

# IRCS chief: No crime worse than targeting health centers in conflicts

## Israel's assaults 'disproportionately hit civilians'

### International Desk

Head of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) Pirhossein Kolivand on Monday denounced the Israeli regime for targeting several Iranian health centers during its last month's aggression against Iran, asking "Is there any crime worse than this?"

"Our headquarters was directly attacked twice. Globally, medical facilities are marked with 'No Honking' signs—yet here, they were hit with missiles, spreading terror," Kolivand said during the weekly press conference of Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baqaei on Monday.

He added that the world must recognize this, asking, "is there any crime worse than this?"

"The greatest harm has been inflicted on civilians. Among the martyrs are 126

women and 41 children—none of whom were combatants," Kolivand said.

"Five of our relief workers were martyred after being directly targeted," he said, adding that the ambulance "was also set on fire."

According to Kolivand, a Red Crescent's helicopter was also targeted in an outright breach of the Four Geneva Conventions.

"No one has the right to attack medical personnel or civilians. Our mission is search and rescue; we exist to aid the people, yet we were deliberately obstructed and attacked," he said.

He explained that Iran has submitted "reports to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Human Rights Council, and the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court."

He said the ICRC representative in Iran accompanied him to Evin Prison, target-

ed on June 23, and Hamedan city, where food factories were bombed.

"The intensive care unit of Farabi Hospital was also attacked—I showed them all this evidence, emphasizing that these are clear violations of the Geneva Conventions," he stressed.

Over the 12-day war, "every conceivable form of atrocity" was committed against the Iranians, he said, adding, "many of my international counterparts have reached out to express solidarity and denounce" the Israeli aggression.

On June 13, Israel launched an unprovoked act of aggression against Iran, assassinating many high-ranking military commanders and nuclear scientists.

The Israeli attacks also targeted military and nuclear sites as well as vital non-military infrastructure, including a building of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB), Evin Prison, health-



Pirhossein Kolivand  
MEHR

care centers, outreach facilities, and both residential neighborhoods and rural communities, inflicting widespread civilian harm. These attacks also caused

over 900 civilian fatalities.

In response, the Iranian armed forces launched a retaliatory campaign against the Israeli regime.

## Iran's top commander warns of 'regrettable, stronger response' to any aggression

### International Desk

Iran's top military commander praised the country's Armed Forces for their response to the last month Israel's aggression against the country, warning that any repeated mistake would meet with "more regrettable and stronger response".

Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi, chief of staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, made the remarks on Monday while visiting the facilities and servicemen of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC)'s Aerospace Force.

"It was the sharp sword wielded by the Aerospace Force that, through divine assistance, managed to cut off the enemies' heads and their hands," the commander said.

Intense Israeli airstrikes targeted the Islamic Republic between June 13 and 25, prompting the country to launch rapid and forceful counterattacks.

This reprisal, known as



Abdolrahim Mousavi  
TASNIM

Operation True Promise III, focused on striking vital Israeli military, intelligence, and industrial targets, inflicting significant damage. Iran then struck Al-Udeid, the most important American airbase in West Asia, after the United States entered the fray by attacking Iranian nuclear sites.

The commander said the Aerospace Force's retaliation far surpassed its counterstrikes during the Iraq-imposed war in the 1980s.

Elsewhere in his remarks, he reassured the

entire nation that "if the enemy makes another mistake, our servicemen stand fully prepared to deliver a regret-inducing and stronger response."

Accompanying the official, the Aerospace Force's Commander, Brigadier General Majid Mousavi, produced a report on True Promise III. The document detailed the operation's achievements for the Iranian nation and the level of coordination that was observed among the force and other significant military sectors throughout the retaliation.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist



Cartoonist

## German pres. blames US JCPOA withdrawal for current tensions on Iran's nuclear issue

### International Desk

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier said on Sunday that the United States' unilateral withdrawal from the 2015 Iran nuclear deal during Donald Trump's first term led to the current tensions over Iran's nuclear program.

Speaking during an interview with German public broadcaster ZDF, Steinmeier said that world powers and Iran reached an agreement on Iran's nuclear program in 2015 after long negotiations.

"However, the first Trump administration canceled this agreement, and Iran then further developed its nuclear program. All participants at that time, Europeans, Americans, Russians and Chinese, agreed that Iran should never acquire nuclear weapons. That consensus was broken by Trump's decision," Steinmeier noted.

Iran has always insisted



Frank-Walter Steinmeier  
AFP

that its nuclear program is for civilian purposes and has rejected Western countries' accusations that it is pursuing nuclear weapons. Despite the US withdrawal from the agreement in 2018 and the Europe's failure to fulfil its commitments under the deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the Islamic Republic engaged in new negotiations with the US in April to show the peaceful nature of its nuclear activities.

However, a recent aggression by Israel and the US

on Iran's nuclear facilities, military sites and residential areas caused Tehran to cancel the negotiations with the US.

But, both sides have expressed their interest in resumption of negotiations to put an end to a decades-old dispute over Iran's nuclear program.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said on Monday that Tehran had "no specific date" for a meeting with the US.

"For now, no specific date, time or location has been determined regarding this matter," Baqaei said.

"We have been serious in diplomacy and the negotiation process, we entered with good faith, but as everyone witnessed, before the sixth round the Zionist regime, in coordination with the United States, committed military aggression against Iran", said Baqaei.

Baqaei also said Iran remains in contact with Britain, France, and Germany, the three European parties to the 2015 nuclear deal.

The Europeans have threatened to trigger the "snapback" mechanism under the 2015 agreement, which allows the reimposition of UN sanctions in the event of non-compliance.

There was "no legal, moral or political basis" for reimposing sanctions, according to Baqaei, as Iran was still committed to the 2015 agreement.

The ministry spokesman added that such a move would be met with an "appropriate and proportionate" response.

## FM: Netanyahu 'openly dictating' US in talks with Iran



Abbas Araghchi  
AFP

The Iranian foreign minister stated that Israel's prime minister has failed to achieve any of his objectives through the regime's latest war of aggression against Iran.

Abbas Araghchi commented that Benjamin Netanyahu is "openly dictating" what the US should or should not say or do in discussions with Iran, despite his failures during the recent aggression against the Islamic Republic.

He made these remarks in a social

media post in response to Netanyahu's assertion that Iran must limit the range of its missiles to 480 kilometers.

Araghchi described it as absurd to expect Iran to accept advice from "a war criminal."

He emphasized that Netanyahu's aspirations to undermine more than 40 years of peaceful nuclear advancements were unrealistic.

He noted that every one of the dozen Iranian scientists killed by mercenaries trained over 100 capable successors, who will demonstrate their capabilities to Netanyahu.

"But his arrogance doesn't end there. Having miserably failed to achieve any of his war objectives in Iran and compelled to turn to 'Daddy' when our powerful missiles targeted secret Israeli sites—which Netanyahu is still censoring—he is now openly dictating what the US should or

shouldn't say or do in talks with Iran," he stated.

On June 13, Israel launched a blatant and unprovoked act of aggression against Iran, assassinating many high-ranking military commanders, nuclear scientists, and ordinary civilians.

More than a week later, the United States also entered the war by bombing three Iranian nuclear sites in a grave violation of the United Nations Charter, international law, and the NPT.

In response, the Iranian Armed Forces targeted strategic sites across the occupied territories as well as the Al-Udeid air base in Qatar, the largest American military base in West Asia. On June 24, Iran, through its successful retaliatory operations against both the Israeli regime and the US, managed to impose a halt to the illegal assault.