

# Iran's 1st BRICS meeting as official member Pezeshkian calls on bloc to prioritize economic issues

## International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian put forward five proposals to realize the goals of the BRICS group of major emerging economies and called for the establishment of a secretariat to follow up on the bloc's plans.

Addressing the 16th summit of BRICS in the Russian city of Kazan on Wednesday, the Iranian president called on the member states to give priority to economic and financial issues in the next year.

Pezeshkian also described the "inhumane and illegal" sanctions imposed on independent countries as one of the most important challenges facing these countries. He said that countering these "illegal" sanctions requires collective measure and joint mechanisms. The Iranian president said that it is necessary to take practical and calculated steps to prevent countries to sanction others in the future.

## De-dollarization

Currently, most countries in the world are dissatisfied with the fact that the US uses the dollar as a weapon or a tool to control

other countries, Pezeshkian said.

He stressed that the world knows BRICS as a group established with the aim of reducing the strength of dollar and increasing exchanges with national currencies. The Iranian president said that the use of digital currencies and new financial mechanisms and technologies such as messaging platforms are in line with the main goals of BRICS.

## New technologies

The president said that countries in the Global North have consistently hindered the access of countries in the Global South to new technologies. "So, we have a duty to equip ourselves with new technologies through co-operation, exchange of information, joint investments, and other measures."

Pezeshkian also pointed to the necessity of strengthening the New Development Bank (NDB), which is one of the institutions established by BRICS, by accepting new members and increasing its capital. Pezeshkian said that Iran is ready to have close cooperation with the bank.

The president emphasized that Iran has significant capabilities in various fields and can foster beneficial cooperation within the BRICS group.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Pezeshkian pointed to Israel's ongoing genocidal wars in Gaza and Lebanon and urged members of the BRICS grouping to help "end the war" in Gaza and Lebanon.

"I call on all members of the influential BRICS group to use all their collective and individual capacities to end the war in Gaza and Lebanon."

## Talks with BRICS leaders

Pezeshkian, who arrived in Kazan on Tuesday, has also held several meetings with the leaders of countries attending the summit, including Russian and Egyptian presidents as well as Indian and Ethiopian prime ministers.

Russian President Vladimir Putin told Pezeshkian he wanted to further "strengthen" ties with Tehran.

"One of the main tasks in our relations is to strengthen the emerging positive trend in trade and economic cooperation," Putin said.



Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian addresses the 16th BRICS summit in Kazan, Russia, on October 23, 2024.  
president.ir

## Pezeshkian-Sisi meeting

In his meeting with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the Iranian president condemned the West's double standards towards Israel's genocide in Gaza and their support for the regime.

The Egyptian president, for his part, said that during all the years that relations between the two countries have been strained, he never has taken a position against Iran. "In my opinion, you should

try to right the distorted image that has been portrayed of Iran in the region and the world in the past 40 years," he told Pezeshkian.

President Pezeshkian also held a meeting with Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.

Pezeshkian asserted that any potential Israeli act of aggression against Iran will be met with a "decisive and unbelievable" response from the Islamic Republic.

"We are not whatsoever in

favor of the expansion of conflict and tension in the region, and welcome any action that is in line with peace and calm," Pezeshkian said, adding, "The Zionist regime's actions, however, are being squarely carried out with the aim of setting the entire region on fire."

BRICS was formed by and initially consisted of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, which collectively represent around 40% of the global population, a quarter of

the world's gross domestic product (GDP) and about two-fifth of the world's population.

Iran officially became a member of BRICS at the beginning of this year, five months after it announced its acceptance as a full member into the group along with Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, the UAE and Saudi Arabia.

Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Malaysia have also formally applied, with other countries expressing interest.

## Leader: Struggles of Nasrallah, Sinwar changed fate of region



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said the struggles of Hamas' Polit-

ical Bureau chief, Yahya Sinwar, and Hezbollah's Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah served

to change the fate of the West Asia region.

Ayatollah Khamenei made the remarks in a meeting with organizers of the Congress of 15,000 Martyrs of the southern Iranian Fars Province on Wednesday.

The Leader described the events in the region and the steadfastness and efforts of the resistance as factors that have changed the fate and history of the region, Press TV reported.

He noted that the Israeli regime had clearly failed

to destroy the resistance despite the massacre of more than 50,000 innocent people, describing this as a "great defeat for the Zionist regime."

Yet, Ayatollah Khamenei stressed that the greater defeat lies in the disgrace of Western culture, civilization, and politicians.

"In the confrontation between the resistance front and the front of evil, victory belongs to the resistance," the Leader emphasized.

Ayatollah Khamenei described the current de-

velopments in the region and the events in the besieged Gaza Strip, Lebanon, and the occupied West Bank as historic.

"If figures like Martyr Sinwar had not emerged to fight until the last moment, or if great leaders like Martyr Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah had not combined jihad, wisdom, courage, and sacrifice and brought them to the field, the fate of the region would have been entirely different," he stressed.

The Israeli regime assassinated Hamas' chief

Ismail Haniyeh in the Iranian capital Tehran back in July and Hezbollah's Nasrallah in southern Lebanon last month.

Furthermore, the regime assassinated Haniyeh's successor, Yahya Sinwar, in Gaza earlier this month. The Leader described the outcome of Israel's ongoing aggression in the region as a major defeat not only for the regime but also for Western civilization and culture.

"The Zionists thought they could easily eliminate the resistance

groups. However, despite the martyrdom of more than 50,000 defenseless civilians and several prominent resistance leaders, and despite the enormous costs and US support... the resistance front and the young fighters in Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, and other resistance groups continue to fight with the same resolve and strength," he stated.

"This is a significant defeat for the Zionist regime," Ayatollah Khamenei added.

## Hezbollah confirms Israeli assassination of Safieddine in air raid

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The Lebanese resistance group Hezbollah confirmed that its senior figure Hashem Safieddine, who was touted as the likely replacement for martyred leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, had been assassinated in an Israeli attack several weeks ago.

"We pledge to our great martyr and his martyred brothers to continue the path of resistance and jihad until achieving its goals of freedom and victory," Hezbollah said in a statement.

The announcement came a day after the Israeli military officially claimed Safieddine had been killed in the attack, which used bunker-buster bombs similar to the strike that killed Nasrallah on September 27.

Israel has intensified its attacks both on Gaza and Lebanon.

Gaza government media office said on Wednesday that the regime has killed more than 770 Palestinians and wounded 1,000 others after 19 days of attacks and siege on Jabalia, in northern Gaza. The regime's attacks on



Hashem Safieddine

Lebanon also claimed the lives of nearly 30 people in 24 hours, according to an announcement by Leba-

non's government. At least 2,570 Lebanese have been killed in Lebanon since October last year.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

