

# Araghchi: Tehran ready for 'negotiated solution' to nuclear dispute

'Iran will not relinquish nuclear enrichment'

## International Desk

Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Abbas Araghchi said Tehran is ready for talks with the United States for a "negotiated solution to Iran's nuclear program."

In a 16-minute interview with Fox News which was aired on Monday, Araghchi said that Iran is "open to talks" with the US, but that they would not be direct talks "for the time being."

"If they [the US] are coming for a win-win solution, I am ready to engage with them," he said.

"We are ready to do any confidence-building measure needed to prove that Iran's nuclear program is peaceful and would remain peaceful forever, and Iran would never go for nuclear weapons, and in return, we expect them to lift the sanctions," the foreign minister added.

"So, my message to the United States is that let's go for a negotiated solution to Iran's nuclear program."

"There is a negotiated solution for our nuclear program. We have done it once in the past. We are ready to do it once again," Araghchi said.

However, he said that Tehran cannot give up on its uranium enrichment program, which the US has opposed during five rounds of negotiations between Tehran and Washington, which canceled following a last month aggression by the US and Israel against Iran.

The US strikes on June 22 hit three Iranian nuclear enrichment sites — Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan.

"It has now stopped because, yes, damages are serious and severe, but obviously, we cannot give up our enrichment because it is an achievement of our own scientists, and now, more than that, it is a question of national pride," Araghchi said. US President Donald Trump warned that the US could strike Iran's nuclear sites again "if necessary."

On his Truth Social platform, Trump ref-

erenced Araghchi's comments about the nuclear sites being severely damaged and said, "Of course they are, just like I said, and we will do it again, if necessary!"

Araghchi said that Iran's Atomic Energy Organization is still evaluating how the attacks had affected Iran's enriched material, adding that they will "soon inform" the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of its findings.

He said any request for the IAEA to send inspectors would be "carefully considered."

"We have not stopped our cooperation with the agency," he added.

IAEA inspectors left Iran after Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a law suspending cooperation with the IAEA earlier this month.

Tehran had sharply criticized the IAEA and its chief, Rafael Grossi, over a June 12 resolution passed by the IAEA board accusing Tehran of non-compliance with its nuclear obligations.



Abbas Araghchi  
IRNA

Iranian officials said the resolution was among the "excuses" that Israel used as a

pretext to launch its attacks, which began on June 13 and lasted for 12 days.

## 21 Palestinian children die of malnutrition, starvation in three days

UN chief brands Gaza as 'horror show'



AFP

The head of Gaza's largest hospital on Tuesday said 21 children died due to malnutrition and starvation in the Palestinian territory in the past three days, while Israel pressed a devastating assault.

Gaza's population of more than two million people is facing severe shortages of food and other essentials, with residents frequently killed as they try to collect humanitarian aid at a handful of distribution points. "Twenty-one children have died due to malnutrition and starvation in various areas across the Gaza Strip," Mohammed

Abu Salmiya, the director of Al-Shifa Medical Complex in Gaza, told reporters. Abu Salmiya told reporters that new cases of malnutrition and starvation were arriving at Gaza's remaining functioning hospitals "every moment." "We are heading towards alarming numbers of deaths due to the starvation inflicted on the people of Gaza," he added. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called Gaza a "horror show" in a speech on Tuesday, with "a level of death and destruction without parallel in recent times".

After talks to extend a six-week cease-

fire broke down, Israel imposed a full blockade on Gaza on March 2 this year, allowing nothing in until trucks were again permitted to enter at a trickle in late May. However, stocks accumulated during the cease-fire have gradually depleted, leaving the territory's inhabitants experiencing the worst shortages since the start of the war in October 2023.

Chaotic scenes have become frequent at aid distribution areas since the US- and Israel-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation began overseeing aid operations. The UN on Tuesday said Israeli forces had killed over 1,000 Palestinians trying to get food aid since the GHF began its operations.

The head of the UN Palestinian Refugee Agency (UNRWA) Philippe Lazzarini said on Tuesday that its staff members as well as doctors and humanitarian workers are fainting on duty due to hunger and exhaustion.

Lazzarini described the situation in Gaza as "hell on earth", adding that nowhere was safe.

Most of Gaza's population has been displaced at least once during the Israel's onslaught on the Palestinian territory since 2023.

Israel's strikes on Gaza have killed more than 59,000 Palestinians, mostly civilians, according to the health ministry in the territory.

## Pezeshkian decries int'l double standards on human rights

'Gov't ready for dialogue with dissident groups to solve problems'

## National Desk

Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian on Tuesday criticized international double standards toward human rights across the world, saying that, "Human rights and international organizations are nothing but a lie."

"Today, if we look at the situation of the children in Gaza, we see them dying of hunger before the eyes of the world. While there are organizations that claim to defend the rights of children and women, in reality, they do nothing," Pezeshkian said in a ceremony honoring the martyrs of Iraq's imposed war on Iran in 1980s.

Pointing to the dire situation of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, the Iranian president, "In today's civilized world, right before everyone's eyes, they have cut off water and food to the oppressed people, women, and children in Gaza, committing genocide — Yet, they talk up human rights, while they themselves — from Gaza and Palestine to Lebanon, Syria, and Iran — have violated all international norms and human rights, committing crimes against humanity." Elsewhere in his remarks, Pezeshkian pointed to a recent aggression by Israel and the US against Iran last month, saying that they have attacked hospitals and residential areas, targeted women, children, and defenseless civilians un-



Masoud Pezeshkian  
president.ir

der the pretext of Iran's development of nuclear weapon program, which he said "is nothing but a lie."

He emphasized that the enemies of the country do not want Iran to be strong and independent.

During a separate meeting with the members of the Reformist party, the Iranian president referred to the problems facing the country, saying that his government is open to hold talks with the dissident groups to resolve the problems.

"The government is ready to cooperate constructively with all forces. Today, we are even ready to engage in dialogue with the opposition based on equality, as the resolution of the country's problems requires a dialogue, not confrontation," he said.

Pezeshkian said that his government has inherited numerous problems, including water shortages.

## Tehran says invoking snapback will complicate nuclear standoff

## International Desk

Reimposing international sanctions on Iran would make the situation over its nuclear program more complex, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi said on Tuesday.

The Iranian official made the remarks during a briefing meeting with representatives from more than 110 UN member states in New York on Monday.

The Iranian official was speaking ahead of a meeting on Friday with three European states known as the E3 — Britain, France and Germany. The E3 said that if no progress is reached by the end of August over Iran's nuclear program, they will invoke a "snapback" mechanism — a process that would reimpose UN sanctions on Tehran that were lifted under a 2015 deal.

"We will express our position regard-

ing the E3's comments on the snapback mechanism, which we think lacks any legal ground," Gharibabadi said, referring to Friday's meeting in Istanbul.

"Nonetheless, our effort will be to see if we can find common solutions to manage the situation."

The three European countries, along with China and Russia, are the remaining parties to the 2015 nuclear deal — from which the United States withdrew in 2018.

"It has been seven years that the nuclear deal is not being implemented by the Europeans following the US departure from it. How can they argue that Iran is not following the deal when they themselves have not done so?" Gharibabadi added.

Tehran denies seeking a nuclear weapon and says its nuclear program is solely meant for civilian purposes. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Ara-



Kazem Gharibabadi

ghchi told his European counterparts Friday they have no grounds for reactivating UN sanctions.

"If EU/E3 want to have a role, they should act responsibly and put aside the worn-out policies of threat and pressure, including the 'snap-back' for which they (have) absolutely no moral (or) legal grounds," Araghchi said on X. The remarks came after Araghchi held a conference call with his British, French and German counterparts and European Union foreign policy chief Raja Kallas.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

