

President: Iran seeks negotiations 'but not with ignominy'



International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian reiterated that the Islamic Republic is seeking negotiations to resolve a dispute with the West over its nuclear program but "not with ignominy."

The president said that Iran believes in negotiation and is ready to hold talks with the entire world but "we do not negotiate at any cost."

He made the remarks in a meeting with the representatives of the country's political parties on Sunday in Tehran.

Pezeshkian said that the other side should also prove that is seeking negotiation.

Since taking office in January, the US President Donald Trump has repeatedly called for talks with Iran to reach an agreement on its nuclear program.

At the same time, he has threatened Iran with bombing if an agreement is not reached between the two sides.



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian speaks during a meeting with the representatives of the country's political parties in Tehran on April 7, 2025.

president.ir

Trump sent a letter to Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei last month calling for negotiations.

Iran has responded to the letter through Oman. Iran's Foreign Ministry said on Monday that Iran has sent its response to Trump's letter and is now waiting for the US decision in this regard.

"Iran's proposal for indirect negotiations was a generous and wise proposal given the history of the issue and trends related to the nuclear talks over the past decade. We are focused on what we have proposed," the ministry's spokesman Esmail Baqaei said.

On Thursday, the US president said he favored "direct talks," arguing they were "faster" and offered a better understanding than going through intermediaries.

But Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Saturday that direct talks made no sense with a country "that constantly threatens to resort to force in violation of the UN Charter and that expresses contradictory positions from its various officials."

"We remain committed to diplomacy and are ready to try the path of indirect negotiations," Araghchi added during a cere-

mony on the occasion of Iran's new year, in which ambassadors and envoys from foreign countries attended.

Earlier on Saturday, Pezeshkian said his country is willing to engage in dialogue with the United States on an "equal footing."

He also questioned Washington's sincerity in calling for negotiations, saying, "If you want negotiations, then what is the point of threatening?"

In 2015, the country reached a landmark deal with the permanent members of the UN Security Council, namely the United States, France, China, Russia, and the United Kingdom, as well as Germany, on its nuclear activities.

The agreement provided for sanctions relief in exchange for curbs on Iranian nuclear activities.

In 2018, during Trump's first term in office, the US withdrew from the agreement and reinstated sanctions on Iran. In response, Iran rolled back on its commitments under the agreement and accelerated its nuclear program.

Western countries including the US have long accused Iran of pursuing a nuclear weapon, which Tehran has denied, insisting its enrichment activities were solely for peaceful purposes.

Iran warns neighbors against backing military offensives in region

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei warned the neighboring countries on the use of their territories by others for aggression against regional countries.

Speaking at a weekly press conference in Tehran on Monday, Baqaei said that no country in the region is allowed to let other countries to use its territory for aggression against another country.

He emphasized that Iran's message in this regard has been clear, and this is a message that all countries in the region are aware of.

His remarks came amid military threats by the US President Donald Trump against Iran over its nuclear program.

Trump has recently threatened Iran with bombing if an agreement is not reached between the two sides on Tehran's nuclear program.

On Sunday, Reuters claimed that Iran has issued stern warnings to neighboring countries hosting US military bases that they could face retaliation if they support potential American strikes against Iranian nuclear facilities.



Esmail Baqaei
IRNA

The Iranian government has formally notified Iraq, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Turkey and Bahrain that any assistance to a US attack on Iran — including allowing use of their airspace or territory — would be considered "an act of hostility" with "severe consequences," Reuters cited a senior Iranian official who the news agency said was speaking on condition of anonymity. Iran has repeatedly warned that it will decisively respond to any aggression on its territorial integrity, sovereignty, and national interests.

Global outrage at Israel's mounting onslaught after shattered cease-fire

International Desk

Tens of thousands of people took to the streets in many countries to protest against Israel's crimes in the Gaza Strip as the regime has resumed its air and ground offensive in the Palestinian territory since last month.

In Tunisia, the protesters called for the closure of the US Embassy and expulsion of its ambassador from the African country.

In the capital Tunis, dozens gathered outside the US Embassy in protest at Israel's war on Gaza and Washington's complicity in the genocide that has claimed over 50,000 lives.

"America is the other face of Zionism. (...) They're not just supporting genocide in Gaza they are participating in it," declared Bashir Khodri, head of the Ansar Palestine Association.

Students, leaders and activists of different political parties and common people also staged demonstration across Bangladesh to condemn the ongoing Israeli attacks on Gaza and demanded an immediate end to Israel's barbarity.

The protesters also called for boycotting Israeli products. At some places, the protesters



A group of protesters hold a Palestinian flag and a banner reading "Youth demand an end to genocide" referring to conflict in Gaza, as they block the traffic in central London on April 7, 2025.

HENRY NICHOLLS/AFP

formed human chain and some groups held protest processions and rallies, demanding immediate stop of the ongoing genocide and mass destruction in Gaza.

Similar protests were also held in several major cities of Pakistan, including Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad. During the protests, the Pakistani demonstrators expressed their solidarity with the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. Pakistanis also staged a general strike in support of Palestinians in Gaza.

A coalition of Palestinian political movements — including Fatah and Hamas — called a global strike to protest what they described as "the genocide and the ongoing massacre

of our people."

In the occupied West Bank, Palestinians also held a general strike demanding an end to the Gaza war. Shops, schools and most public administrative offices were closed across the West Bank, which Israel has occupied since 1967.

Lebanese students and British youth also staged small protests in Beirut and London to denounce the Israel's crimes against Palestinians.

Israel resumed its deadly air strikes on Gaza on March 18, ending nearly two months of cease-fire with Hamas. More than 1,200 Palestinians have been killed since Israel restarted its military offensive in the Palestinian territory.

Moscow voices readiness to help resolve US-Iran nuclear tensions



Dmitry Peskov

The Kremlin said on Monday that Russia was ready to do all it could to help resolve tensions between the United States and Iran around Tehran's nuclear program as Washington demands Tehran do a nuclear deal with it or be bombed. Moscow has repeatedly offered to

mediate between the two sides after warnings of military action against Iran by US President Donald Trump have rattled nerves across the region, Reuters reported.

"We are in constant consultations with our Iranian partners, including on the topic of the nuclear deal," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"This process will continue, including in the near future. And, of course, Russia is ready to make every effort, to do everything possible to contribute to this problem's resolution by political and diplomatic means."

During his first term, Trump withdrew the US from a 2015 deal between Iran and world powers that

placed strict limits on Tehran's disputed nuclear activities in exchange for sanctions relief. Iran says it needs nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and denies it is seeking to acquire nuclear weapons.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said last week that Trump's comments about bombing Iran only served to "complicate the situation" and cautioned that strikes could be "catastrophic" for the wider region.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova also said Russia, China, and Iran will hold consultations at an expert level on the Iranian nuclear program in Moscow on today.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

