

# Iran to hold talks with three European powers on Friday

'UK seeking de-escalation in Iran nuclear issue via diplomatic channels'

## International Desk

Iran said on Sunday that it would hold talks with three European powers in the coming days in the Swiss city of Geneva on several issues including Iran's nuclear program.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said the meeting of the deputy foreign ministers of Iran, France, Germany and the United Kingdom would take place on Friday.

"A range of regional and international issues and topics, including the issues of Palestine and Lebanon, as well as the nuclear issue, will be discussed," the spokesman said in a Foreign Ministry statement.

Baghaei described the upcoming meeting as a continuation of talks held with the countries in September on the sidelines of the annual session of the UN General Assembly in New York.

The meeting on Friday may lead to the revival of Iran's nuclear talks to which the three European countries are parties.

## UK warning

On Sunday, a spokesperson for the British Foreign Office told IRNA that London is seeking to reduce tensions over the Iranian nuclear issue through various diplomatic channels.

The spokesperson, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the UK will spare no diplomatic efforts to "prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon," and will even resort to triggering the snapback mechanism if necessary.

In 2015, Iran and world powers reached an agreement that saw the easing of international sanctions on Tehran in exchange for curbs on its nuclear program.

But the United States unilaterally withdrew from the accord in 2018 under then-president Donald Trump and re-imposed biting economic sanctions.

Tehran scaled back its commitments to the deal in a series of pre-announced and clear steps after witnessing the failure of other parties, including the

European ones, to secure its interest under the agreement.

The meeting on Friday also comes after the 35-nation Board of Governors of the UN's International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) adopted an anti-Iran resolution initiated by the three European countries. The resolution denounced Iran for what it called a lack of cooperation.

In response to the resolution, Iran announced it was launching a "series of new and advanced centrifuges."

Centrifuges enrich uranium transformed into gas by rotating it at very high speed, increasing the proportion of fissile isotope material (U-235).

"We will substantially increase the enrichment capacity with the utilization of different types of advanced machines," Behrouz Kamalvandi, Iran's atomic energy organization spokesman, told state TV.

The country, however, also said it planned to continue its "technical and safeguards cooperation with the IAEA."



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, in office since July and a supporter of dialogue with Western countries, has

said he wants to remove "doubts and ambiguities" about his country's nuclear program.

## Ayatollah Khamenei: All Israel's figureheads must be prosecuted

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei called for the prosecution of all the political and military figureheads of the Israeli regime over their atrocities.

Ayatollah Khamenei made the remarks in a post published in Hebrew language on X, former Twitter, on Saturday, Press TV reported.

"All the political and military captains of the criminal Zionist terrorist gang must be prosecuted," the post read.

The post was published amid the Israeli regime's October 2023-present war of genocide against the Gaza Strip, and the regime's escalated deadly aggression towards Lebanon ever since as well as its many assassination operations throughout the region that has led to the death of venerable resistance commanders and other leaders.

The war has claimed the lives of at least 44,176 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and wounded 104,473 others, in Gaza, while the escalation has killed more than 3,645



people across Lebanon.

The regime's targeted killing operations have also killed such resistance leaders as former Hamas political leader, Ismail Haniyeh, former Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, and the former head of the Lebanese resistance movement's Executive Council Sayyed Hashem Sa-

fieddine.

Ayatollah Khamenei's comments came after the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued arrest warrants against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the regime's former minister of military affairs Yoav Gallant over war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza.

## Hezbollah hits Israel's sites in Tel Aviv and nearby

### International Desk

Hezbollah resistance group fired at least 185 rockets and other projectiles into Israel on Sunday in response to recent deadly Israeli strikes on Beirut.

Hezbollah resistance group said on Sunday it launched missiles at an Israeli Army intelligence base in the Tel Aviv suburbs.

It also said it had "launched, for the first time, an aerial attack using a swarm of attack drones on the Ashdod naval base" in southern occupied territories.

Medical agencies reported that at least 11 people were wounded, including a man in a "moderate to serious" condition.

The wave of projectiles followed at least four deadly Israeli strikes in central Beirut in the past week, including one that killed Hezbollah spokesman Mohammed Afif.

The Lebanese Army, meanwhile, said that a soldier was killed on Sunday and 18 others injured as a result of an Israeli attack targeting an army center. Israeli strikes have killed 19 Lebanese soldiers in the last two months.

Since September 23, Israel has intensified its Lebanon air campaign, later sending in ground troops after nearly a year of limited exchanges of fire with Hezbollah.

Lebanon's Health Ministry says at least 3,670 people have been killed in the

country since October 2023, most of them since September this year.

Top EU diplomat Josep Borrell, who had traveled to Lebanon on Sunday, called for an immediate cease-fire in Lebanon. Borrell held talks with parliament speaker Nabih Berri, who has led mediation efforts on behalf of ally Hezbollah. "We see only one possible way ahead: an immediate cease-fire and the full implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701," Borrell said after his meeting with Berri.

Under Resolution 1701, which ended the last Hezbollah-Israeli war of 2006, only Lebanese troops and UN peacekeepers should be allowed to maintain a presence in the south.

It also called for Israel to withdraw troops from Lebanon.

"Back in September I came and was still hoping we could prevent a full-fledged war of Israel attacking Lebanon. Two months later Lebanon is on the brink of collapse," Borrell said.



AFP

## Qalibaf rebukes 'politically motivated' IAEA resolution against Iran

### International Desk

Iran's Parliament speaker censured an anti-Iran resolution passed at the United Nations nuclear agency on Thursday, saying that Tehran has activated new centrifuges in response to the agency's "politically motivated" resolution against the country's peaceful nuclear program.

Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf made the remarks during an open parliamentary session on Sunday, three days after Board of Governors of the International

Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) voted 19 to 3, with 12 abstentions, for the anti-Iran document.

The resolution initiated by the UK, France, Germany and the US, denounced Iran for what it claimed as a "lack of cooperation" with the UN nuclear watchdog.

Qalibaf said that the "unrealistic, politicized, and destructive approach" adopted by the European troika and the United States led to the issuance of the "unjustified and non-consensus" resolution on Iran's peaceful nuclear activities.

"The Islamic Republic's reciprocal response to the political misuse of the IAEA's Board of Governors was immediately put on the agenda, and the launching of a series of new and advanced centrifuges began," he added.

The Parliament speaker also censured the three European states and the US for using Iran's peaceful nuclear program as an excuse for their illegitimate actions aimed at questioning the IAEA's credibility and independence, as well as tarnishing the constructive atmosphere in Tehran's interactions with the agency.

## Iranian FM to attend UNAOC Global Forum in Portugal

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi will head to Portugal to take part in the 10th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), according to the diplomatic apparatus' spokesman.

"This trip is in line with Iran's active and influential foreign policy as a representative of one of the oldest civilizations," Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baghaei told IRNA on Sunday. The trip is also aimed at cooperating in

diplomatic processes to promote peace based on interaction, dialogue and international understanding, he added.

Araghchi will head to Portugal on Monday to attend the forum set to be held in Cascais on November 25-27.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

