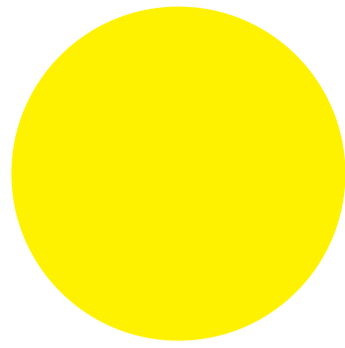


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Iran's Vice President Mohammadreza Aref (c) is seen at the third Caspian Economic Conference in Tehran on February 18, 2025. fjvpresident.ir

Trump's claim about BRICS' collapse far-fetched

By Mohammad Bayat
Middle East affairs analyst

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

Recently, US President Donald Trump once again turned up the heat on BRICS members, warning of 100% tariffs against the group. He stated that BRICS is "rapidly collapsing" and made it clear that if any attempt is made to undermine the dollar, resistance will be inevitable.

Earlier, upon his return to the White House, Trump had already laid down the law for BRICS nations, warning that any move to ditch the US dollar in trade would be met with "100% tariffs" on their transactions with the United States.

Trump's remarks on BRICS clearly fall in line with Washington's anti-globalist, anti-regionalist agenda—one that fundamentally op-

poses any coalition that does not serve American interests. This is particularly true for BRICS, which brings together emerging powers whose economies pack a serious punch.

Projections indicate that by 2050, the combined GDP of at least five founding BRICS members will surpass that of the G7. Understandably, this prospect sends shockwaves through Washington, as the US prides itself on being the guardian of the liberal world order. A crucial factor is that BRICS has been expanding its footprint, with new members joining or expressing interest in doing so. Countries like Iran, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt—rich in natural resources and boasting a relatively skilled workforce—stand to bolster the bloc's economic clout. This is particularly remarkable given

BRICS' strategic geographical positioning between the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic regions.

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