

# US launches large-scale aggression on Yemen

## Iran condemns strikes as 'gross violation' of UN Charter

US President Donald Trump launched large-scale deadly military strikes on Yemen on Saturday, citing Ansarullah's retaliatory attacks on shipping in the Red Sea as the reason.

The unfolding strikes – which one US official told Reuters might continue for weeks – represent the biggest US military operation in West Asia since Trump took office in January.

"To all Houthis, YOUR TIME IS UP, AND YOUR ATTACKS MUST STOP, STARTING TODAY. IF THEY DON'T, HELL WILL RAIN DOWN UPON YOU LIKE NOTHING YOU HAVE EVER SEEN BEFORE!" Trump posted on his Truth Social platform.

At least 31 were killed and 101 others injured in the US strikes, mostly women and children, Anees al-Asbahi, spokesperson for Yemen's Health Ministry said in an updated toll on Sunday.

Yemen's Ansarullah movement's political bureau described the attacks as a "war crime."

"Our Yemeni armed forces are fully prepared to respond to escalation with escalation," it said in a statement.

Strikes targeted the capital Sana'a, southwestern city of Taiz, and the town of Dahyan in Saada.

A Pentagon spokesperson said the Ansarullah has attacked US warships 174 times and commercial vessels 145 times since 2023. Ansarullah movement says the attacks are in solidarity with Palestinians over Israel's war in Gaza with Hamas resistance group.

In a statement, Ansarullah blamed the US and the UK for "wicked" aggression targeting residential areas in the Yemeni capital, Sana'a.

The UK did not participate in Saturday's US strikes but it did provide routine refueling support for the US.

Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baqaei "strongly condemned the brutal air strikes by the US" in a statement, denouncing them a "gross violation of the principles of the UN Charter."



CENTCOM forces launch an operation on Yemen on March 15, 2025.  
CENTCOM

## Araghchi: US has 'no authority' to dictate Iran's foreign policy

### IRGC chief threatens 'decisive' response to any attack



Abbas Araghchi

#### International Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said Sunday that Washington had "no authority" to dictate its foreign policy after US President Donald Trump urged Tehran to end support for Yemen's Ansarullah's movement.

"The United States Government has no authority, or business, dictating Iranian foreign policy," Araghchi said in a post on X, while urging the US to stop the "killing of Yemeni people."

Trump on Saturday said Washington had launched "decisive and powerful military action" to end the threat posed to Red Sea shipping by Yemen's Ansarullah movement, and demanded Tehran's support "must end immediately."

Iran's top diplomat said that the time when Washington could dictate Tehran's foreign policy ended in 1979, when the Islamic Revolution topped the West-

ern-backed Pahlavi regime.

Araghchi further denounced the US government's support for Israeli terrorism and genocide in Gaza, spending tens of billions of dollars between October 2023 and September 2024.

"Biden was last year bamboozled into handing over unprecedented 23 billion dollars to a genocidal regime. More than 60,000 Palestinians killed and the world holds America fully accountable," Araghchi said.

He urged US statesmen and officials to halt their support for the Tel Aviv regime's vicious moves and acts of terror, and stop aggressive attacks on Yemen's infrastructure and civilian centers.

"End support for Israeli genocide and terrorism. Stop killing of Yemeni people," the Iranian foreign minister concluded.

Chief of Iran's Revolution Guards Corps also reacted to Trump's remarks, threatening a "decisive" response to any attack. Major General Hossein Salami denounced Trump's threats in a televised speech on Sunday, adding that "Iran will not wage war, but if anyone threatens, it will give appropriate, decisive and conclusive responses."

The commander called the Ansarullah movement "the representative of the Yemenis," adding that the group makes its "strategic and operational decisions" independently.

## Tehran congratulates Armenia, Azerbaijan on peace agreement

#### International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian congratulated Armenia and Azerbaijan after the two countries agreed on the text of a peace agreement to end nearly four decades of conflict between the South Caucasus countries.

Pezeshkian in a phone conversation with Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan on Sunday welcomed the agreement reached between Yerevan and Baku, saying that Iran has always welcomed the establishment of peace, convergence and stability in the region.

"Iran has always welcomed the establishment of peace, convergence and stability in the region, especially among the neighbors, while preserving the territorial integrity of countries," he said.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baqaei also on Friday welcomed the agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan. He described it as a necessary and important step towards achieving lasting peace in the South Caucasus region.

Azerbaijan and Armenia said Thursday that they had wrapped up talks aimed at resolving the Caucasus neighbors' decades-long conflict, with both sides agreeing on the text of a possible treaty.



Nikol Pashinyan

Masoud Pezeshkian

A deal to normalize ties would be a major breakthrough in a region where Russia, the European Union, the United States and Turkey all jostle for influence.

Baku and Yerevan fought two wars for control of Azerbaijan's Armenian-populated region of Karabakh, at the end of the Soviet Union and again in 2020, before Azerbaijan seized the entire area in a 24-hour offensive in September 2023.

Both Armenia and Azerbaijan have repeatedly said a comprehensive peace deal to end their long-standing conflict is within reach, but previous talks had failed to reach consensus on a draft agreement.

During the Sunday phone conversation, Pezeshkian also pointed to good and progressing relations between Iran and Armenia and called on the two countries' high-ranking officials to expedite

the implementation of bilateral agreements in various fields.

Pashinyan, for his part, informed Pezeshkian on the finalized draft text of the "Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and Interstate Relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan" and the completion of negotiations on the agreement and hailed Iran's support for the treaty.

The Armenian prime minister said his country would strive to continue negotiations and consultations aimed at implementing the agreement and also to organize regional relations.

He expressed hope that the two countries would sign and implement the deal in the near future. Pashinyan also commended the efforts by the Iranian government to improve mutual relations and noted that his country is keen to implement the agreements signed with Iran.

## Iran has plan to ...

Over the past two weeks, a delegation from the Iranian Parliament's Economic Committee touched down in

Iraq for talks on various economic issues. During these discussions, Iraqi officials made it clear that they are willing to support Iran against US sanctions. They have not forgotten Iran's key role in driving out terrorist groups and securing their country's territorial integrity. However, Iraq's financial sector, particularly its banks, is under Washington's thumb, facing intense pressure to avoid transactions with Iran.

In light of such challenges, Iran has devised a plan to fend off Trump's maximum pressure campaign. The country must draw on its experience with US sanctions and ensure that its

financial and banking institutions find ways around restrictions to facilitate the movement of assets and currency abroad.

One of the key tools in offsetting economic and banking sanctions is stepping up diplomatic efforts—particularly through informal channels and especially with neighboring states. In this regard, chambers of commerce, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations have a crucial role to play in standing up for Iran's rights on the international stage and pushing back against unjust US bans. Iran's access to its financial assets abroad—funds legally earned through trade and services—is an undeniable right. Yet, Washington is pulling out all the stops to block Tehran from reclaiming these resources.

Given extensive research on Iraq's economic landscape, there is no doubt that Baghdad is keen to lean heavily on Iran for a significant share of its imports. Iraq, in particular, is struggling to keep up with its electricity demand. While the country produces around 27,000 megawatts, it requires nearly 40,000 MW, leaving it with a massive energy shortfall. Over the years, Iraq has turned to Iran to make up for the gap, and officials there remain adamant about sourcing their gas and power from Tehran. With this in mind, Iranian authorities must map out a strategy that not only safeguards Iran's rights but also ensures that friendly neighboring nations can continue their economic and financial transactions with Tehran.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

