

Pezeshkian: Iran has never sought to build nukes

Putin supports Tehran's right to enrich uranium; calls it key issue

International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Monday thanked Russia for its supportive position on Iran's right to uranium enrichment – the main issue of differences between Tehran and the West over Iran's nuclear program – reiterating that the Islamic Republic has never sought to build nuclear weapons. "Based on its religious principles and defensive doctrine, Iran has never sought, is not seeking, and will never seek to build nuclear weapons," President Pezeshkian said in a phone conversation with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin. Putin underlined that Moscow sees Iran's right to enrich uranium

as a key issue and expressed hope that future negotiations on Iran's nuclear program would come to a satisfactory conclusion. Iran insists on its right to peaceful use of nuclear energy, including enrichment, and has underlined that it will never give up its uranium enrichment program under any agreement. The talks between Pezeshkian and Putin came ahead of Tuesday's nuclear negotiations in Geneva between Iran and three European powers which have threatened to trigger the so-called "snapback mechanism" by the end of August. The move would reimpose UN sanctions lifted under the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement unless Iran makes a deal on its nuclear pro-

gram. The United States unilaterally withdrew from the agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), in 2018 and reinstated sanctions against Iran. Iran has ever since criticized Europe over failing to meet its commitments under the deal, disputing the legality of invoking the treaty's snapback clause by France, Britain and Germany which are parties to the JCPOA. Russia's Kommersant business paper reported on Monday that Moscow opposed the idea of "snapback" of sanctions. "The threats by Britain, Germany and France to activate the mechanism for reintroducing previously suspended UN sanctions against Iran are a serious

destabilizing factor," the paper cited the foreign ministry as saying in a statement. The meeting in Geneva will be the second since Israel's 12-day aggression against Iran in mid-June, during which the United States also carried out strikes against three Iranian nuclear facilities. The previous round of talks was held in Istanbul on July 25. The EU's foreign policy chief, Kaja Kallas, in a statement on Friday said, "With the deadline for the snapback mechanism fast approaching, Iran's readiness to engage with the US is crucial. Iran must also fully cooperate" with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Iran suspended cooperation with the IAEA in July in the



Vladimir Putin

Masoud Pezeshkian

wake of US-Israel's aggression which targeted Iran's nuclear facilities, military sites and residential areas in June. The aggression claimed the lives of

nearly 1,100 Iranians. Israel's act of aggression also derailed nuclear negotiations between Tehran and Washington.

Araghchi calls on countries to stand on right side of history over Gaza



Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (c) attends an extraordinary meeting of the Organization of Islamic Countries in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on August 25, 2025.
● IRNA

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi called for concrete global action to end Israel's ongoing genocide in the Gaza Strip, saying that all countries in the world should stand on the right side of history. The Iranian foreign minister made the remarks on Monday while addressing an extraordinary session of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on Gaza in the Saudi city of Jeddah. "Let us remember that the tragedy of Gaza does not concern Muslims alone. It is a test of the global conscience. Therefore, we call on all nations, re-

gardless of religion or geography, to stand on the side of humanity, justice, and dignity – in other words, on the right side of history," the Iranian foreign minister said. "History will not forgive any delay. Gaza cannot wait. The time for action is now," he added. He said what is happening before our eyes in the Gaza Strip is an organized destruction of besieged Palestinians by an apartheid regime. "The people of Gaza are being massacred systematically, residential areas have been completely destroyed; hospitals have been turned into graveyards; and children are trapped in extreme famine and starvation, in blatant violation of every human standard. This is not a conventional war. It is collective punishment, a policy of domination, and an assault that bears all the hallmarks of genocide," Araghchi said. Iran's top diplomat denounced the Israeli regime's plans for total military control over Gaza under the pretext of establishment of "security", calling it "ethnic cleansing". On the sidelines of the conference, the Iranian foreign minister held separate

talks with his Saudi, Egyptian and Bahraini counterparts to discuss the situation in Gaza. Israel has launched a genocidal war on Gaza since October 7, 2023, after Palestinian resistance fighters carried out the surprise Operation Al-Aqsa Storm against the Zionist entity in response to the regime's decades-long campaign of death and destruction against Palestinians. Israel's bloody onslaught on Gaza has so far killed more than 62,680 Palestinians, mostly women and children. The OIC meeting came as Israel launched an offensive to occupy Gaza City, the largest city in the besieged strip, sparking fears that it would worsen the already catastrophic situation in Gaza. The regime is also carrying out a deliberate campaign of starvation in the occupied Gaza Strip, systematically destroying the health, well-being and social fabric of Palestinian life. More than 250 people have also lost their lives due to starvation in Gaza, which is caused by months of Israel's restrictions on the entry of humanitarian aid into the besieged territory.

China says will continue to uphold 'objective, fair position' on Iran's nuclear issue



Ma Zhaoxu

International Desk

China said on Sunday it will continue to uphold an "objective and fair position" on Iran's nuclear issue and will play a constructive role in this regard. China's Vice Foreign Minister Ma Zhaoxu in a phone conversation with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi emphasized that the Iranian nuclear issue is once again at a critical crossroads. He said China hopes that relevant parties will remain committed to resolving the Iranian nuclear issue through political and diplomatic means, and actively create conditions for the early resumption of dialogue and negotiations. The Iranian official appreciated China's



Kazem Gharibabadi

important contributions to promoting the political and diplomatic resolution of the Iranian nuclear issue, saying that Iran is willing to continue strengthening coordination with China. "Today, we spoke by phone with the Executive Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of China and discussed next week's summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization leaders, the latest developments related to the nuclear issue and the negotiations and Resolution 2231, and the formulation of joint positions between Iran, China, and Russia on it," Gharibabadi said after his conversation with the Chinese official. China, which is party to the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, has always supported Iran's right to use peaceful nuclear technology.

Yemen vows response to Israel's deadly aggression on Sana'a

International Desk

Yemen's Ansarullah resistance movement vowed to respond to a recent Israeli strike on the capital Sana'a, which claimed the lives of at least six people on Sunday. Citing the Yemeni Health Ministry, the state-run Saba Net news agency reported that six people were killed and 86 wounded in the Israeli raid, with more than 20 in critical condition. A security source said the strikes had targeted a building in central Sana'a. The country's Al-Masirah TV reported they had also hit an oil company facility and a power station south of Sana'a, which was already struck last Sunday. The Israeli occupation army claimed it had hit a military compound where the presidential palace is located, along with two power stations and a fuel depot. It said the strikes were in response to repeated attacks by the Ansarullah resistance movement against Israel. Late Friday, Yemen's Armed Forces fired a missile that Israeli authorities said had "most likely fragmented in mid-air." Israeli media outlets the Times of Israel and Ynet, citing the regime's military, re-

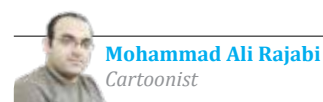


ported the missile had carried a cluster warhead, the first of its kind known to have been fired from Yemen. The Israeli ministry of military affairs released a photo on Sunday showing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, minister Israel Katz and military chief Eyal Zamir following the strikes in Yemen from a command bunker. Netanyahu claimed that the air force had



A fireball is seen in Yemen's capital Sana'a after an Israeli attack on August 24, 2025.
● REUTERS

struck "the presidential palace in the heart of the capital Sana'a, the city's power plant and the fuel tanks that supply it," according to a statement released by his office. Ansarullah's political bureau vowed in a statement to respond, saying they would "not deviate from the fight" against Israel and its ally the United States "until the aggression stops and the (Israeli) blockade on Gaza is lifted." Iran's Foreign Ministry as well as the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah and the Gaza-based resistance movements of Hamas and Islamic Jihad condemned the Israeli strikes on Yemen. Since the October 2023 start of Israel's genocidal war on the Gaza Strip, the Ansarullah movement has repeatedly fired missiles and drones at Israel in support of Palestinians in Gaza. Beyond attacks on the occupied territories, Yemen's Armed Forces have also targeted ships linked to Israel in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

