

# Araghchi excoriates European snapback as 'drastic' mistake doomed to backfire

## International Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Sunday that the European troika — Britain, France and Germany — made a "drastic miscalculation" by triggering the snapback of draconian UN-imposed sanctions on the Islamic Republic, warning that the move would erode Europe's credibility and ultimately backfire. Araghchi wrote in an opinion published in the Guardian that the European trio, known as the E3, were "enabling the excesses of Washington" by following US President Donald Trump's strategy, which culminated in the derailment of the 2015 nuclear deal. "The E3's gambit lacks any legal standing, chiefly because it ignores the sequence of events that led Iran to adopt lawful remedial measures under the nuclear deal,"

Araghchi said. He underlined that it was the United States, not Iran, that abandoned the agreement, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), in 2018, while Europe failed to deliver on promises to sustain trade and normalize economic relations. "Britain, France and Germany may appear to act out of spite. But the truth is that they are intently pursuing a reckless course of action based on the logic that it may provide them with a seat at the table on other issues," the top Iranian diplomat said. "This is a drastic miscalculation that is bound to backfire," he added. "President Trump has made clear that he views the E3 as tangential actors. This is evident in the way Europe is sidelined from issues that are vital to its future — including the Russia-Ukraine

conflict. The message from Washington is loud and clear: to gain relevance, the E3 must exhibit undying fealty. The recent images of European leaders sat in the Oval Office before President Trump vividly underscore this dynamic." Araghchi stressed that while failing to uphold its own obligations, Europe expects Iran to unilaterally accept all restrictions. He also said that the E3 "declined to condemn the US attack on my country in June — on the eve of diplomatic talks — and yet are now demanding UN sanctions on Iranians for supposedly rejecting dialogue." Araghchi warned that the sanctions push "will only further sideline them by eliminating [Europe] from future diplomacy, with broad negative consequences for all of Europe in terms of its global credibility and standing."

Stressing that Tehran was open to negotiations on what he termed as a "realistic and lasting bargain," the foreign minister wrote, "Iran remains open to diplomacy. It is ready to forge a realistic and lasting bargain that entails ironclad oversight and curbs on enrichment in exchange for the termination of sanctions." Araghchi said the alternative to diplomacy "may have consequences destructive for the region and beyond on a whole new level," adding that Europe should "give diplomacy the time and space that it needs to succeed." Last week, the European trio triggered the so-called snapback mechanism in Resolution 2231 to restore all UN sanctions against Iran. They gave the Council 30 days to decide whether it would continue sanctions relief against Iran or allow it to lapse.



Abbas Araghchi  
Iranian Foreign Ministry

Iran, Russia and China sent a letter to the UN, saying the snapback activation by the three European

countries contravenes Resolution 2231 and is "legally and procedurally flawed."

## Tehran voices support for Caracas, raps US bullying

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi expressed on Sunday Iran's solidarity with the people of Venezuela amid heightened tensions with the United States, denouncing the latter's unilateral and bullying actions against other states, Press TV reported. Araghchi made the remarks during a telephone conversation with his Venezuelan counterpart, Yvan Gil Pinto, as US President Donald Trump has ordered a large build-up of American military assets in the Caribbean and increased threats against Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro. "The threat of resorting to force against independent developing countries is a blatant violation of the United Nations Charter and an obvious danger to international peace and security," he added. "It is necessary for all responsible governments to prevent the spread of lawlessness and insecurity by recognizing the gravity of the current situation."



The Venezuelan foreign minister, for his part, referred to the increasing illegal threats by the United States against his country and presented a report on regional conditions. He also appreciated Iran's stance on defending the principles and objectives of the UN Charter and respecting Venezuela's national sovereignty and territorial integrity. Gil Pinto further emphasized that the Venezuelan government and people will firmly defend their independence, national sovereignty, and right to determine their own fate. Meanwhile, he hoped that the BRICS member states and other countries in South America would take a firm stance in condemnation of the United States' hostile actions.

During the phone call, the two sides also discussed Tehran-Caracas bilateral relations and developments in the Caribbean following recent US movements in the region. The US has recently sent ships armed with Tomahawk missiles, an attack submarine, a range of aircraft, and more than 4,000 US sailors and Marines to the waters off Venezuela, while ordering the deployment of 10 advanced F-35 fighter jets to Puerto Rico. Additionally, it has labeled Maduro as one of the world's largest narco-traffickers and doubled the bounty for his arrest to \$50 million. On Tuesday, a US military strike killed 11 people and sank a boat from Venezuela, which Trump claimed was transporting illegal narcotics. Maduro has rejected the US allegations about his country, saying differences between the nations do not justify a "military conflict."

## Iranian nation more united after 12-day war; Netanyahu failed to spark rallies: Top cmdr.

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A senior Iranian Army commander lauded the nation on Saturday for exhibiting "exceptional unity" during the Israeli-US aggression against the country in June and dismissing calls by the Tel Aviv regime to take to the streets. Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari, deputy chief of the Iranian Army for Coordination, said the Iranian nation was behind the country's victory in the 12-day imposed war, noting that with its people, Iran will never be defeated by any enemy. "Since the [1979 Islamic] Revolution, through the sacred defense [against the 1980s' Iraqi-imposed war] and the 12-day war, our nation has shown exceptional unity and solidarity," he said. "During the 12-day war, the prime minister of the fake Zionist regime [Benjamin Netanyahu] repeatedly called on our people to take to the streets, but not a single person paid heed to those calls. Instead, our national unity and cohesion grew even stronger." Sayyari also said that all of the enemies' conspiracies, including imposed wars, cultural invasion, soft warfare, and hybrid warfare, are aimed at defeating the Iranian nation. The top commander further emphasized that before the Islamic Revolution, the Iranian nation stood powerfully against an armed-to-the-teeth regime and ultimately emerged victorious. Thanks to the people's active presence on the battlefield, he pointed out, Iran achieved victory during the eight-year war imposed on Iran by the Iraqi regime, which was supported by all Eastern and Western countries.



Habibollah Sayyari

"The enemies' goal in launching the imposed war and the 12-day aggression was to defeat the Revolution and destroy our country's territorial integrity. However, ... our people defended their homeland with the bare minimum of resources, and by standing up to the enemies, they forced them to take their dreams to the grave," he said.

### Parliament approves military consolidation plan

In another development on Sunday, the spokesperson for the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee of the Parliament announced the approval by a majority vote of a plan to strengthen the Armed Forces' capabilities in comprehensive confrontation with the possible crimes and aggression of the Israeli regime against the Islamic Republic.

On June 13, Israel launched a blatant and unprovoked aggression against Iran, triggering a 12-day war that killed at least 1,064 people in the country, including military commanders, nuclear scientists, and civilians.

The United States also entered the war by bombing three Iranian nuclear sites in a grave violation of international law.

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 terrorist assault.

## FM spox calls Australia's expulsion of Iranian envoy 'Israeli plot'

'Relations with Australia is of great importance for Tehran'

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Iran's Foreign Ministry's spokesman Esmail Baqaei described Australia's expulsion of Iran's ambassador as "regrettable" and "unjustified" and a result of a plot engineered by Israeli intelligence agency Mossad.

In an interview with Australia's Nine Network television, the Iranian official said that the decision by the Australian government was the "easiest way to please or appease" Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

On August 25, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese alleged that Tehran was involved in what he called two anti-Semitic attacks in his country, ordering that the Iranian ambassador in Canberra — Ahmad Sadeghi — and three other diplomats to leave Australia within seven days. Albanese claimed that Tehran was behind the torching of a kosher cafe in Sydney's Bondi suburb in October 2024 and a major arson attack on the Adass Israel Synagogue in Melbourne in December 2024. In response to the Australia's move, Iran reduced the level of Australia's diplomatic presence in Tehran to downgrade diplomatic relations.

Australia's decision to expel Iranian diplomats came weeks after Albanese and Netanyahu became embroiled in a diplomatic dispute after the Australian prime minister announced that Canberra would formally recognize Palestinian statehood and decided to cancel a visa for a right-wing Israeli minister's visit to Australia.



Esmail Baqaei

In response, Israel canceled visas for Australian diplomats assigned to the Palestinian Authority, while Netanyahu launched a sharp attack on Albanese, calling him a "weak leader."

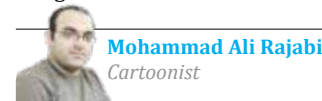
In his interview with the Australian television, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman called Albanese's claims "baseless", saying that, "It's regrettable. We think what the Australian government did was unjustified".

"No one can believe in Iran that this accusation has any basis in reality. It is simply a fabrication."

Regarding any attempt to repair relations, Baqaei said that, "It was the Australian government that decided to cut down diplomatic relations. It was not vice versa," he said.

"So, it is for the Australian government to decide what really fits their nation's interest and we have ... been self-restrained in terms of our reaction to what they did." He added that relations with Australia is of great importance for Tehran.

"Since 1968, when we established diplomatic relations with Australia, we have maintained a respectful relationship with Australia," he said.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

