

# Pezeshkian calls for facilitating return of Iranian expats

Iran needs to 'reconsider' outlook on expanding ties with neighbors

## National Desk

Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian urged the Foreign Ministry to prepare the ground for the return of Iranian expatriates who feel a close affinity with their homeland, calling them the "assets" of the country.

Speaking in a meeting with the country's deputy foreign ministers and senior diplomats in Tehran, Pezeshkian pointed to the solidarity that swept through Iranians following the US-Israeli aggression against the country last month.

Referring to the June 13-25 imposed war on Iran, Pezeshkian said the regime aggressively sought to bring the country to its knees, but the Iranian nation took outstanding measures that need to be appreciated earnestly.

"This national unity should bring us to a realization — that we must treat the people with utmost respect and resolve issues through dialogue. The people inside the country, and even those who

have left the country for various reasons, including dissatisfaction with our performance, have shown that their hearts beat for this land," the Iranian president said.

"Unfortunately, we've set up frameworks that make them (Iranian expatriates) afraid to return to the country," Pezeshkian added.

## Relations with neighbors

The president also pointed to the relations with the neighboring countries, saying, "We need to reconsider our outlook on expanding relations with our neighbors."

Pezeshkian underlined that the regional countries should push aside their differences, saying that unity among neighboring and regional countries will make them more powerful.

He pledged to prioritize regional outreach in Iran's foreign policy, while also strengthening ties with key international partners such as Russia and China.

"Through established coordination and policies, we will seek to prioritize expansion of closer, deeper, and better relations with our neighbors, and then develop and advance our ties with the countries with which we have good interactions, including Russia, China, the BRICS group, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and the Eurasian Union," he said.

"We will also continue the process of cooperation with European countries and other countries based on wisdom, dignity, and expediency."

## Israel's aggression

He said that the Israeli regime initiated a war that was fundamentally unlawful under all international principles and regulations. "Unfortunately, in today's world, such aggressive actions are often justified by major powers," he added.

The president referred to the targeting of the Evin Prison by the Israeli regime during its aggression against the



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (R) addresses senior diplomats during a meeting held at the Foreign Ministry building in the capital Tehran on July 26, 2025.  
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Islamic Republic, saying that certain countries talk about human rights but defend the attack by the Israeli regime, which is "shameful."

The regime's aggression against Iran on June 13 claimed the lives of nearly 1,100 Iranians, including civilians, military figures and nuclear scientists.

## Deputy FM: Iran should be offered guarantees before any US talks



Majid Takht-Ravanchi

## International Desk

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Majid Takht-Ravanchi said before entering a new round of negotiations with the United States, Iran should be offered guarantees that will not again be attacked.

In an interview with Turkey's Habertürk TV, the Iranian official also said that messages between Iran and the US are being relayed through mediators after talks between the two sides over Iran's nuclear program were cancelled following last month's aggressions by Israel and the US against Iran, which triggered a 12-day conflict.

Tehran and Washington had held five rounds of nuclear talks since April to resolve a decades-old dispute on Iran's nuclear program, but a planned meeting on June 15 was cancelled after the aggression. Takht-Ravanchi made the remarks on Friday — the same day Iran and three European powers — France, Germany and Britain — held talks on Iran's nuclear program in Istanbul.

"As you know, another round of negotiations with the European Troika at the deputy ministerial level has taken place. This is a process that has been going on for some time. We are currently discussing various aspects of the nuclear dossier. During Friday's meeting, we discussed the technical dimensions of the nuclear issue and the extent of sanctions relief," Takht-Ravanchi said.

"Regarding the nuclear negotiations, we have stressed that enrichment must form an inseparable

part of any agreement. This is a key element of our negotiations. Other matters concerning the nuclear issue have also been raised," he added.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi said on Friday that Tehran and the European powers agreed to continue consultations on Iran's nuclear program during "frank and detailed" nuclear talks in Istanbul.

In a post on X, Gharibabadi said he criticized the European stance on Israel's 12-day aggression against Iran last month and discussed the so-called snapback mechanism to reimpose international sanctions against Iran during talks with officials from Germany, France and Britain.

The three European countries, known as E<sub>3</sub>, have threatened in recent weeks to trigger the UN "snapback" mechanism if no deal is reached between Iran and the United States.

## Six killed, 22 injured in terrorist attack on courthouse in Zahedan

## National Desk

An attack by terrorists on a courthouse in the capital of the southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan on Saturday killed at least six people, including a woman and a one-year-old child, and wounded 22 others.

Three law enforcement personnel, who were protecting the courthouse, were among the victims of the terrorist attack in Zahedan, which was claimed by the so-called Jaish al-Adl terrorist group.

Iranian security forces killed three assailants during the ensuing clashes. The attackers had been wearing explosive vests and had tried to enter the building disguised as visitors, said provincial chief justice Ali Movahedi-Rad. "At 8:30 this morning, a terrorist cell affiliated with the Zionist regime attempted to infiltrate the Sistan and Baluchestan Judiciary building in the city of Zahedan, passing off as ordinary citizens seeking legal services," Brigadier General Alireza Daliri, deputy commander of law enforcement in Sistan and Baluchestan Province, said.

Daliri noted that thanks to the vigilance and swift action of the security forces present at the scene, the attempt was thwarted.

"Unfortunately, during the attack, one of the terrorists managed to throw a grenade inside the judiciary building before being killed. The explosion re-



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sulted in the martyrdom of several civilians who were present at the scene, including a one-year-old infant and a woman."

Sistan and Baluchestan Province, which borders Pakistan and Afghanistan, has witnessed several terrorist attacks targeting both civilians and security forces over the past years.

On October 26 last year, ten members of Iran's law enforcement forces were killed in a terrorist attack in the Gohar Kuh district of Taftan County in the province.

The so-called Jaish al-Adl terrorist group claimed responsibility for the assault, which was one of the deadliest in the province in recent months.

The group has carried out numerous terrorist attacks in Iran, primarily in Sistan and Baluchestan. Its tactics include the abduction of border guards as well as targeting civilians and police stations within the province to incite chaos and disorder.

## Global outcry over Israel's policy of starvation in Gaza

## International Desk

Thousands of people took to the streets across the world on Friday, banging empty pots and pans to protest the ongoing hunger crisis in the Gaza Strip, which is the result of Israel's months of blockade and systematic policy of starvation in the Palestinian territory.

In London, protesters gathered outside the prime minister's office where they left 1,000 pots to symbolize the more than 1,000 Palestinians who have been killed by Israel while seeking food.

Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC), one of the organizers of the demonstration, wrote on X, "1000 pots laid outside Downing St London for the more than 1000 Palestinians killed seeking food while being deliberately starved by Israel, the UK government's ally."

The Health Ministry in Gaza said early Friday that nine more Palestinians died due to famine and malnutrition, bringing the number of starvation-related deaths to 122, including 83 chil-

dren.

In New York, members of the Palestinian Youth Movement gathered outside the United Nations headquarters and then Times Square. They demanded an end to Israel's blockade of food and aid into the Gaza Strip.

Protesters also took to the streets of Paris denouncing the humanitarian blockade imposed by Israel on Gaza.

"First of all, we feel sad. We also feel angry because of [the] inaction of our government here in France. We feel angry because aid is being blocked while there is enough to feed the entire Gaza Strip. But in reality, food is expiring and even being poisoned, as the Israelis are blocking it," a protester said.

"It's unacceptable that the law does nothing, but today, we can't rely on the law and the government anymore. We have to do it ourselves."

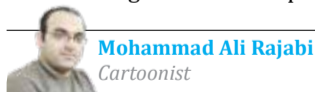
Similar protests were also held in Iran, Lebanon and Somalia. According to the UN, famine threatens hundreds of thousands of civilians in Gaza, particularly children; heartbreaking images of malnutrition circulate every day.

On Friday, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi called on Islamic countries to take collective action in response to Israel's escalating crimes and starvation campaign in Gaza.

Araghchi held separate phone talks with Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Egypt's Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty, Iraq's Fuad Hussein, and Qatar's Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani.

Araghchi highlighted the dire impact of the siege on Gaza and the continued Israeli bombardment of civilian infrastructure and residential areas, calling for "the use of all international and regional capacities, especially within the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza and put an end to the Zionist regime's crimes."

The call comes as Gaza's Government Media Office announced that at least 122 Palestinians have died from starvation since Israel's military onslaught began in October 2023, most of them in recent weeks.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

