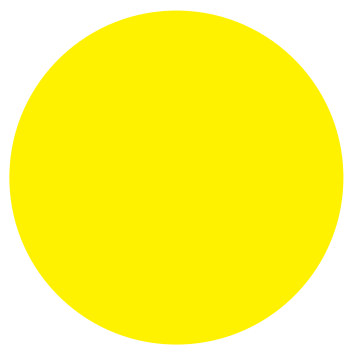


Iran criticizes US for
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Tehran to suspend IAEA cooperation after snapback invocation: *Top security body*

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A reflection on legal concept of snapback



By Hadi Khosroshahin
Editor-in-chief
of Iran newspaper

O P I N I O N

On September 19, Iranian media outlets were filled with headlines that bore little resemblance to the legal reality of Resolution 2231 that enshrined the 2015 Iran nuclear deal (JCPOA). Phrases such as "Back to square one," "Security Council votes for return of sanctions," or "Draft to lift sanctions fails at Security Council" dominated the media. The underlying and sometimes explicit message of such headlines was a mistaken emphasis on the instigation of the "snapback" mechanism — whereas no such conclusion can be drawn from the provisions of Resolution 2231. Paragraphs 9 through 12 of the resolution draw a clear distinction between the process of snapback and its actual activation. A lack of attention to this distinction appears to have led to several misleading headlines splashed across print and online media. A core provision of this resolution is that the snapback mechanism hinges on two key conditions: "no decision on the continuation of lifting UN sanctions against Iran," and "the continuation of no decision for a 30-day period". Put differently, the snapback mechanism remains at the procedural stage without these two conditions being met and does not cross over into the realm of implementation. Another important aspect is the starting point of the process, which begins the moment member states claim Iran has violated its JCPOA commitments. That starting point was triggered on August 28, when the European troika submitted its complaint against Iran to the Security Council. Hence, the 30-day countdown began then. While the vote on Friday's draft resolution covered the first condition, it fails to meet the second — the 30-day timeframe. What happened on Friday at the Security Council fell under Paragraph 11 of Resolution 2231. This paragraph states that upon receiving a notification from a JCPOA participant about significant non-performance of commitments, the Security Council shall vote within 30 days on a draft resolution to continue the lifting of sanctions in paragraph 7(a) of Resolution 2231. If no member of the Council has submitted such a draft resolution within 10 days of the notification, the President of the Security Council shall do so and put it to a vote within 30 days. That is what unfolded in New York on Friday: the Council voted on a draft resolution introduced by South Korea, as the rotating president, in line with Paragraph 11. The move was procedural, not substantive, and was based on the Yalta voting model — nine votes in favor without veto power. The aim was to prevent the automatic initiation of snapback at the close of the 30th day. Yet the effort failed after nine members opposed it.

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Pezeshkian: Israel will not forsake occupation unless 'world puts it in its place'

Iran ready for nuclear talks with US 'under int'l law'

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Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (R) speaks to Chinese state broadcaster CCTV during a visit to China earlier in September. The full text of the exclusive interview was published on September 21, 2025.
● president.ir



From crafting JCPOA to
shutting down diplomacy
**Europe heading
down wrong path**

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Persian play wins
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Eight years of war in 1980s made Iran stronger



By Brig. Gen. Vali Oveisi
Former Air Force pilot

O P I N I O N EXCLUSIVE

September 22, 1980, stands as a turning point in Iran's modern history — the day Iraq launched its war against Iran and an unrelenting military and popular mobilization began to defend the homeland and preserve territorial integrity. This determined resistance, remembered as the "Sacred Defense," was not merely a military confrontation; it embodied the spirit, sacrifice, and deep commitment of Iranian fighters to the national and Islamic ideals of the nation. One of the most remarkable aspects of that defense was the unique role of the Air Force. In the opening days of the war, the Air Force played a decisive role in preventing Iraqi forces from penetrating Iranian territory. Despite being weakened in the early years of the 1979 Islamic Revolution and lacking full operational readiness, the force quickly stepped in and, through careful planning, carried out critical

and game-changing missions. Throughout the eight-year war, the Air Force maintained an active presence in all battles, executing landmark operations such as "Kaman 99" and the complex and successful "H3" strike deep inside Iraq's westernmost bases. These missions dealt severe blows to the enemy and have since been recorded in the annals of world air warfare as outstanding examples. Iran's distinctive use of its Air Force fleet demonstrated only a fraction of the capability the service was able to mobilize during that period. Between 1980 and 1988, despite the Iraqi Ba'athist regime's extensive foreign support and the heavy damage inflicted on Iran's military infrastructure, Iranian pilots and commanders — through ingenuity, training of fresh recruits, and the reconstruction of damaged equipment — assumed the critical role of air operations and support for ground forces. Efforts to maintain and upgrade aircraft, develop indigenous missiles, and arm jets with effective bombs reflected the determination and creativity of the Air Force in countering enemy threats.

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