

IAEA chief declares progress in Iran talks over nuclear site inspections

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Tehran hosts the 39th International Islamic Unity Conference

President reaffirms Iran's commitment to Muslim unity, opposing conflict



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (c) speaks at the 39th Islamic Unity Conference in Tehran on September 8, 2025. president.ir

International Desk

President Masoud Pezeshkian underlined on Monday the country's commitment to Islamic unity and warned against sowing division among the Muslim nations, saying that disunity only serves the interests of the Israeli regime and its Western backers.

In an address to the opening of the 39th International Islamic Unity Conference in Tehran, Pezeshkian questioned why Muslims continue to fuel division while the Tel Aviv regime, before the eyes of the world, oppresses Palestinians by depriving them of food and water and starving innocent people. "If the Islamic community were united, could the US, Israel, or any other power dare to trample on Muslim rights?" he asked.

Underlining that unity is the ultimate shield against aggression, the president said, "If we stand together, the enemy will not dare to act. They only hide behind the slogan of human rights... yet they sell weapons to Muslim countries, plunder their resources, and commit genocide without mercy even toward children and the sick." Pezeshkian reiterated that Iran seeks no quarrel with any Muslim nation, stating, "We pursue no conflict and no division. We are committed to the unity of the Islamic Ummah."

He further underlined that justice and fairness must be the foundation of governance: "If we implement justice in our societies, no power will be able to dominate us. The real strength of a nation lies in its people. We are servants of the people, and we must act with justice and equity, beyond ethnicity or race."

Addressing scholars and clerics attending the conference, the president urged them to spread the message of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) centered on unity and justice. Criticizing the West, Pezeshkian also accused Western nations of hypocrisy, stating that they wrongfully accuse Iran of human rights violations while themselves perpetrating genocidal acts against vulnerable groups including children, women, and the elderly. The president condemned Western interference as a tactic to fuel conflicts among Muslim countries to profit from arms sales. Reflecting on recent hostilities, Pezeshkian said that the 12-day war imposed by the US and Israel failed to achieve its objectives due to Iran's unity and strong defense forces. He credited Iran's missiles and armed forces with striking severe blows to the enemy but emphasized that the nation's cohesion delivered the most decisive impact, deterring aggression and reinforcing resistance to oppression. Pezeshkian also thanked Muslim nations for their solid condemnation of Israeli crimes and urged continued efforts to strengthen solidarity among Muslim countries. On June 13, the Israeli regime launched an unlawful aggression against Iran, leading to the assassination of many senior commanders, nuclear scientists, and ordinary citizens.

Iran retaliated in less than 24 hours with a barrage of missiles and drones, and followed it up with a series of retaliatory operations under True Promise III.

The US entered the war on behalf of Israel on June 22, when its bombers hit three Iranian nuclear sites in brazen violation of international law. In response, Iran launched a missile strike on Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, the largest US military air base in West Asia, in an act of self-defense. The embattled Israeli regime was forced to unilaterally accept a truce deal on June 24.

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Pezeshkian: BRICS must confront 'worrying trend' of Western unilateralism

International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian raised the alarm on Monday about the instrumental use of sanctions and coercive measures by the West across the world, stressing that the BRICS group of emerging economies can and must play a pivotal and leading role in countering such "worrying trend." Addressing an extraordinary virtual meeting of BRICS leaders on the current global affairs on Monday, Pezeshkian said the recreation of the current world order requires serious reform in the structure of global governance, from reviewing the composition and function of the United Nations Security Council to reforming the international financial and monetary system. "Our world is currently passing through a challenging period.

The increasing pressures stemming from unilateral coercive measures, the imposition of illegal sanctions, and widening social and economic disparities have painted a worrying picture of the existing order. Simultaneously, geopolitical tensions and the escalating climate change crisis threaten not only economic growth but also the foundation of international peace and security," he said. "The disproportionate influence of a few governments, unilateral actions, and the politicization of economic tools have not only eroded trust among nations but also severely weakened the effectiveness of global governance. These approaches, by creating trade barriers, increasing transaction costs, and weakening global value chains, slow down the path to sustainable development," he added.

The Iranian president underlined that groups such as BRICS and other institutions of the Global South have a special responsibility in guiding the transition to a multipolar, democratic, and just order. "One of the biggest threats to justice and stability in the contemporary international order is the increase in unilateral actions and the instrumental use of sanctions and economic restrictions. These policies not only threaten the national interests of independent countries but also disrupt global cooperation and make sustainable development impossible," Pezeshkian said. "In such an environment, BRICS can and must play a pivotal and leading role in countering this worrying trend. This dynamic and influential alliance, relying on diversity and solidarity,



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian addresses an extraordinary virtual meeting of BRICS leaders on global affairs on September 8, 2025.
● [president.ir](#)

has the capacity to be a strong and unified voice for defending national sovereignty, mutual respect, and resolving disputes through dialogue and multilateral cooperation," he added. Pezeshkian also expressed Iran's commitment to constructive and active cooperation with all BRICS members in achieving such goals, saying, "We believe that effective confrontation with unilateralism and deepening cooperation within the BRICS framework will not only benefit the members of this alliance but also the entire international community."



BRICS was established in 2009 by Brazil, Russia, India, and China, with South Africa joining in 2010. The bloc later expanded to include Iran, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Ethiopia and Indonesia.

The bloc's members now represent more than two-fifths of the global population. In 2024, BRICS grew to account for 40% of the world's economy in Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) terms.

IAEA chief declares progress in Iran talks over nuclear site inspections

International Desk

Talks on resuming International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections of Iran's nuclear sites have made progress, but its chief warned that there was "not much" time remaining.

On Monday, the director general of the United Nations nuclear watchdog, Rafael Grossi, told the 35-nation IAEA Board of Governors in Vienna, Austria, that "Progress has been made."

"It is my sincere hope that within the next few days it will be possible to come to a successful conclusion of these discussions," Grossi said, adding: "There is still time, but not much."

He did not elaborate on what the timeframe meant exactly.

While Tehran allowed an IAEA team into Iran at the end of August to oversee the replacement of fuel at the Bushehr nuclear power plant, the Foreign Ministry said no agreement had been reached on the resumption of full cooperation with the watchdog.

Regarding the next round of negotiations with the IAEA, the Foreign Ministry's spokesman Esmail Baqaei said on Monday that a specific time has not yet been set.

He added that the third round of negotiations ended on Saturday,



and the results of these talks are currently being reviewed in Tehran by the relevant authorities. "We are waiting for the final conclusion to be made, and based on that, we will announce what the next stage will be." According to the Iranian diplomat, the agency has come to understand that the manner and method of implementing Iran's safeguards obligations cannot be similar to the period before the US-Israeli aggression against Iran in June.

"It is unprecedented for a country's nuclear facilities under IAEA supervision to be attacked, and there was no protocol or method for inspection in such circumstances," he noted.

Following a 12-day aggression against Iran, which saw Israel and the United States bomb residential areas, military and nuclear sites across Iran in June, Tehran decided to change its cooperation with the IAEA. Iran expressed anger at the

IAEA for paving the way for Israel's attack by censuring the country the day before Israel's aggression with a damning report in May that claimed Tehran was in breach of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

Fury then followed when the watchdog did not condemn attacks by Israel and the US on Iran's nuclear facilities. In July, Iran passed a law suspending cooperation with the agency.

Within the law, any future inspection of its nuclear sites needs approval by Iran's Supreme National Security Council. However, last week, Grossi told the Reuters news agency in an interview that the board was pushing for a deal to inspect Iranian sites, including those targeted by Israel and the US.

Grossi confirmed that the IAEA had no information from Iran on the status or whereabouts of its stock of highly enriched uranium since Israel's attacks on June 13. "I believe there is a general understanding that by and large, the material is still there. But, of course, it needs to be verified. Some could have been lost," he said.

"We don't have indications that would lead us to believe that there has been major movement of material," Grossi added.

FM spox: Iran will not negotiate on own defense capabilities

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei underlined that Iran will not negotiate about its defense capabilities in talks with Western countries.

During his weekly press conference on Monday, Baqaei said the Iranian nation will not allow any negotiation or dialogue to take place about the means that are necessary "to defend Iran's sovereignty, dignity, independence, and security."

Iran and the three European parties to the Iran 2015 nuclear deal have held several rounds of talks on Iran's nuclear program. However, a recent decision by the three countries – France, Germany, UK – to trigger the so-called snapback mechanism under the UN Resolution 2231, which endorses the 2015 nuclear deal, has hindered progress in talks.

The European countries are raising excessive demands, including limits on Iran's missile powers, to resolve their dispute with Tehran – an issue that the Islamic Republic has repeatedly rejected. Regarding the consequences of the possible return of the Security Council sanctions, Baqaei said the foreign ministry is obliged to use diplomatic tools to prevent incidents that are not in the national interest.

Araghchi's meeting with Kallas 'productive'

Iranian officials are in contact with the



European officials to find a way out of an impasse in the talks between the two sides.

In the latest talks between Iranian and European officials, Iran's top diplomat Abbas Araghchi held a meeting with EU Foreign Policy Chief Kaja Kallas in the Qatari capital of Doha on Thursday.

Baqaei described the meeting as "productive," saying that a range of points and ideas were put forward during their discussions.

He noted that during the talks, points and ideas were raised between the two sides, expressing hope that in future contacts "the Europeans will reconsider their methods by correctly understanding the consequences and effects of the confrontational approach."

He added that Iran uses every opportunity "to advance the country's interests, express our demands, and warn against the consequences of the three European countries abusing the mechanism known as the return of repealed Security Council resolutions."



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

Shooting operation in West Bank: 6 Israelis killed, at least 15 wounded

A shooting operation in the occupied West Bank has left six Israelis dead and injured at least 15 others, according to Israeli authorities.

Two attackers boarded a bus and opened fire at Ramot Junction entrance near al-Quds City, during an unusually heavy traffic jam on Monday morning, investigators said, Press TV reported. The attackers reportedly entered a bus on line 62 and opened fire on passengers before continuing to shoot outside until they were killed by the Israeli police.

The Israeli regime's paramedic service, Magen David Adom (MDA), which initially reported 15 injuries, confirmed that several people were in critical condition and were taken to the hospital.

"Medics are providing treatment and evacuating [several] individuals in serious condition, suffering from gunshot wounds, to hospitals" in al-Quds, MDA said.

"Additional casualties at the scene are being treated for various levels of injuries," it added.

Shortly afterwards, MDA announced that

four people had been declared dead on the spot while two others died later in hospital.

The two attackers, reportedly from the occupied West Bank, were later shot and killed.

Following the attack, all crossings from the occupied territories into the al-Quds area were closed by Israeli forces.

The incident is the most serious shooting attack in the occupied territories since the 2023 Givat Shaul shooting, when gunmen opened fire at a bus stop in Givat Shaul, killing 3.



Iran-Iraq customs ink fresh accords to ease trade bottlenecks

Economy Desk

Iran and Iraq signed a number of customs agreements in Tehran on Monday aimed at cutting red tape and boosting cross-border trade. Officials said the deals represent the most senior customs engagement between the two neighbors to date. They are designed to update freight flows, harmonize tariffs and remove barriers that businesses say have long slowed trade. The accords were reached during a visit by an Iraqi delegation led by chairman of the Border Ports Commission Lieutenant General Omar Adnan Al-Waeli, who met Foroud Asgari, Iran's deputy economy minister and head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA). Iraq, which controls 21 official border crossings and serves as a regional transit hub, is central to Iran's export push. Easing bureaucratic choke points could

speed Iranian access to Iraqi and Persian Gulf markets. The two sides also agreed to draft a trilateral memorandum with Kuwait to facilitate the movement of goods and passengers, officials said. They discussed allowing more temporary vehicle entry under the "Carnet de Passages" system and simplifying transit procedures for heavy machinery. Business grievances featured prominently in the talks. Traders complained about import licensing concentrated in Baghdad, sudden bans on shipments, and inconsistent tariffs between the central government and the Kurdistan region. Iran pressed for an end to what it called the monopoly over manifest processing by a single company, and urged inspection agencies to be stationed at border posts to align product standards. "We expect border trade and the passage of lorries and passengers to move with greater speed and ease,"



An Iraqi delegation led by chairman of the Border Ports Commission Lieutenant General Omar Adnan Al-Waeli (5th L), meets Foroud Asgari (5th R), Iran's deputy economy minister and IRICA chief in Tehran on September 8, 2025. ● IRNA

Asgari said, pointing to what he called a shared vision between Tehran and Baghdad.

Thamer Qassem Daoud, director general of Iraq's General Customs Authority, said the scale of the frontier required

regular coordination and pledged that Baghdad was ready to step up enforcement of the new undertakings.

Iran knows how to neutralize sanctions

Blowback from sanctions to work against Europe, West

By Mousa Ahmadi
Chairman of Parliament's Energy Committee

OPINION
EXCLUSIVE

In recent days, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom—the three European powers known collectively as the European Troika—have triggered the so-called "snapback" mechanism against Iran. Reports indicate that in the coming days, all previous United Nations sanctions are expected to be reinstated, including restrictions on the sale of oil and energy. For Iran, however, economic and financial curbs, especially those tied to oil sales, are nothing new. For more than 45 years, Western powers—led by the United States—have consistently sought to place Iran under economic pressure and tighten the screws in order to advance their own

agendas. Yet over these decades, Iran has learned how to manage its economy and national affairs under the toughest sanction regimes. The country has repeatedly found ways to get around restrictions and push through the challenges. Since the first term of Donald Trump, when sanctions were dramatically escalated and Washington attempted to drive Iranian oil exports down to zero, Iran has faced sweeping international barriers in energy sales. In recent months as well, despite repeated US efforts to block oil exports, Iran has managed to maintain its oil revenues. This clearly shows that the Islamic Republic has mastered the art of neutralizing sanctions and can continue selling its oil even under intense restrictions. Another point worth noting is Iran's place as a major global supplier of oil and energy. Its capacity

cannot simply be brushed aside. Any attempt by adversaries to curb Iranian oil sales will inevitably disrupt international markets, and the blowback will directly hit the very powers—especially the United States—that are driving these measures. As mentioned, Iran has already been living under heavy American sanctions for years. The activation of the snapback mechanism therefore cannot significantly alter its current situation or create overwhelming financial and economic pressure. What has emerged instead is an attempt by certain actors to whip up a negative psychological climate, magnifying the potential fallout of the mechanism and stirring public anxiety. Yet as Iran's Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, has emphasized, those who sow despair among the people and undermine national cohesion are, in effect, serving the enemy's interests.

The goal of adversaries is to use the snapback mechanism and sanctions as tools to apply more pressure on Iran and to wring out further concessions. Naturally, the imposition of any sanction comes with consequences. But Iran has repeatedly proven over the years that it can withstand such measures while continuing on a path of development and progress. The world has seen with its own eyes Iran's scientific and technological advances across diverse fields despite mounting restrictions. For this reason, the continuation of sanctions and hostile policies against Iran will ultimately work against Europe and the wider West. It would be in their own interest to change tack and pursue cooperation and constructive engagement with Tehran rather than persisting with policies that harm themselves as much as anyone else.

South Korea eyes expanded trade ties with Iran regardless of bans



Economy Desk

Yoon Kyung Park, consul-general of the South Korean Embassy in Iran, said South Korean companies can engage in reciprocal activities in Iran under humanitarian regulations regardless of sanctions, adding that efforts are underway to expand and make use of these opportunities. Speaking Monday in Shiraz during a meeting with Mohammad Sadegh Hamidian Jahromi, head of the Fars Chamber of Commerce, Park noted that despite a decline in bilateral trade over the past decade, South Korea's private sector still views the Iranian market as highly attractive and full of potential. Hamidian also highlighted promising areas for cooperation, particularly in medical equipment, dental tools, pharmaceuticals, pharmaceutical raw materials, and agricultural chemicals, which he said could be exchanged outside the framework of sanctions. He added that Iran has long exported medicinal plants, mineral raw materials, and some petrochemical products to South Korea, and despite political tensions, Tehran remains interested in expanding trade with Seoul in compliance with international regulations. Hamidian stressed the need to facilitate the entry of humanitarian goods through the embassy, while also working toward reciprocal trade missions and closer ties between private-sector actors, especially in the medical field. He underlined that strengthening Iran-South Korea relations would require drawing lessons from past cooperation while charting new paths forward, and said the Chamber of Commerce is ready to play its part in broadening exchanges. "We expect South Korea — a country whose products can be found in virtually every Iranian household — to increase its cooperation and trade with Iran," Hamidian said. For his part, Park expressed appreciation for the widespread use of South Korean goods in Iran, saying he was pleased and honored by the trust of Iranian consumers. He added that bilateral trade could even surpass past levels, with Seoul eager to revive commercial ties and implement measures to address financial obstacles. Iran's foreign trade has faced significant disruption due to US sanctions reimposed following Washington's withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear agreement seven years ago. Among the most notable consequences was Iran's inability to access \$6 billion in oil revenues frozen in South Korean banks. However, in September 2023, the funds were formally transferred to Qatar under a US-Iran prisoner exchange deal, allowing Tehran access to the assets for humanitarian purposes.

Turkmenistan poised to boost transport with Iran's northern ports

Economy Desk

Mammet Akmamedov, Turkmenistan's minister of transport, announced his country's readiness to enhance cooperation with northern Iranian ports through transport infrastructure links during his visit to Iran at the head of an official delegation. Speaking Monday morning in Sari during a meeting with the Governor-General of Mazandaran Province, Mehdi Younesi, and the head of Iran's Railway Company, Akmamedov said the existing maritime and rail facilities in northern Iran — particularly Amirabad Port — make it possible to expand trade exchanges and cargo transit between Iran and Turkmenistan along the North-South Corridor. He noted that Iran and Turkmenistan already enjoy strong economic and trade relations, adding that transport infrastructure, especially in northern Iran, provides a valuable opportunity to further expand these

ties. "During our trip to Iran, we plan to inspect transport infrastructure across several provinces in order to draft new strategies to increase economic exchanges between the two countries by making full use of these facilities," he said. The minister described Amirabad Port as one of the most important hubs for improving and upgrading trade exchanges and cargo transport between Iran and Turkmenistan, voicing hope that, with coordination from Iranian officials, use of transport infrastructure, including rail networks, would increase. Amirabad Port is Iran's largest port on the Caspian Sea. It is designed in three phases, but only the first

Turkmenistan's Minister of Transport Mammet Akmamedov (R) meets Governor-General of Mazandaran Province Mehdi Younesi (L) in Sari, Iran, on September 8, 2025. ● IRNA



phase has been fully completed as of 2023. The port is connected to Iran's national railway system, with 15 berths and an annual capacity of 7.5 million tons, and forms part of the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC). The main agenda of the Turkmen delegation includes inspecting

northern Iran's railway lines, reviewing border projects, and assessing existing capacities to strengthen bilateral cooperation. Akmamedov also toured on Sunday Tehran's Aprin Dry Port, where he was briefed on investments made and the logistics activities underway at the facility.

Russia, China can be included in a 3+3 mechanism: *Expert*

INTERVIEW

The diplomatic process initiated to reach a win-win agreement between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the West has hit a wall following attacks by the Zionist regime and the US on Iran. The initiation of the process of reactivating the snapback mechanism by the European trio of France, the UK, and Germany against Iran has complicated the deadlock like never before. However, Tehran, throughout the years of its challenges with the West, has consistently regarded diplomacy as the better and less costly option. But the West's insistence on continuing unreasonable demands casts a shadow over future relations.

To examine the latest developments in Iran's relations with Europe and the US, and to analyze the causes and background of Washington and the European trio's behavior, an interview was conducted with Seyed Jalal Dehghani Firouzabadi, a university professor and international relations analyst. Parts of the interview follow below.

Regarding the speculation we hear from various sources that Iran is not necessarily reluctant to start negotiations, but the US is currently in a passive position — what do you see as the reason for this US inertia?

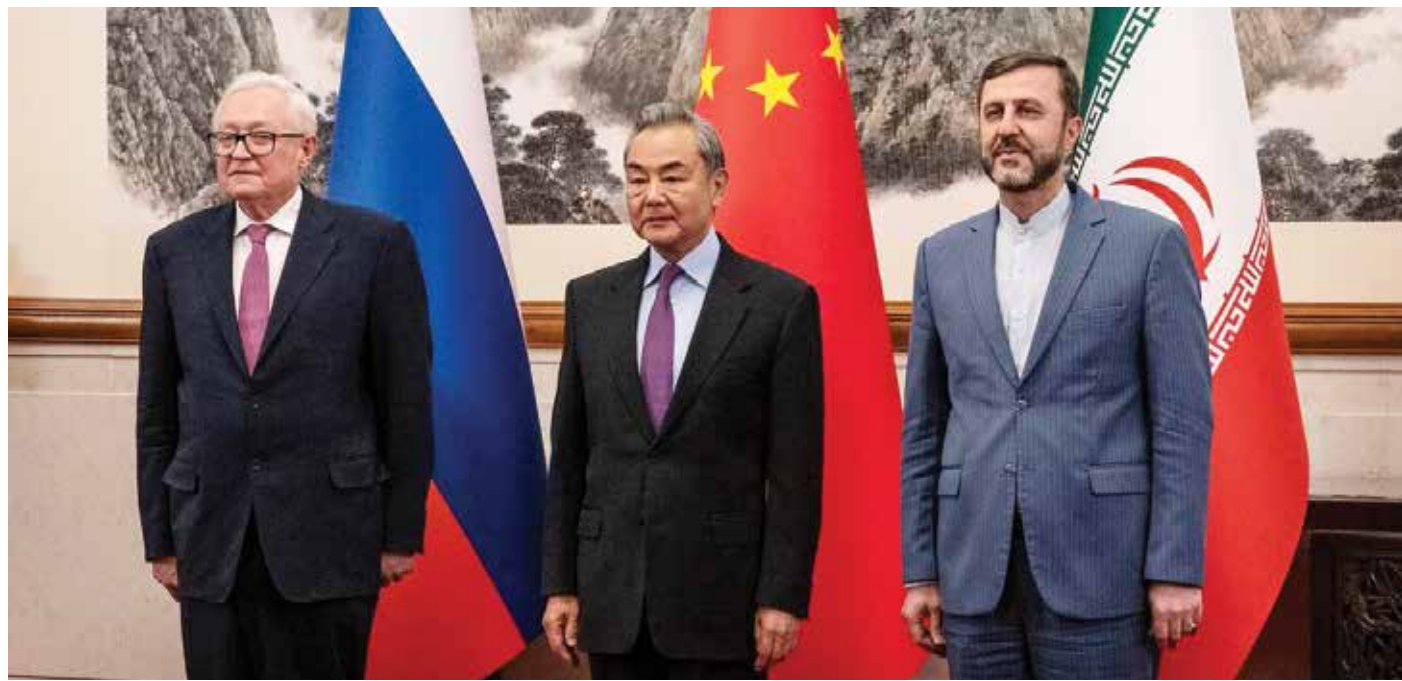
DEHGHANI FIROUZABADI: At present, time is not on Iran's side; Iran is facing a time crunch that the Americans do not currently experience. There was a sense of urgency for the Americans in the Muscat negotiations that either led to agreement or changed the circumstances, but now, after Israel's attack, the situation has taken a turn.

However, it should not be forgotten that Iran is unwilling to negotiate under any conditions. The Iranian Foreign Ministry and the foreign minister have explicitly said Tehran will not give up in the negotiations what it has protected through war. Therefore, it will only agree to conditional negotiations — indirect and limited strictly to the nuclear issue, accompanied by American security guarantees that force will not be used during talks.

Currently, the US pursues a three-dimensional, triangular maximum pressure policy: The first dimension is economic, through initial and secondary sanctions it increasingly intensifies; The second is diplomatic and political, where the three European countries act on behalf of the US; And the third is military, which Israel carries out. It can be stated that the US has handed over diplomatic responsibilities to Europe, which will conduct proxy negotiations with Iran. So, it can be concluded that the Americans have no desire for direct talks because Europeans will take the baton. Presently, Europeans play the role of diplomatic brokers, while Israel acts as the military bully. With the residual days of the 30-day deadline ticking away, Iran needs active diplomacy, but the US has little incentive for it.

Is continuing this status quo beneficial for both sides? In your view, what initiatives should be rolled out to move past these conditions?

I believe maintaining the current state is not equal for Iran and the US. Actually, the present situation favors the US. One reason for America's reluctance to negotiate is that it doesn't see the ongoing situation as harmful to itself. I see this situation as a win-win game for the US; If it results in negotiations, regardless of their content, America achieves its goals. If negotiations don't happen, the current conditions may still lead to the Security Council implementing previous commitments and triggering the snapback mechanism, which also benefits the US. Prolonging the current circumstances could hurt Iran, putting it at a crossroads where it must either concede to America's maximalist demands or face the snapback and return of Security Council resolutions. This explains why some think Iran shows greater



willingness to negotiate, while the US is less eager. Both outcomes serve US interests.

I think Iran should step up a combined, active, and innovative diplomacy in the remaining time since time is of the essence. All efforts must focus on preventing the snapback mechanism from being triggered. Iran needs dual-track diplomacy — simultaneously legal and political, both bilateral and multilateral.

On the legal front, as Iran has started, it should continue correspondence with the Security Council, arguing that Europe fundamentally lacks the legitimacy to activate the snapback since it repeatedly violated the agreement and cannot benefit from a contract it has consistently broken. This is a legal argument Iran can present to the Security Council. There is also a multilateral legal path through permanent Security Council members and JCPOA parties such as Russia and China. For instance, Russia's resolution, backed by China, is a legal route in motion.

Politically, Iran should pursue active diplomacy both bilaterally and multilaterally. Iran should forge closer ties with countries that can play a role in this situation. On a bilateral level, it can strengthen relations with Russia and China, and on a multilateral scale, it should leverage regional and international organizations. I believe the door to negotiations with Europe should not be closed; On the contrary, talks should be pushed forward more vigorously. While these talks may ultimately not lead to an agreement, making the most of diplomacy in dealing with Europe is necessary. A multilateral political diplomacy must run parallel to bilateral negotiations with Europe. Alongside bilateral talks, two other permanent Security Council members — Russia and China — can be brought to the table, meaning that Iran, Russia, and China on one side and France, Germany, and the UK on the other could set up a 3+3 negotiation mechanism, utilizing every possible tool and leverage.

Turning back to the snapback, did Europe have legal legitimacy to activate this mechanism?

This centers on two points: first, whether Europe is a JCPOA member, and second, whether it can take such action. In my view, this decision rests with the Security Council because there is no overarching supervisory mechanism, and whatever it decides — even if unfair — gets implemented. Iran's legal argument is that Europe lacks the legitimacy to activate snapback because it repeatedly violated the agreement, and under legal doctrine, a party that repeatedly breaches and suffers interruptions in a contract cannot benefit from that agreement. This is a legal principle Iran relies on and has acted accordingly.

Therefore, regardless of the legality of Europe's actions — which obviously disregard the UN Charter, just as US aggression and attacks on our nuclear facilities violate both the UN Charter and fundamental international law principles — this needs to be publicly clarified to illuminate the facts.

Europeans have not abided by the JCPOA's provisions and now accuse us of violations, while Iran's actions have been compensatory to Europe's breaches. Es-

entially, they failed to fulfill their obligations, and Iran responded accordingly by not fulfilling its own commitments. Europeans effectively terminated the contract themselves. The US withdrew, and Europeans also failed to meet their commitments, so their legitimacy is questionable. According to the dispute resolution mechanism, Europeans should have first referred the matter to the Joint Commission, and if that failed, to foreign ministers, but they bypassed this process, acting against JCPOA on this account as well.

What real impacts would the potential return of sanctions have on the country?

A realistic assessment is needed: The return of six Security Council resolutions under Article 41 of Chapter VII undeniably imposes heavy costs on Iran, which cannot be denied. However, it would neither be apocalyptic nor an irreparable disaster; The reality lies somewhere in between. If the resolutions come back, Iran will once again be subject to Article 41 as a threat to international peace and security. This will impose significant economic costs, such as restrictions on trade, oil sales, transportation, insurance, and higher discounts Iran must

offer for oil sales. These are unavoidable expenses.

However, it is incorrect to say Iran's economy will collapse entirely. A balanced view is necessary — neither exaggerated nor naïve. It will also create intense psychological pressure. For instance, during Israel's aggression against Iran, gold and foreign currency rates did not surge substantially, but now we see increases, highlighting that the psychological dimension is crucial and one of the most influential factors on Iran's economy.

Iran will effectively return to the pre-JCPOA era of the early 2010s — coming full circle after about a decade. Again, I stress this issue should not be underestimated, and preparations must be in place. I personally believe all efforts must be marshaled to prevent the resolutions' return. Saying their return is insignificant or without effect is wrong. National diplomacy and the entire nation's capacity and resources must be mobilized to stop the snapback from activating and taking effect. Of course, there is no need for nationwide fear or panic; A realistic outlook is essential.

The full interview first appeared in Persian on IRNA.



Jalal Dehghani Firouzabadi



Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi (R), Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov (L), and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi pose for a photograph in Beijing, China, on March 14, 2025, before a meeting regarding the Iranian nuclear issue.
● REUTERS



Essentially, the E3 failed to fulfill its obligations, and Iran responded accordingly by not fulfilling its own commitments. Europeans effectively terminated the contract themselves. According to the dispute resolution mechanism, Europeans should have first referred the matter to the Joint Commission, and if that failed, to foreign ministers, but they bypassed this process, acting against JCPOA on this account as well.



US President Donald Trump (C) speaks as, from left, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, France's President Emmanuel Macron, Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, and Germany's Chancellor Friedrich Merz listen during a meeting with European leaders in the White House, Washington, US, on August 18, 2025.
● VCG

US, EU sanctions have killed 38m people since 1970

By Jason Hickel, Dylan Sullivan, and Omer Tayyab
Scholars

ANALYSIS

The United States and Europe have long used unilateral sanctions as a tool of imperial power to discipline and even destroy Global South governments that seek to shake off Western domination, chart an independent path, and establish any kind of meaningful sovereignty. During the 1970s, there were, on average, about 15 countries under Western unilateral sanctions in any given year. In many cases, these sanctions sought to strangle access to finance and international trade, destabilise industries, and inflame crises to provoke state collapse. For instance, when the popular socialist Salvador Allende was elected to power in Chile in 1970, the US government imposed brutal sanctions on the country. At a September 1970 meeting at the White House, US President Richard Nixon explained the objective was to “make [Chile’s] economy scream”. The historian Peter Kornbluh describes the sanctions as an “invisible blockade” that cut Chile off from international finance, created social unrest, and paved the way for the US-backed coup that installed the brutal right-wing dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet. Since then, the US and Europe have dramatically increased their use of sanctions. During the 1990s and 2000s, an average of 30 countries were under Western unilateral sanctions in any given year. And now, as of the 2020s, it is more than 60 — a strikingly high proportion of the countries of the Global South. Sanctions often have a huge human toll. Scholars have demonstrated this in several well-known cases, such as the US sanctions against Iraq in the 1990s that led to widespread malnutrition, lack of clean water, and shortages of medicine and electricity. More recently, US economic warfare against Venezuela has resulted in a severe economic crisis, with one study estimating that sanctions caused 40,000 excess deaths in just one year, from 2017 to 2018. Until now, researchers have sought to understand the human toll of sanctions on a case-by-case basis. This is difficult work and can only ever give us a partial picture. But that has changed with new research published this year in *The Lancet Global Health*, which gives us a global view for the first time. Led by the economist Francisco Rodriguez at the University of Denver, the study calculates the total number of excess deaths associated with international sanctions from 1970 to 2021. The results are staggering. In their central estimate, the authors find that unilateral sanctions imposed by the US and EU since 1970 are associated with 38 million deaths. In some years, during the 1990s, more than a million people were killed. In 2021, the most recent year of data, sanctions caused more than 800,000 deaths.



An Iraqi child jumps over a line of hundreds of bodies in a school where they have been transported from a mass grave to be identified, in Al Musayyib, Iraq, on May 27, 2003. They disappeared when Saddam’s government crushed a Shia uprising following Iraq’s 1991 Persian Gulf War with a 42-country coalition led by the United States.
● MARCO DI LAURO/GETTY IMAGES

According to these results, several times more people are killed by sanctions each year than are killed as direct casualties of war (on average, about 100,000 people per year). More than half of the victims are children and the elderly, people who are most vulnerable to malnutrition. The study finds that, since 2012 alone, sanctions have killed more than one million children. Hunger and deprivation are not an accidental by-product of Western sanctions; They are a key objective. This is clear from a State Department memo written in April 1960, which explains the purpose of US sanctions against Cuba. The memo noted that Fidel Castro — and

the revolution more broadly — enjoyed widespread popularity in Cuba. It argued that “every possible means should be undertaken promptly to weaken the economic life of Cuba,” by “denying money and supplies to Cuba, to decrease monetary and real wages, to bring about hunger, desperation and overthrow of government”. The power of Western sanctions hinges on their control over the world’s reserve currencies (the US dollar and the Euro), their control over international payment systems (SWIFT), and their monopoly over essential technologies (e.g., satellites, cloud computation, software). If countries in the Global South wish to chart a more indepen-

dent path towards a multipolar world, they will need to take steps to limit their dependence in these respects and thus insulate themselves from backlash. The recent experience of Russia shows that such an approach can succeed. Governments can achieve greater independence by building South-South trade and swap lines outside the core currencies, using regional planning to develop necessary technologies, and establishing new payment systems outside Western control. Indeed, several countries are already taking steps in this direction. Importantly, new systems that have been developed in China (e.g., CIPS for international

payments, BeiDou for satellites, Huawei for telecom) now provide other global South countries with alternative options that can become a pathway out of Western dependence and the sanctions net. These steps are necessary for countries that wish to achieve sovereign development, but they are also a moral imperative. We cannot accept a world where half a million people are killed each year to prop up Western hegemony. An international order that relies on this kind of violence must be dismantled and replaced.

The article first appeared on *Al Jazeera*.



A State Department memo written in April 1960 explains the purpose of US sanctions against Cuba. The memo noted that Fidel Castro — and the revolution more broadly — enjoyed widespread popularity in Cuba. It argued that “every possible means should be undertaken promptly to weaken the economic life of Cuba,” by “denying money and supplies to Cuba, to decrease monetary and real wages, to bring about hunger, desperation and overthrow of government”.

A signboard displays exchange rates in Moscow, Russia, on February 28, 2022.
● PAVEL PAVLOV/GETTY IMAGES

World Wushu Championships: Iran stands runner-up with 10 medals

Sports Desk

Iran enjoyed a medal-laden run to the World Wushu Championships in Brasilia, Brazil. Having missed the 2023 edition in Fort Worth, Texas, the Iranian squad collected 10 medals – including a remarkable six golds – to finish as the runner-up to China, which bagged 16 medals, in the team standings.

Erfan Moharrami rounded off an impressive campaign for the country on Sunday with a sanda gold, thanks to a 2-0 victory over Alizhan Ablagatov of Kazakhstan in the final showpiece of the men's 70kg class.

There was further sanda medals for Iran on the final day of the competitions, as Shoja Panahi and Mohsen Mohammadseifi settled for a couple of silvers in their respective classes.

Representing the country in the men's 65kg category, Panahi fell to a 2-0 defeat against Wang Chengjin of China in the final, while Mohammadseifi missed out on a sixth gold in the world event after a 2-0 setback against



Zahra Kiani grabbed a history-making taolu gold for Iran at the World Wushu Championships.

● iranwushufed.ir

history books of the Iranian sport on Saturday by grabbing a maiden world taolu gold for country – courtesy of a 9.763-point performance in the qiangshu form final. This was Kiani's second history-making campaign in a year after she had won Iran's first individual talou gold at the Asian Championships last September. Soheila and Shahrbanou Mansourian as well as Sediqeh Daryaei added three sanda golds to Iran's medal haul.

Daryaei came out victorious (2-0) against Turkey's Sudenaz Gulay in the 65kg final, while Soheila Mansourian defeated China's Ruiping Chen in straight rounds to win the 70kg gold.

Shahrbanou Mansourian bagged a sixth world gold medal in her illustrious career, thanks to a 2-0 victory over Indian Shivani Prapapati in the 75kg showdown.

Chinese Jin Gensheng in the 75kg showdown.

Sunday's medals came after Mahdi Moradi and Soheil Mousavi had won a gold and bronze, respectively, in the men's sanda event.

Moradi made light work of Cruz Pérez, knocking out the Mexican in the first round, to walk away with the ultimate prize the 90kg division, while Mousavi suffered a last-four setback against Li Weijin of Hong Kong to finish with a consolation

bronze in the 80kg category.

Iran's second men's bronze came in taolu contests, where Shahin Banitalebi – a gold medalist at The World Games in August – scored 9.733 points to finish third in the men's nandao event.

Golden girls

Iranian wushu owed the major part of the success in Brasilia to its women's roster, which collected four gold medals in across the sanda and taolu competitions. Zahra Kiani etched her name into

Wrestling World Championships: Ruthless Rahman aiming for redemption against Japanese Kiyooka



Iranian wrestler Rahman Amouzad (L) and Japanese Kotaro Kiyooka, pictured during their final bout at the Paris Olympics, will headline the freestyle 65kg contests at the upcoming World Championships in Zagreb, Croatia.

● NOCIR

Sports Desk

As if freestyle wrestler Rahman Amouzad needed more motivation to chase a second world gold when the World Championships get underway in Zagreb on Saturday, the Iranian will be driven by a desire for revenge, looking to avenge last year's heartbreak against Japan's Kotaro Kiyooka at the Paris Olympics.

A world champion in 2022, Amouzad lived up to his nickname, 'Ruthless', on his way to the final showpiece in the French capital, securing three superiority victories without conceding a single point.

Fresh off emphatic wins against the 2023 and 2024 world gold medalists Ismail Musukaev and Islam Dudaev, Amouzad looked to be the ultimate favorite for the Olympic glory, only to be stunned by the low-profile Japanese who pulled off a sensational 10-3 victory at the Grand Palais Éphémère. Thirteen months on, Amouzad and Kiyooka will headline the 65kg contests in Zagreb as the number one and two seeds in the draw, meaning the two will not cross paths before the final showdown.

Joining Amouzad and Kiyooka in the 65kg mix are Russian European champion Ibragim Ibragimov, competing as a neutral athlete; Arme-

nian Vazgen Tevanyan, who won a world bronze in 2023; Russian-born Frenchman Khamzat Arsamerzouev – beaten by Ibragimov in the European final – as well as Puerto Rican Sebastian Rivera, a bronze medalist in Paris. Elsewhere in Zagreb, Iran's Amirhossein Zare' and Kamran Qasempour will also be looking to bounce back from their setbacks at major events in 2024.

Reigning world superheavyweight champion Zare', who was undone by Georgian giant Geno Petriashvili in the Olympic final, will be the wrestler to beat in the 125kg class.

Meanwhile, Qasempour – a two-time world 92kg champion – will be after glory in the new 86kg territory, having missed out on the world podium in Tirana after back-to-back losses to two wrestling greats in Russian Abdurashid Sadulaev and American David Taylor.

Having recovered from a torn ligament injury, two-time world under-23 champion Amirali Azarpira will be back in 97kg action for the first time since the Paris Games, aiming to build on his impressive Olympic bronze. However, Bahrain's Akhmed Tazhudinov, who won the gold in Paris, will be the favorite to retain his world title, with American Kyle Snyder and Georgian Givi Matcharashvili

also tipped for a place on the podium. Mohammad Nokhodi had also been sidelined with injury since winning a consolation bronze at the World Championships last October, but Iranian head coach Pejman Dorostkar was still convinced to give him a shot at a fifth world medal in the 79kg class after Fariborz Babaei Asian champion Mahdi Yousefi failed to impress throughout the Iranian team trials over the past 12 months.

Amirmohammad Yazdani will represent the country in the 70kg class, looking to improve on his two silver medals from 2021 and 2023, while two-time world bronze winner Younes Emami will be eager to bounce back from an underwhelming Olympic campaign in Paris, where he was outclassed by American Kyle Duke in the quarterfinals.

World under-23 bronze medalist Ali Mo'meni (57kg) and Ahmad Mohammadnejad Javan (61kg) – an Asian bronze medalist in March – complete the 10-man freestyle roster, as Iran will chase a first freestyle team trophy since 2013.

The Iranian team finished runner-up to the United States in 2022 and 2023, before placing third in last year's edition, which featured only four non-Olympic weight classes.

Sharifi tips Iran for superheavyweight glory at IWF World Championships

Sports Desk

Iranian weightlifter Ayat Sharifi said he is optimistic about a successful super-heavyweight run for the country at the IWF World Championships, starting October 2 in Forde, Norway. Sharifi will be one of the two Iranians in the +110kg category, coming off an impressive campaign at May's Asian Championships in Jiangshan, China, where he claimed double golds in the clean & jerk and total, as well as a bronze in the snatch event.

Joining Sharifi in representing the country in the super-heavyweight class in Forde will be former Olympic silver medalist Ali Davoudi, who won triple medals – including double silvers – in last year's world event in Manama.

The two Iranians have registered a joint-third total entry record of 430kg for the upcoming World Championships, trailing Bahrain's Gor Minasyan and Armenian Varazdat Lalayan by 30 and

20 kilograms, respectively.

"We've been in the national team training camp for a long time now. Thank God, I'm in a good form and I managed to post some decent results in the Iranian league contests. I hope we can also set some good records at the World Championships," Sharifi, who recently lifted 206kg in snatch and 256kg in C&J in the league, told Mehr News Agency.

"Of course, we hadn't yet reached our peak condition during the league as we were still in the middle of intense training," added the Iranian, who believes his numbers will still be good enough for a medal at the World Championships.

"We will definitely reach the peak level of fitness that the coaching staff has planned for, before the world event gets underway.

"The world record totals are almost the same as the numbers we have already posted. The overall level of competition has dropped slightly following [Lasha] Tal-

akhadze's retirement. However, the winning totals were in this same range last year in Manama. With the totals we have achieved, we are in a good position to win a medal in Forde," Sharifi said. Sharifi is still wary of the competition from Olympic silver medalist Lalayan and Minasyan, who won four world medals between them last year.

"The World Championships have always been a tough competition. A weightlifter's mind and body must be completely prepared in every way to post big lifts. I hope the gold and silver medals in the superheavyweight division go to the Iranians.

"Of course, we face serious competitors from Armenian and Bahraini weightlifters, though Lalayan is more of a contender in the snatch event rather than clean & jerk. Given that both Ali Davoudi and I are strong in the clean & jerk, we will be able to compete with them in the total at the World Championships."



● XINHUA

Diverse geography enhances sporting attractions of Fars Province



Bol Peak
● borna.news



Derak Mountain
● wikipedia.org



Margoos Waterfall
● hotel-tour.ir

Iranica Desk

Fars Province, acknowledged as one of the most significant and historically rich provinces of Iran, in addition to its vast cultural and historical heritage, boasts remarkable potential in the field of sports tourism. The province's diverse geography, varied climate, and distinctive natural attractions create a highly conducive environment for the growth and development of numerous natural and adventure sports. These include mountaineering, skiing, caving, and a wide array of nature-related sporting activities. Situated in the southern region of Iran, Fars Province encompasses a broad spectrum of climatic zones owing to its expansive area and geographical diversity. This spans from cold mountainous regions to semi-tropical zones and fertile

plains. Such diversity fosters an array of climatic conditions within the province, which in turn gives rise to a variety of natural and sports attractions that appeal to tourists. The landscape is further enriched by the presence of high and medium-altitude mountains, winding rivers, fresh springs, and serene lakes, collectively establishing Fars as a key hub for nature-based sports tourism, chtn.ir wrote. Among the most notable sports in Fars Province is mountaineering, supported by its high peaks that welcome thousands of domestic and international climbers annually. Bol Peak in Eqlid, standing at an elevation of 4,090 meters, holds the distinction of being the tallest peak in the province and ranks among the highest mountains in southern Iran. This peak's lush mountain pastures combined with heavy

winter snowfall render it an outstanding destination particularly favored by professional climbers and nature enthusiasts. In addition to Bol Peak, Derak Peak rises to 2,893 meters and serves as another favored mountaineering destination located near Shiraz. On holidays, this peak notably attracts over 5,000 climbers, many of whom advance as far as the Amrieh Shelter. The mountain's close proximity to the provincial capital and the availability of amenities along the ascent have significantly enhanced its allure for climbing enthusiasts. Caving also represents a significant adventure sport within Fars Province. The province is distinguished as one of the national leaders in the caving arena with numerous diverse caves. Due to their often-complex routes and specific conditions, these caves usually require specialized

equipment and proficient expertise. Among the most renowned caves are Shafaq Cave and Bishu Cave in Jahrom, both of which feature unique natural and historical attributes that make them ideal destinations for professional cavers. Fars Province also boasts notable facilities for winter sports, exemplified by the Poladkaf Ski Resort in Sepidan, situated roughly 80 kilometers north of Shiraz. Supported by private investment, this resort is equipped with various amenities such as a cable car, restaurant, cafe, hotel, guesthouse, snowmobiles, and mountain vehicles, establishing it as one of southern Iran's premier ski hubs. During winter months, Poladkaf draws a considerable number of skiing enthusiasts and winter recreationists who delight in activities such as tubing, snowmobiling, and enjoying the resort's comfort

and services. Beyond the skiing season, the area's breathtaking natural scenery and pleasant climate make it an attractive venue for nature tourism and mountaineering throughout other times of the year. Moreover, Fars Province features a wide array of natural attractions that serve as dual-purpose destinations for both sports and tourism. Margoos Waterfall, recognized as one of the province's tallest waterfalls, is nestled within an unspoiled and mesmerizing natural environment, ideal for mountaineering and hiking. In Sepidan, Shesh Pir Spring and Barm Firouz Lake provide serene, idyllic settings perfect for walking, light trekking, and family picnics. Tang-e Boraq, located in Eqlid, offers lush and scenic terrain suitable for mountaineering and nature sports, while Kaftar Lake in Eqlid stands out

as an important natural and historical site that draws visitors and athletes alike. Given its abundant and diverse natural attractions, high and semi-high mountains, distinct caves, and favorable conditions for winter sports and nature tourism, Fars Province firmly holds its place as one of Iran's leading centers for sports tourism. With a strategic focus on enhancing infrastructure, improving amenities, and executing targeted marketing campaigns, Fars province can elevate its status to become the foremost destination for both domestic and international sports tourists. By making purposeful investments and capitalizing on existing potentials, Fars Province is well positioned to substantially contribute to the regional tourism economy and secure a prominent role on the national sports tourism map.

Escape to Filband village for cool climate, stunning views

Iranica Desk

Located in the northern reaches of Iran, nestled high in the majestic Alborz Mountains, Filband village stands out as one of the most breathtaking and enchanting destinations in Mazandaran Province. Often described as a "village in the sky," Filband offers visitors a magical experience unlike any other, especially during the summer months when travelers seek refuge from the intense heat of the lowlands. Sitting at an elevation of about 2,350 meters above sea level, Filband's lofty perch allows it to be enshrouded in a spectacular natural phenomenon that has fascinated visitors for generations: an ocean of clouds that fills the valleys below and creates a surreal, dreamlike atmosphere. This unique cloud phenomenon occurs primarily during the summer when warm air in the plains rises and meets the cool mountain climate. The collision causes a thick layer of mist and clouds to form at the altitude where Filband is located, enveloping the village in a soft white layer that appears as if it is floating on top of the clouds. From the hills surrounding Filband, visitors can gaze down upon this magnificent white blanket that stretches for miles, with mountain peaks breaking through like islands scattered across a vast sea. This otherworldly landscape provides endless inspiration for photographers, nature lovers, and



anyone captivated by natural beauty. One of the most compelling reasons to visit Filband is its mild and refreshing climate. While the lowlands of Mazandaran Province can become unbearably hot and humid during the summer, Filband remains cool and pleasant thanks to its elevation and the protective barrier of the Alborz Mountains. The fresh mountain air, combined with the serene surrounding landscape, creates an ideal environment to relax and escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. Evenings in Filband bring a welcome drop in temperature, turning the village into the perfect spot for stargazing. With clear skies far from urban light pollution, visitors enjoy spectacular views of the stars, constellations, and occasional meteor showers, making the night sky an unforgettable part of the Filband experience. Filband village's natural sur-



roundings further enhance its appeal. The village is encircled by lush forests composed of oak, pine, hazel, and other native trees, providing rich habitats for an array of wildlife and offering excellent opportunities for hiking and exploration. The rolling green hills and meadows frame the village with a vivid palette of colors, especially in spring and summer when wildflowers bloom in abundance.



For those who enjoy outdoor activities, trekking through these forests and hills reveals hidden waterfalls, small streams, and sweeping panoramic viewpoints where the beauty of the Alborz Mountains can be fully appreciated. The village itself reflects the traditional mountain lifestyle of northern Iran. Its architecture is simple yet charming, with wooden houses con-

structed from local materials that blend seamlessly into the natural environment. Narrow cobblestone paths wind gracefully through the village, inviting visitors to stroll slowly and discover the warmth and hospitality of the local people. The residents of Filband are known for their friendliness and pride in their heritage. Many are eager to share stories about the village's history, cultural traditions, and the unique features of the surrounding landscape, making a visit to Filband also a culturally enriching experience. For travelers seeking a peaceful retreat, Filband offers tranquility unlike any other place in the region. Away from the noise and crowds of urban centers, the village provides a calm sanctuary where visitors can breathe in the crisp mountain air and soak in the stunning views of the clouds and peaks. Whether spending time quietly enjoying the landscape or engaging in

moderate hikes, Filband's serene ambiance is ideal for relaxation, reflection, and reconnecting with nature. Photography enthusiasts will find Filband a paradise. The dramatic contrast between the vibrant blue sky, fluffy white clouds, and lush greenery offers countless opportunities to capture awe-inspiring shots. Sunrise and sunset are especially magical times, when the sky's warm hues cast golden light over the cloud-covered valleys and wooden houses of the village. Wildlife photographers will also appreciate Filband's rich biodiversity. The nearby forests are home to a variety of animals such as wild boars, foxes, and martens, while birdwatchers can spot eagles, hawks, sparrows, and other species soaring above or perched among the treetops. In addition to its stunning natural beauty, cool climate, and rich wildlife, Filband village serves as a vibrant example of rural northern Iranian culture. The combination of breathtaking scenery, peaceful environment, and welcoming community makes Filband a must-visit destination for anyone traveling through Mazandaran Province. Whether you are looking to escape the heat, capture magnificent photographs, explore nature, or simply enjoy a quiet mountain village, Filband offers an unforgettable experience that will leave you with lasting memories of an Iranian village in the sky.



Painting from Iran wins silver medal at Japan's contest

Arts & Culture Desk

Marzieh Shafiei, a 15-year-old member of Iran's Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults in Birjand Province, won a silver medal at the 32nd World Children's Picture Contest in Japan, the institute said on Monday. The annual contest, organized by Japan's IE-NO-HIKARI Association, drew 11,479 entries from 68 countries this year. The 2025 edition invited children to capture "character, feelings, emotions, thoughts and beliefs" in their works, IRNA reported. Shafiei stood out with what organizers described as an inventive approach. She was among a handful of young artists honored with a silver citation in the competition, which has become a platform for children worldwide to showcase creativity across cultures. Iran submitted 46 works through the state-backed institute known locally as Kanoon. The presence of an Iranian teenager among the winners was hailed as proof of the "talent and capacity" of the country's younger generation in visual arts. Founded in the 1960s, the institute has long nurtured Iranian children in litera-



ture, cinema, and art. Its students have frequently taken part in international contests, with some breaking into professional artistic careers. Shafiei's recognition adds to a growing re-

cord of Iranian youth competing abroad. "Creativity knows no borders," the institute said in a statement, praising her achievement as a source of pride for the community in Birjand.

Culture minister urges swift rollout of Azerbaijan accords

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Culture Minister Abbas Salehi told Azerbaijan's ambassador in Tehran that it is time to put into effect the cultural agreements signed between the two neighbors. The push reflects efforts by both countries to deepen exchanges in arts, media and heritage after a lull in recent years. Officials said implementing the accords, many of which were signed during President Masoud Pezeshkian's visit to Baku, would pave the way for regular cultural events, media collaboration and exchanges between artists, IRNA reported. Salehi described Iran and Azerbaijan as "one family with different borders" bound by history and memory. He said recent presidential meetings had opened "fresh opportunities" for broader cooperation. "We must now make sure the signed documents are carried out. Based on them, we can launch multiple and diverse projects with tangible results," he said.

The minister noted that cultural ties had briefly stalled but were now back on track, stressing that cultural cooperation forms the backbone of political and economic relations. He welcomed the idea of hosting cultural weeks, recalling Azerbaijan's "generous hospitality" during an earlier Iranian cultural week in Baku. Salehi also pointed to media agreements, saying they could help convey "a correct image" of each country to the other. He underlined the importance of exchange programs, including art workshops, educational classes and visits by performers. Azerbaijan's envoy Ali Alizade echoed the call, saying Iran holds "a special place" in Baku's foreign policy. He praised Pezeshkian's trip as a turning point for relations and highlighted the "many commonalities" shared by the two nations. "The time is right to resume cultural weeks, and we are fully ready to host Iranian events in Azerbaijan and organize Azerbaijani events in Iran," Alizade said.

مزایده صادراتی بیلت آلیاژی ریخته گری مداوم

شرکت فولاد آلیاژی ایران

شماره مرجع مزایده: IASCO-EXPT-03



شرکت فولاد آلیاژی ایران (IASCO) در نظر دارد نسبت به فروش بیلت آلیاژی صادراتی، از طریق مزایده عمومی اقدام نماید. خاطرنشان می‌سازد که عرضه در چهار گرید منتخب و به شرح جزئیات ذیل انجام می‌پذیرد و از علاقمندان به شرکت در مزایده مزبور دعوت بعمل می‌آید که از تاریخ ۱۴۰۴/۰۶/۱۸ لغایت ۱۴۰۴/۰۶/۲۲ جهت اخذ اطلاعات مزایده و راهنمایی‌های لازم با واحد صادرات به شماره تماس‌های +۹۸۳۵۰۳۱۲۲۲۶۷۵ و +۹۸۲۱۰۸۸۳۲۲۶۲۱ و آدرس ایمیل Salesexp@iasco.ir در ارتباط باشند. مهلت ارائه پیشنهاد قیمت مزایده یادشده حداکثر ساعت ۱۵:۰۰ روز دوشنبه مورخ ۱۴۰۴/۰۶/۲۴ می‌باشد.



Iran Alloy Steel Company

Tender Announcement for Export of CC-Alloy Steel Billet

Tender Ref. No.: IASCO-EXPT-03

Please be informed that Iran Alloy Steel Company (IASCO) intends to launch a general Tender for the export of CC-Alloy Steel Billets under the following terms and conditions:

1. Product Specifications and Commercial terms:

Main Tender Grades & Quality	Acc. to attached specification No
C45E (9095I)	C01KU9095I40405A018
S355J2 (0577D)	C01KU0577D40406A008
42CrMo4 (7225D)	C01KU7225D40406A005
C60E(1221S)	C01KU1221S40406A002
* Other Grades may also be considered By Customer Request with related premium price. (Please clearly specify the desired grade, analysis and etc).	

- **Size & Dimensions:** (130*130/ 150*150 /200*200) *12,000mm
- **Quantity:** 5000 MT (10%) for each Grade.
- **Delivery Time:** approximately 45 days after receipt of advance payment
- **Delivery Term:** FCA Yazd
- **Note:** FOB Bandar Abbas or FOB Chabahar may also be considered upon buyer's request, subject to amended delivery time and mutual
- 2. **Tender General Conditions:**
 - a. The offer must remain valid for at least **seven (7) Iranian working days** from the submission deadline.
 - b. Vague, conditional or incomplete offers will not be considered.
 - c. The buyer's company must be legally registered outside the Islamic Republic of Iran.
 - d. IASCO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers at its sole discretion.
 - e. Submission of offer implies full acceptance of all tender terms and conditions.
- 3. **Offer Submission:**

For instructions and further information, kindly contact the Export Department using the following details:
Tel: +9835-31222675 & +9821-88322621
Email: Salesexp@iasco.ir (For registration only, not to send any offer)
- 4. **Closing Date:**

Deadline for Offer Submission: September 15, 2025 - by 3:00 p.m. (Tehran Local Time)

Iranian short animation to be screened in South Korea, Brazil, Canada

Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian filmmaker Samaneh Shojaei's short animation "Thank You Dr. Farsi" will be screened in coming weeks at international festivals in South Korea, Brazil and Canada, the state-run Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC) said on Monday. The 11-minute work tells the story of a girl named Minoos who regains emotional balance with the help of her psychologist, ISNA reported. The film marks Shojaei's third collaboration with the institution. Her earlier titles include

'Ascribed Achievements' and 'Gray Body'. In South Korea, "Thank You Dr. Farsi" will run from Oct. 24 to 28 at the Bucheon International Animation Festival, which features around 130 titles across competitive and non-competitive sections, including student films and television productions. The short has also been picked for the competition section of the 15th Quebec City Film Festival in Canada, scheduled for Sept. 10 to 14. Later this year, it will compete at the 21st AnimArte Festival in Rio de Janeiro from Nov. 20 to



24. AnimArte highlights films made by or for children and teenagers. Shojaei described the selection as "a chance to share Iranian stories with audiences far from home." She added that animation had become "a bridge across cultures" and that festivals helped smaller productions find their place on the global stage.

'Lord of the Rings' film concert to debut in Tehran

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Fidibo said on Monday it will stage the country's first 'Lord of the Rings' film concert in Tehran on September 14, featuring 150 musicians and a choir performing Canadian composer Howard Shore's award-winning score. The two-part performance, scheduled for 7:15 p.m. and 10:15 p.m., blends live music with iconic scenes from the fantasy trilogy. Organizers said they want to create an experience that goes "beyond concert and cinema" by syncing sound and image to draw the audience into Tolkien's world, inn.ir reported. Tickets go on sale exclusively through Fidibo's online plat-

form on Monday, September 8, at 6 p.m. Orchestra conductor Sina Kheirabadi will lead the ensemble, with producer Vahid Khaleghi, artistic director Sina Salehi and project director Ali Moghadam shaping the production. In June, Fidibo staged several nights of 'Lord of the Rings' concerts that featured only selected music from the trilogy without film projection. The third night on June 13 was canceled due to the war. The September staging, however, is a full-fledged film concert, combining live orchestral performance with synchronized screening of the trilogy's most memorable moments. Organizers say the tighter sound-image



coordination and higher technical quality make it the first large-scale film concert ever mounted in Iran. The company has branded the venture a three-part cultural project uniting literature, cinema and music, with 'Lord of the Rings' marking the second phase. Shore's compositions for Peter Jackson's trilogy are regarded as some of cinema's most celebrated scores.