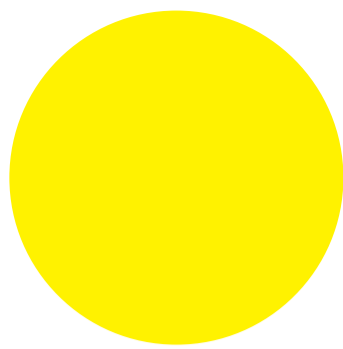


Central bank vows
currency measures
to shore up
sliding rial

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Demonstrators rally to support the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and to protest the Israeli interception of the Global Sumud Flotilla, near the Colosseum in Rome, Italy on October 2, 2025.

• AFP

No time for diplomatic passivity

By M.A. Mokarrami
Journalist, commentator

OPINION
EXCLUSIVE

The activation of the snapback mechanism, which restored UN sanctions against Iran, has opened a new phase in Tehran's foreign and economic policy. While the immediate priority for Iranian officials is to contain the economic repercussions and prevent instability in domestic markets, this is no time for diplomatic passivity. Iran faces the dual challenge of shielding its economy from renewed sanctions and pursuing an active diplomatic strategy to ease pressure and make space for future negotiations. The snapback of sanctions, revived after lobbying by the United States and supported

by Israel, reimposed UN-level restrictions mainly on Iran's nuclear, missile and arms programs. Though the new measures do not directly target most categories of trade, the psychological impact on markets and foreign companies could create a chilling effect. If not managed carefully, this perception could deepen economic uncertainty. To prevent such disruption, Iran needs immediate outreach to its major trading partners. Explaining to foreign companies and chambers of commerce that most ordinary trade in goods is not restricted under the snapback framework is essential. The Foreign Ministry's Economic Diplomacy Department must take a leading role, dispatching teams to reassure partners and reduce the risk of self-imposed overcompliance. Iran's first line of defense lies

in its neighborhood. Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Iraq remain Tehran's largest regional trading partners and represent a major share of non-oil trade and logistical lifelines. Sustaining these commercial ties requires active engagement: briefing sessions for private companies, joint working groups to clarify trade rules and practical mechanisms to ensure banking and transport channels remain open. Both Ankara and Abu Dhabi have shown pragmatism in their economic dealings with Tehran, while Iraq depends heavily on Iranian energy exports and cross-border commerce. By intensifying consultations, Iran can reduce the impact of the snapback and demonstrate that regional economic interdependence is a shield against external pressure.

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Iran's dairy exports rise, turning milk surplus into opportunity: *Union officials*

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