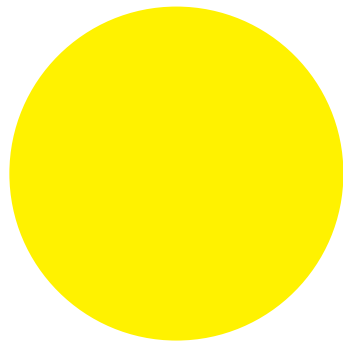


Iran targeting leadership in global halal industry: *Official*

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Iran Daily

Vol. 7838 • Thursday, May 22, 2025 • Khordad 01, 1404 • Dhu al-Qadah 24, 1446 • 100,000 rials • 8 pages



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Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi addresses a ceremony in Tehran, Iran on May 21, 2025 to mark the first anniversary of a helicopter crash that killed his predecessor Hossein Amir-Abdollahian along with seven others, including president Ebrahim Raisi, in northwestern Iran.

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Cementing regional ties prudent policy



By **Yahya Fowzi**
Foreign policy analyst

**OPINION
EXCLUSIVE**

The policy of fostering cooperation with Iran's neighboring countries is a strategy, rooted in sound principles and national interest. It not only serves political and economic ends but also has security benefits. Regional countries are, in many respects, in the same boat and their fates are intertwined. Environmental crises like droughts, water scarcity, or ecological degradation, for instance, hit the region across the board. In such cases, no single nation can escape intact. Thus, strengthening neighborly relations is not just pragmatic; it is a policy rooted in wisdom and prudence. Should Iran face any serious challenge, its neighbors will be the first to step in with assistance. Conversely, Iran, too, will be first in line to extend a helping hand during a crisis in a neighboring country. From an economic standpoint, proximity makes neighbors the go-to partners for trade. The regional markets present enormous potential, and countries can tap into these capacities through imports and exports. Their economies have the potential to complement one another, creating a win-win dynamic.

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