly countries, reduce conflicts, and ease tensions. To create a more peaceful atmosphere in Iran and stimulate economic growth, these obstacles must be removed.

## Talks with Europe prelude to talks with US



By Kioomars Ashtarian  
Political Analyst

### OPINION

Some diplomatic methods have not yielded results, so it is time to try a different approach. Diplomacy is not just about having a number of ambassadors, diplomats, and embassy staff; nor is it solely about negotiating with military power as leverage. Less powerful countries cannot resolve their major international problems solely through military power. In this regard, one solution for Iran's foreign policy is to organize its negotiations with the US, centered on Europe, in the form of a "comprehensive diplomacy", and for bilateral negotiations between Iran and the US to begin, with France and/or Germany in center. This approach can have positive consequences. Firstly, it provides a middle ground for Iran's policy of not negotiating directly with the US. The passive mediation of regional countries, such as Oman or Iraq, lacks the diplomatic capacity to develop solutions. Secondly, even if negotiations in Europe take a long time, the "securitization" of the Islamic Republic's image in a major global diplomatic center will decrease. In the public eye, the propaganda that Iran is not a "normal" country will be largely neutralized. Moreover, on the sidelines of these negotiations, the possibility of "playing without the ball" for

*While Israel is trying to drag Iran into an all-out war, Iran has two paths to take simultaneously. Firstly, it should develop its military technology, as no country in Iran's position can afford to ignore the necessity of power, regardless of the analysis of international relations. Secondly, since power alone is not enough, Iran should embark on "extensive diplomacy" with the world.*

the three countries - Iran, France, and Germany - will increase. In other words, the grounds for non-American diplomacy, independent of the nuclear issue, will expand for developing trilateral relations.

Gradual steps, de-securitization of the country's image, and a positive balance of international economics are among the main strategies of diplomacy. The reality is that we have many untrodden paths and sometimes, under the influence of rogue groups, we have taken the wrong path. Diplomacy is about opening up paths by creating opportunities. On the other hand, diplomacy starts from within; that is, the forces active in domestic politics and the type of interaction you have with your people and national human resources is the beginning of your foreign policy and diplomacy. This is the path that the 14th government has taken.

Diplomacy is primarily a national unity from within and a gradual process of national empowerment that begins at the lowest levels of internal and international communication and continues at the highest levels. Now, we can think about the new opportunities that have arisen. In contrast, however, some individuals within the country, rely-



A staff member removes an Iranian flag from the stage after a group picture with foreign ministers and representatives of the United States, Iran, China, Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and the European Union during Iran nuclear talks in Vienna on July 14, 2015.  
● CARLOS BARRIA/AFP

ing on media power, have gone beyond the necessary epic storytelling for any country and have appeared as pressure groups, putting pressure on senior officials.

If you take a look at their statements on social media, you'll see a wave of self-humiliation due to not entering an all-out war with Israel. It's as if they see success only in short-term tactics, not in long-term strategies. Like enthusiastic football fans, they expect to win all the time and can't tolerate even one defeat.

Tactical defeat is catastrophic for them, and they quickly lose their morale. Similarly, strategic failure leads to psychological depression and theoretical crisis. The world of politics is a world of great victories and defeats. What's important is not to become arrogant in victory or desperate in defeat. What's important is not to lose your genuine beliefs in defeat and not to collapse from within.

*The article first appeared in Sharq newspaper.*

Strengthening ties with neighboring countries, moving toward collective cooperation to create a secure and stable region, and deepening economic cooperation can be the outcomes of Pezeshkian's New York trip.

The experiences of the past may lay the groundwork for new understandings, although reaching these understandings may take time.

## FIFA Futsal World Cup:

## Shamsaei rejects tanking accusations as Iran lands Morocco in last-16

## Sports Desk

Iran will have to play African champion Morocco in the FIFA Futsal World Cup last-16 after a 4-1 victory over France saw the Asian powerhouse win Group F in Bukhara, Uzbekistan, on Sunday.

The defeat proved to be a blessing in disguise for France as the runner-up finish in the group meant the World Cup debutants will face a rather easier opponent in Thailand in the knockout stage.

Chances were few and far between in a goalless first half in Bukhara Universal Sports Complex before Salar Aghapour scored either side of strikes from Moslem Oladghobad and Alireza Rafiepour for Iran after the break, with Mamadou Toure pulling one back late for the European side.

Aghapour has now scored six goals at this year's event. The only Iranians to net more in one World Cup edition are Hashem Heidari (eight in 1996) and Saeid Rajabi (17 in 1992).

A perfect record in the group stage was a historic first for the Iranians, who are eager to improve on a best-ever World Cup result in 2016, when Team Melli defeated Portugal in the shootout to finish third.

However, the awkward proceedings in the first half and the manner in which Iran's goals went in sparked scrutiny from some pundits and futsal fans on social media, who suggested that neither side, particularly France, was



Iranian players react to the crowd in Bukhara Universal Sports Complex after a 4-1 victory over France at the FIFA Futsal World Cup in Bukhara, Uzbekistan, on September 22, 2024.

● FFIRI

keen to win the group as it would have meant a much tougher path toward the semifinals. Runner-up to defending champion Portugal in Group E, Morocco was a World Cup quarterfinalist in the previous edition and won a third successive Africa Cup of

Nations crown in April, while it was named the Best Men's National Team in the 2023 FutsalPlanet Awards, with Hicham Dguig rewarded with the Best National Team Coach prize. The winner of Thursday's game between the Asian and Afri-

can champions will likely have to square off against five-time champion Brazil, which will play Costa Rica in the knockouts, in the quarterfinals. However, Iran head coach Vahid Shamsaei categorically denied accusations of his side's inten-

tion of tanking Sunday's game, saying it was normal for his men not to go all out for victory as "even a draw would be enough for us to go through as the group winners." "I think the critics should get tough on the team that was after

it [tanking]. Several of our players came down with the flu before the game and needed to rest. We also had a couple of players suspended and one injured. Even I was not feeling well for today's game, and, not to mention, we have to be back in action in three days. Everyone is free to make their own decisions," said the Iranian coach, who was without prolific players Hossein Tayebi and Saeid Ahmad-Abbasi against France.

"We were eager to win the game and we got what we wanted in the second half. We've now qualified with nine points and from now on, we will fully be focused on our next game," Shamsaei added.

Asked about Iran's daunting knockout path, Shamsaei said: "This is World Cup after all. We're here to play, not to have fun."

"Morocco is an excellent team with some magnificent results over the past two or three years. They won the best national team prize last year and their manager was named the best coach.

"Still, we are proud Iranians and will play with heart and soul to succeed. I just hope the team doctors will do their best to make sure the players are in their best form for the match."

## Fonseca hails courageous Milan performance in derby win



Milan coach Paulo Fonseca (R) shakes hands with Inter coach Simone Inzaghi after a Serie A match in Milan, Italy, on September 22, 2024.

● ALESSANDRO GAROFALO/REUTERS

REUTERS – AC Milan manager Paulo Fonseca praised his side's bravery after they beat city rivals Inter Milan 2-1 on Sunday. Milan secured a late victory when defender Matteo Gabbia eluded his marker and found the top corner with a perfectly timed header from a free kick. The win marked Milan's first victory in the Derby della Madonnina since 2022 after suffering six consecutive defeats to Inter. "It was an important match. First of all, because it's a derby that Milan hadn't won in a long time. It was important given the moment we were going through," Fonseca told DAZN.

"I think the players showed a lot of courage and we deserved the win. I don't remember seeing a team who caused this many problems for Inter in a long time." Fonseca brushed off the suggestion that the victory had eased the pressure on him after a poor start to the campaign in which Milan won only once in five matches across all competitions before Sunday. "It makes little difference to me, because I don't read or listen to these things," he said. "It will be a week with a little more confidence, but the important thing for me is to con-

tinue seeing the players believe in our ideas, the way they have done so far.

"We know that we must improve, but this was a victory for the players today," Fonseca added. Inter coach Simone Inzaghi acknowledged that Milan were the better team at the San Siro and questioned the attitude displayed by his players at times during the match.

"Of course Milan are a very good team. They did better than us this evening and deserved the victory," Inzaghi said. "We had the wrong approach and weren't enough of a team, which is rare for us. We didn't start either half with the right attitude." With two draws and one loss in Serie A so far, defending champions Inter have endured a mixed start to the campaign. "It's unexpected, we had worked well over the last couple of days in training, but the approach was wrong in both halves. Now we've already dropped a few too many points in Serie A and this is particularly sore," Inzaghi added.

## Persian Gulf Pro League:

## Sepahan's perfect start ends; Tractor edges out Kheybar

## Sports Desk

Sepahan's perfect start to the new Persian Gulf Pro League season came to an end in a 1-1 draw at Zob Ahan in the Isfahan derby.

Tractor, meanwhile, bounced back from last week's shock home defeat against Zob Ahan to beat newly-promoted Kheybar Khorramabad 2-1 on the road.

Young Iranian international full back Aria Yousefi gave Sepahan the lead with a composed finish on the half-hour mark and Jose Morais's men thought they were on course for a fifth successive league victory until the closing stages, before former Persepolis midfielder Kamal Kamyabinia drew the home side level with seven minutes left on the clock.

Sepahan is top of the table with 13 points, while seven-place Zob Ahan is the only team other than its city rival and Persepolis yet to concede a loss in the new campaign. Meanwhile, Tractor, fresh from a 3-0 win at Al Wakrah in the AFC Champions League Two opener, continued its impressive run under Croatian head coach Dragan Skocic.



Sepahan striker Reza Asadi (L) is seen in action in a 1-1 draw against Zob Ahan in the Persian Gulf Pro League in Isfahan, Iran, on September 22, 2024.

● FFIRI

Brazilian midfielder Ricardo Alves put the visitors in front with a sublime left-footed effort from the edge of the box 12 minutes into the game. Mehrdad Ghanbari sent Tractor keeper Alireza Beiranvand the wrong way from the spot to restore parity eight minutes later, but Danial Esmaeilifar's 61st-minute strike secured a third league victory for Skocic's men.

The win sent Tractor second in the top-flight table with 10 points – level with Malavan FC and two points clear of Persepolis, which has a game in hand.

# Pezeshkian: Iran favors peace, opposes wider war in West Asia



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (2nd R) talks to a reporter during a round-table with journalists in New York City, the US, on September 23, 2024.  
president.ir

## International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Monday that Iran does not seek a wider war in West Asia and that such a conflict would have no winners. "We don't want war... We want to live in peace," Pezeshkian told a round-table with journalists as he attended the UN General Assembly in New York.

"We don't wish to be the cause of instability in the region." Pezeshkian called for dialogue to resolve the volatile situation in West Asia and blamed Israel for stoking tensions and instigating conflict, citing assassinations in Tehran and elsewhere that he said Israel had carried out. "We know more than anyone else that if a larger war were to erupt in the

Middle East, it will not benefit anyone throughout the world. It is Israel that seeks to create this wider conflict," he said. The Iranian president also slammed the United States and other Western countries for what he called double standards as they criticized Iran over human rights but ignored Israel's "atrocities" in Gaza. Asked about the possibil-

ity of negotiating a new agreement with the United States on Iran's nuclear program, Pezeshkian said Iran is not interested in a new nuclear deal but to return to the 2015 nuclear accord that the United States pulled out of 2018. "Let's go back to step one," he said.

If all sides lived up to that agreement, then Tehran might consider new talks, the president said. Pezeshkian, when asked about assessments from US intelligence agencies that Iran was trying to promote campus protests in the US against Israel, rejected the accusation and said it was "childish." People around the world are protesting because they outraged at the situation in Gaza and do not need to be bribed to take to the streets, he added. The United States and its allies claim Iran has supplied Russia with armed drones and ballistic missiles for its war against Ukraine, but Pezeshkian denied Tehran was arming

Russia with missiles. He said Iran opposes "Russian aggression" against Ukraine and called for dialogue to resolve the conflict.

## Message of peace, security

Upon his arrival at the John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, Pezeshkian said he is carrying Iran's message of peace and security for the world during his trip to New York.

The message, he said, was synonymous with "the slogan that has been adopted by the United Nations this year too." "Instead of bloodshed, war, and massacres, we should build a world, in which all humans can live comfortably, notwithstanding their color, race, ethnicity, and the region where they live," he said. "And unfortunately, the world we are currently living in is not like that. There are some double standards," the president noted.

The remarks come amid the all-out political and military support by the United States and many other Western countries for Israel amid the regime's ongoing genocidal war on the Gaza Strip and daily instances of deadly aggression against the occupied West Bank, Lebanon, and other locations across the region.

During his stay in New York, the Iranian president will address the general assembly on Tuesday, will deliver a speech at the Summit of the Future and will hold various bilateral meetings with foreign officials, including 20 heads of state.

Pezeshkian will also hold separate meetings with American media executives, Shia scholars living in the US, Iranian political elites living in the US, Iranian scientific elites, Iranian entrepreneurs and doctors, Iranian expatriates, secretary general of the United Nations and the president of the European Council.

## Pezeshkian felicitates Saudi king, crown prince on National Day

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian extended his congratulations to the Saudi king and crown prince on Saudi National Day. The Iranian president sent separate messages on Monday to Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who also serves as the prime minister, Press TV reported. In his messages, Pezeshkian stressed the importance of improving mutual relations in all fields. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi also congratulated his Saudi counterpart, Prince Faisal bin Farhan, on the occasion. The top Iranian and Saudi diplomats also met on Sunday on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. In March last year, Iran and Saudi Arabia agreed under a Chinese-brokered deal to restore diplomatic relations severed in 2016. As part of a joint statement issued by the two sides, Iran and Saudi Arabia agreed to implement a security cooperation agreement signed in April 2001 and another accord in 1998.

## Israeli strikes on Lebanon kills over 270

### International Desk

Israeli strikes on Monday killed more than 270 Lebanese in the deadliest barrage of missiles since the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war as the Israeli military warned residents in southern and eastern Lebanon to evacuate their homes ahead of a widening air campaign against Hezbollah. Thousands of Lebanese fled the south, and the main highway out of the southern port city of Sidon was jammed with cars heading toward Beirut. Lebanese Health Minister Firass Abiad said the Israeli strikes on Lebanon on

Monday claimed the lives of at least 274, including 21 children. About 5,000 people had been wounded "in less than a week" of Israeli attacks, Abiad said. The government ordered schools and universities to close on Tuesday across most of the country and began preparing shelters for people displaced from the south. The Israeli military announced that it hit some 300 targets Monday, claiming it was going after Hezbollah weapons sites. The military said it was expanding the airstrikes to include areas of the valley

along Lebanon's eastern border with Syria. Hezbollah said in a statement that it also fired dozens of rockets at an Israeli military post in Galilee. It also targeted for a second day the facilities of the Rafael defense firm, headquartered in Haifa.

### Evacuation warnings

The evacuation warnings were the first of their kind in nearly a year of steadily escalating conflict and came after a particularly heavy exchange of fire on Sunday. Hezbollah launched around 150 rockets, missiles and drones into northern occupied territories in retaliation

for strikes that killed a top commander and dozens of fighters. The increasing strikes and counterstrikes have raised fears of an all-out war, even as Israel is continuing its genocidal war on Gaza. Hezbollah has vowed to continue its strikes in solidarity with the Palestinians. The Israel's attacks on Monday came after an Israeli airstrike on a Beirut suburb on Friday killed a top Hezbollah military commander and more than a dozen fighters, as well as dozens of civilians, including women and children. Last week, thousands of communication devices,

used mainly by Hezbollah members, exploded in different parts of Lebanon, killing 39 people and wounding nearly 3,000. Lebanon blamed Israel for the attacks, but Israel neither confirmed nor denied responsibility.

### 'Dangerous consequences'

Iran's Foreign Ministry warned Israel on Monday of "dangerous consequences" following its deadly strikes. Kanaani said Israel's "crimes" in Palestinian territories and their "expansion to Lebanon are a clear example of a serious threat to regional and international



Smoke billows from the site of an Israeli airstrike in the Lebanese town of Marjayoun on September 23, 2024.  
RABIH DAHER/AFP

peace." Meanwhile, Iraq's top Shia cleric Ayatollah Ali Sistani also warned of the risk of a regional escalation with potentially "catastrophic consequences." Sistani urged an end to the Israel's "genocidal war" in

Gaza, where the regime has killed more than 41,000 Palestinians since last October.

## Iran ready for nuclear talks at UN if other parties willing: FM

### International Desk

Iran is ready to start nuclear negotiations on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York if "other parties are willing," Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Monday in a video published on his Telegram channel. The US, under then-president Donald Trump, withdrew in 2018 from a nuclear accord signed in 2015 by Iran and six world powers under which Tehran curbed its disputed nuclear program in return for the removal of international sanctions. Indirect talks between Washington and Tehran to revive the deal have stalled. Iran is still formally part

of the deal but has scaled back commitments to honor it due to US sanctions reimposed on the Islamic Republic. "I will stay in New York for a few more days than the [Iranian] president and will have more meetings with various foreign ministers. We will focus our efforts on starting a new round of talks regarding the nuclear pact," Araghchi said in an interview. He added that messages have been exchanged via Switzerland and a "general declaration of readiness" issued, but cautioned that "current international conditions make the resumption of talks more complicated and difficult than before."



Araghchi said he would not meet with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, adding, "I do not believe it would be expedient to hold such a dialogue. There were such meetings before but there is currently no suitable ground for that. We are still a long way from holding direct talks." Since the renewal of US sanctions during the Trump administration, Tehran has refused to directly negotiate with Washington and worked mainly through European or Arab intermediaries.

## INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

Since ESFAHAN MOBARAKEH STEEL COMPANY intend to purchase 50,000 tons of Metallurgical Coke with tender no 48601537, hereby informs whom is interested in that tender documents can be received by sending a request to below contact details (Email or WhatsApp), the sealed and closed envelopes according to what has been mentioned in tender documents must be submitted to ESFAHAN MOBARAKEH STEEL COMPANY- Raw Materials Purchasing Department (RMP) until 1:00 PM (According to Tehran time Saturday 12. Oct .2024 (Saturday 21.07.1403)

### Contact Details:

Contact Person: Ms. Khorasani  
Email: n.khorasani@msc.ir  
Cell Phone/WhatsApp: 00989134083545

### Note:

ESFAHAN MOBARAKEH STEEL COMPANY reserves the right of return or rejection of those tender documents in which haven't observed at least one of items of covering letter.

ESFAHAN MOBARAKEH STEEL COMPANY PUBLIC RELATONS (1403-29)

Public Relations Dept. MOBARAKEH Steel Co.



## 1,700-year-paintings uncovered in Fars Province

Arts & Culture Desk

Archaeologists discovered ancient paintings dating back over 1,700 years in the Fars Province of Iran, the province's tourism chief announced on Monday. Mohammad Sabet-Eqlidi said the paintings were found on

the walls of a Sassanian-era tomb in the ancient city of Gour, also known as Firuzabad, IRNA reported.

The discovery was made during the first phase of archaeological excavations in the city, which also uncovered architectural remains and evi-

dence of two tombs.

Sabet-Eqlidi said the paintings, which experts believe date back to the early 3rd century AD, depict faces in profile and three-quarter view.

The paintings were created using mineral pigments on a gypsum base, Sabet-Eqlidi added

Firuzabad, also known as Ardeshir Khurra, is an ancient city located 125 kilometers southeast of Shiraz, the capital of Fars province. The city was founded in the early 3rd century AD by order of Ardeshir Babakan, the founder of the Sassanian Empire.

## French Youality festival honors Iranian cinema

Iranian films won a certificate of honor and two special screenings at the fourth Youality Film Festival in France.

The festival, which featured over 400 films, concluded with several Iranian films being recognized by the jury, IRNA reported.

In the special screening section, two Iranian films, 'Nakojabad' directed by Fatima Abahamzeh and produced by Bijan Lahooti, and 'From Herat to Tehran' directed by Hamed Yousefi and written and produced by Fatima Abahamzeh, received jury and audience recognition.

In the official selection section, Iranian films 'The Voice of Dogs' directed by Mohammad Reza Nazi, 'The Last Child' directed by Serna Amini, 'On the Eve of the Cold Season' directed by

Alireza Shakari, and 'Venomous' directed by Gholamreza Mollaahmadi, were among the recognized films.

The Youality Film Festival, which focuses on "film-poetry" as one of its main awards, aims to support poetic cinema filmmakers around the world.

The winners of the festival, from France and Turkey, included short film 'Aspiration' by Stéphane Mandelkern, short film 'Anyway' by Nicolas Maurin, animated short film 'Shift' by Ellyn Clara Jarry, short film 'Madak' by Sedat Benek, 'Smile at Me' by Keyvan Azad, received a certificate of honor in the final section of the festival. Kamran Rasoulzadeh, the festival's secretary, announced plans to hold the fifth edition of the festival in 2025 in the city of Cannes.



## China Film Week kicks off in Iran

The China Film Week kicked off on September 23 at the Cinema Museum of Iran, marking a new chapter in the growing cultural and cinematic exchange between Iran and China.

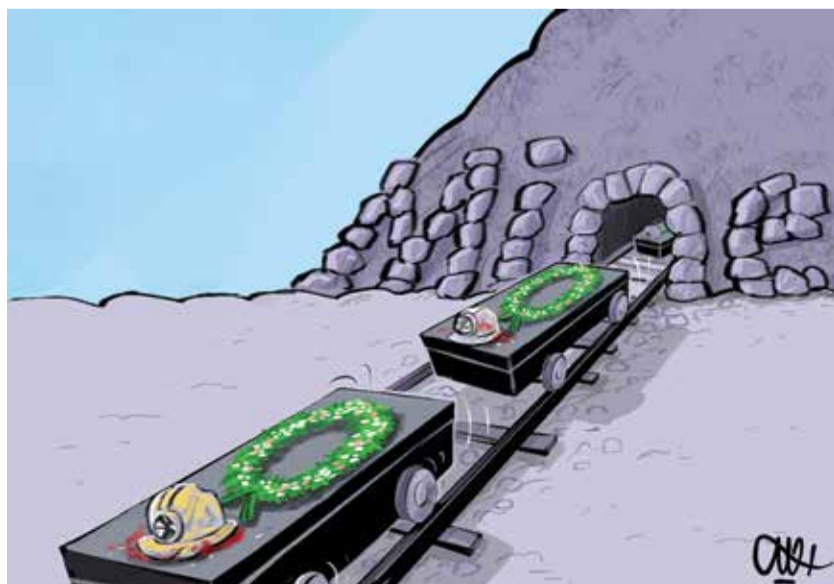
From September 24 to 27, five Chinese films will be screened at the museum's Ferdows Hall, IRN.

The lineup includes 'The Battle at Lake Changjin' directed by Chen Kaige, 'Tsui Hark and Dante Lam, 'A Beautiful Landscape' by Miu Wen, 'Cloudy Mountain' by Li Jun, 'Climbers' by Zhang Yimou, and 'Boonie Bears: Return to Earth' by Lin Huida.



The event is part of a broader effort to strengthen cultural ties between the two countries.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
 Cartoonist



## Death toll rises to 52 in Iran mine blast, probe underway

Social Desk

An Iranian lawmaker said Monday that a thorough investigation into the recent mine blast in Tabas, South Khorasan Province, will be conducted, with a final report to be submitted to the legislature for efficient decision-making.

The death toll from the devastating explosion at a mining company in Tabas has increased to 52, with 20 others injured, according to ISNA.

The incident was caused by a methane gas explosion on Saturday night in two blocks, B and C, of the mine run by Madanjoo Company.

Rescue teams are working to recover the bodies of 14 miners still trapped in block C of the coal mine, said Ali Khezrian, who is the spokesman for the Article 90 Commission of Parliament.

"We will conduct a comprehensive investigation into the incident," added Khezrian. "The probe will involve ministers of interior, industry, and labor; judicial officials, provincial authorities, mining experts, and managers."



A three-day period of public mourning has been declared in the eastern Iranian province as of Monday.

The rescue efforts are being hampered due to the accumulation of methane gas and the need for venting the gas out of the mine.

Preliminary investigations by a parliamentary team and experts suggest that the mine's traditional coal extraction methods increase the risk of further accidents. "The mine and similar ones should be modernized to include monitoring and methane drainage systems to prevent such disasters

from recurring," Khezrian explained. Iran is one of 15 countries with diverse mineral resources, accounting for 6% of the total domestic production rate, with 68 mineral materials extracted from its mines. However, the use of outdated methods at the Tabas mine and others like it poses a significant risk to miners, officials said.

"To prevent similar disasters, the mine and others like it must modernize to include mechanization, monitoring and methane drainage systems," Khezrian said.

## New era for...

Currently, it appears that Western countries are reassessing their approach to the Middle East in light of recent events, including the Al-Aqsa Storm and its far-reaching consequences. In this context, the Islamic Republic of Iran seems to be in a special position,

having maintained its composure in the face of the Zionist regime's provocative actions. This has given Iran an upper hand in diversifying its foreign policy, and the incumbent Iranian government can capitalize on this to create a vast capacity for dialogue with Western countries.

Western countries are now more aware than ever of the need for an exchange of views and dialogue with Iran. Tehran should make the most of this new and evolving landscape, as the region has entered a new era where diplomacy takes center stage.

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