



Pezeshkian: Iranians must stand united against Israel's aggression



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian speaks during a parliamentary session in Tehran on June 16, 2025.
● president.ir

International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said the Iranian people need unity and solidarity more than ever and must join hands and stand firmly against the aggression of the Israeli regime. Pezeshkian made the remarks during a parliamentary session on Monday, where he condemned the criminal assaults of the Israeli regime in the killing of several Iranian military commanders and scientists, as well as dozens of civilians. "The enemy cannot remove us or our nation from the scene through violence, killings, and assassinations," Pezeshkian said, adding, "For every hero who falls, hundreds more will rise to carry the flag and stand against the oppression, injustice, crimes, and betrayal committed by these aggressors." "This is what our people have consistently demonstrated—standing strong in the face of all such atrocities," he said. The president called for national unity, stressing that Iran is not the aggressor in this war. "Today, more than ever, we need solidarity and cohesion. All Iranians must come together and stand firmly against this act of aggression."

Whatever differences or problems exist must be set aside now. We must unite and resolutely confront this genocidal criminal aggression." Pezeshkian said that Iran has the right to benefit from nuclear energy and research that serves the nation's interests, and added that no one has the right to deny this right to the Islamic Republic. "We stand firm in achieving this right and fear no power in securing what is rightfully ours. We have extended a hand of brotherhood to all Islamic nations—for they are all our brothers. Today, most, if not all, of them stand with us and by our side," he further said. The US is resorting to bullying, violating international norms by allowing Israel to attack and invade our country, he said, underscoring that Iran has never sought war nor initiated it. Attributing the assassination of senior Iranian commanders and scientists to the Israeli terrorists, he asks, "What crime did a scientist commit to deserve being murdered, along with his family, by someone from the other side of the world?" The Israeli regime assassinated numerous Iranian military commanders, scientists, and martyred civilians - including women and children - early Friday morning. Among those assassinated are Major General Mohammad Bagheri, Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces; IRGC Commander-in-Chief Hossein Salami; Brigadier General AmirAli Hajizadeh, head of the IRGC Aerospace Division; senior IRGC commander General Gholam Ali Rashid; and Brigadier General Mohammad Kazemi, head of the IRGC's Intelligence Organization. Nuclear scientists Fereydoon Abbasi, Mohammad Mehdi Tehrani, and Abdolhamid Minoucher were also killed in separate attacks. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has launched several waves of retaliatory strikes - the eighth since Friday - against the occupied Israeli regime as part of "Operation True Promise III." The Iranian president in a post on X said that, the government will do its utmost to prevent any disruption to people's daily lives. He said that Iran has never been the aggressor but "We join hands against the barbaric criminal with strength."

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Madanizadeh approved as Economy Minister with overwhelming majority

Economy Desk

The Iranian Parliament Monday gave a vote of confidence to Ali Madanizadeh as the new Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance nominated by President Masoud Pezeshkian. Madanizadeh won 171 out of 246 votes cast in the confidence ballot in the 290-seat legislature. Some 67 voted against, while 8 abstained. Iranian lawmakers on March 2 impeached and voted to remove former minister Abdolnasser Hemmati from office over economic woes and the sharp devaluation of the national currency. Madanizadeh, in an in-depth interview



Ali Madanizadeh

last week, laid out his vision for economic reforms, stressing that he has never been a political figure, but rather, as an expert and academic, he has always taken it upon himself to assist governments in tackling economic challenges and improving people's livelihoods.

Born in 1982, Madanizadeh is an associate professor of Economics at Sharif University of Technology. He holds a master's degree in electrical engineering from Sharif University of Technology, a master's degree in computational mathematics from Stanford University, and a doctorate in economics from the University of Chicago. His areas of expertise include macroeconomics, monetary and fiscal policies, international trade, and industrial structures — topics that play a central role in both his teaching and research. He takes the position amid Israel's ongoing aggression against Iran that routinely targets the latter's civilian infrastructure.

IRGC: Damage, losses inflicted on Israel 'far beyond imagination'

Putin, Erdogan urge 'immediate' end to Israel-Iran conflict

International Desk

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said on Monday that the damage inflicted on the Israeli regime by Operation True Promise III "far exceeds" what the regime had expected. "Approximately 20 hours after the enemy's initial assault, Operation True Promise III was conducted while the Zionist regime was at peak of defensive readiness. Having anticipated Iran's potential response, they had activated all their air defense systems and even secured airspace control over neighboring countries," IRGC's Deputy Commander for Political Affairs Brigadier General Yadollah Javani said in an interview released on Monday. Saying that the regime resorted to terrorist acts amid diplomatic engage-

ment, he added that "they believed their strikes on Iran's military and missile sites had completely destroyed the Islamic Republic's defensive and offensive capabilities—leaving Iran unable to execute operations on par with True Promise I & II." Javani highlighted the diversity of missiles used in the operation, saying, "Official reports confirm that in addition to long-range ballistic missiles, we successfully deployed new drones such as the 'Arash' into the airspace of the Israeli occupied territories." This unprecedented diversity of projectiles - never before deployed with such precision into the occupied territories - left the enemy in utter shock, he said, adding that the operation was so powerful that it went beyond what even Israeli authorities and US President Donald Trump anticipated. Iran launched a new wave of ballistic missile attacks on Israel - including Tel Aviv and Haifa - killing at least eight people hours after the Israeli military again bombed the Iranian capital, Tehran. Iran's attacks have claimed the lives of more than 20 Israelis while the death toll from Israel's attacks on Iran has risen to more than 220, including 70 women and children. "A number of our prominent figures and a large number of our compatriots were martyred in this cruel aggression," he added. Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan called Monday for an "immediate" end to fighting between Israel and Iran in a phone conversation, the Kremlin said. "The leaders called for an immediate end to hostilities and the settlement of contentious issues, including those related



Ultra-Orthodox Jewish men inspect the damage at the site of an Iranian missile strike in Bnei Brak, east of Tel Aviv, on June 16, 2025.
● JOHN WESSELS/AFP

ments, he added that "they believed their strikes on Iran's military and missile sites had completely destroyed the Islamic Republic's defensive and offensive capabilities—leaving Iran unable to execute operations on par with True Promise I & II." Javani highlighted the diversity of missiles used in the operation, saying, "Official reports confirm that in addition to long-range ballistic missiles, we successfully deployed new drones such as the 'Arash' into the airspace of the Israeli occupied territories." This unprecedented diversity of projectiles - never before deployed with such precision into the occupied territories - left the enemy in utter shock, he said, adding that the operation was so powerful that it went beyond what even Israeli authorities and US President Donald Trump anticipated. Iran launched a new wave of ballistic

to Iran's nuclear program, exclusively through political and diplomatic means," the Kremlin said in its readout of the call. Erdogan accused Israel of threatening security in the Middle East, saying that, "The spiral of violence that began with Israel's attacks on Iran has put the security of the entire region at risk." His office said he told Putin that the "lawless attitude" of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's cabinet "poses a clear threat to the international system", adding that the Middle East "cannot tolerate a new war". In a phone call with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Erdogan said Turkey is ready to play a "facilitating role" to end the conflict. Erdogan, who stepped up diplomatic calls on the conflict over the weekend, has slammed Israel's "banditry" and said Israel, was seeking to drag the world into "disaster" after a wave of strikes on Iran.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

