

# Tehran, Moscow stress full implementation of partnership agreement

## International Desk

Iranian and Russian presidents emphasized their countries' resolve to fully implement a comprehensive partnership agreement signed between the two countries in January. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin also discussed bilateral relations and the latest regional and international developments in a telephone conversation on Tuesday.

They expressed satisfaction with the level of relations between Tehran and Moscow and praised the progress of cooperation in joint projects, especially in the fields of banking, rail and road transportation, and energy. The two presidents also hailed the signing of the Comprehensive Strategic Cooperation Agreement as a turning point in strengthening political, economic, trade and security cooperation between the two coun-

tries. Putin also wished success for the ongoing nuclear negotiations between Tehran and Washington, saying that Russia is ready to facilitate dialogue between Iran and the US to reach a "fair agreement." The Russian president expressed regret over a deadly explosion in an Iranian port on April 26 and offered condolences to the government and people of Iran for the loss of dozens of Iranians in the tragic incident.



Vladimir Putin

Masoud Pezeshkian

## Iran, US to reconvene for talks in Oman over weekend: Report



## International Desk

The fourth round of indirect nuclear talks between Iran and the US, initially scheduled for May 3, is set to be held in Oman on Sunday, Iranian media and the US negotiator said. According to Iran's Nour News, the upcoming negotiations will focus on humanitarian issues and security concerns. The latest round of the negotiations was postponed, with mediator Oman citing "logistical reasons" for the delay. US President Donald Trump's Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff, who leads the US delegation in the talks, called the negotiations with Iran "positive," saying efforts are underway to take the process into another round this weekend. "We are making some progress," he said on Tuesday. "I hope it is moving in the right direction. The president wants to see this solved diplomatically if possible, so we're doing everything we can to get it going." Witkoff also said any delay in the apparent underway push to continue the process would be due to Trump's upcoming visit to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar next week. Since April 12, the two countries have held three rounds of talks in Oman and Italy, that have been described by the two sides as "pos-

itive and constructive."

## Contradictory remarks

However, Iranian Foreign Ministry's spokesman Esmail Baqaei on Monday denounced some contradictory remarks by the US officials on a possible nuclear deal with Iran, saying that they are not helpful. Baqaei made the remarks after Trump and his Secretary of State Marco Rubio called for total dismantlement of Iran's nuclear program while stressing the path of diplomacy to resolve a decades-long dispute over the issue. "Such conflicting messages does not affect our determination to stand by our fundamental positions," Baqaei said. "If there is sincerity in the claim that the American side's demand is for the Islamic Republic of Iran not to possess a nuclear bomb, then I believe many issues can be worked out, as we have already declared – and demonstrated in practice – that we are not in any way seeking to weaponize our nuclear program," the Iranian official said. Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi also reacted to Trump's remarks. "If their ultimate goal is, as President Trump has repeatedly said, the only thing they can't have is nuclear weapons, an agreement is achievable, but there is only one

way to achieve it: diplomacy, based on mutual respect and mutual interests," Araghchi said on X. Donald Trump said on Sunday that his goal in discussions with Iran is "total dismantlement" of that nation's nuclear program. He also said that he is willing to listen to arguments for allowing Iran to pursue civilian nuclear energy while ending what he called its nuclear weapons program. The US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has also called on Iran to "walk away" from uranium enrichment. In a Thursday interview with Fox News Rubio claimed that "the only countries in the world that enrich uranium are the ones that have nuclear weapons."

## Sanctions embody US insincerity in talks

The Iranian government spokesperson said on Tuesday that the sanctions imposed by the US against the Islamic Republic impact the lives of the country's ordinary people while epitomizing Washington's insincerity in negotiations with Tehran. Speaking at a press briefing, Fatemeh Mohajerani excoriated the unilateral and arbitrary sanctions the Trump administration has since taking office in January imposed on Iran concomitant with indirect talks on the Islamic Republic's nuclear program. "These sanctions are not being imposed for the first time; these sanctions target the Iranian people and put pressure on people's medicine, healthcare, and lives. We have taken the necessary measures to counter the sanctions. These sanctions indicate America's lack of sincerity for negotiations," Mohajerani said. "The necessary measures to counter the sanctions have been taken; we are prepared for all scenarios and we are completely ready," she added.

## Yemen says Israel crossed redlines with attacks on Sana'a airport

Iran calls for action against US, Israeli 'destruction' in Muslim states

## International Desk

Yemen's Ansarullah resistance movement vowed to retaliate against Israel after the regime's two rounds of strikes on the Arab country, with a Yemeni official saying that Tel Aviv has crossed red lines and should await a response.

In a statement on Tuesday, the Ansarullah's political bureau denounced the Israeli attacks as "further evidence" of the country's "bankruptcy." "Targeting Yemeni ports, Sana'a airport, cement factories, and power plants aims to impose a blockade on the Yemeni people," the statement said. The Ansarullah added that Israeli and American attacks on Yemen "will not go unanswered and will not deter Yemen from continuing its support for Gaza." "We tell the US, the British, and the Zionists that our military operations in support of Gaza will continue, no matter the sacrifices. The Zionists have crossed redlines and must await Yemen's response," Yemen's Supreme Political Council member Muhammad al-Bukhaiti told Al Mayadeen. "The US and the Zionist regime's resort to attacking civilian facilities indicates their failure and defeat," he said.

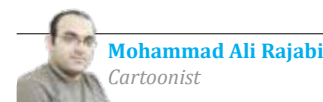
## Yemen ready for any scenario

The Yemeni official said that his country is ready to face all scenarios designed by the US, Israel, and Britain. Since Monday, the Israeli warplanes have launched rounds of strikes on Yemen in retaliation for a missile strike by Yemen's Armed Forces that targeted Israel's key airport. The Yemeni missile penetrated the perimeter of Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion International Airport for the first time on Sunday, leaving a large crater and wounding six people.



AFP

On Tuesday, the Israeli fighter jets bombed the airport in the capital Sana'a. Residents reported power outages in Sana'a and the port city of Hodeida, after the Israelis struck three electricity stations in and around the capital. Three people were killed and 38 wounded in Israeli strikes on Tuesday. Israel's military claimed it took the airport "fully" out of action after hitting runways and aircraft. Yemeni authorities said on Monday four people were also killed and 35 wounded as Israel's strikes hit a cement factory and targets in Hodeida. Yemen's Armed Forces have been attacking Israeli-bound ships in the Red Sea trade route since the start of the Gaza war in October 2023 in solidarity with the Palestinians. As well as the airport and power stations, the latest raids also hit a cement factory in Amran, Yemeni media said. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said retaliation "will not happen in one bang, but there will be many bangs." Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei on Tuesday denounced the strikes as "a blatant crime and a gross violation of the principles and rules of international law." Baqaei urged international and regional powers to act against ongoing US and Israeli "destruction" in Islamic countries.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

## Israel seeks to ...

From the outset, Israel has harbored deep-seated hostility toward the Islamic Republic of Iran. Israelis will not let up in their animosity toward Iran, and at every opportunity, they try to stir up trouble and derail the talks. Whenever it becomes clear that the two sides are closing in on common ground, Israel resorts to various tactics to drive a wedge between the negotiating parties. Therefore, vigilance is required to ensure the enemy is not hand-

ed an opening for exploitation, and efforts must be made to push ahead with the talks based on the principles of dignity, wisdom, expediency, and the preservation of Iran's strength, while standing by the negotiating team. Extremism, in the current climate, is not in the country's best interest. According to the Leader's guidance, the government should be supported, and trust should be placed in the negotiating team. Care must be taken so that statements do not play into the hands of adversaries

or undermine the negotiators. Ultimately, officials and the negotiating team should level with the public about the realities of the nuclear talks, as transparency is crucial for maintaining public support and ensuring that the people stand with the negotiators. Preserving such a spirit of unity between the people and the authorities is vital, as it will ensure that, whatever the outcome, the country's interests and welfare are kept intact and Iran can carry on along the path of strength, pride, and progress.

