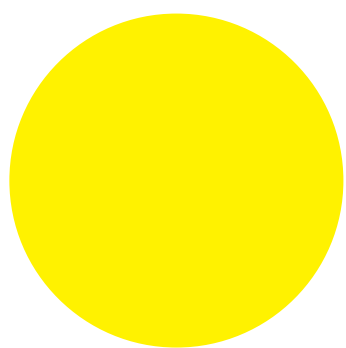


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Iraq's forces, displaced vote early ahead of parliamentary election

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An Iraqi electoral employee checks a soldier's ID card at a polling station, during a special voting day for Iraqi security forces, taking place two days before polls open to the public in the parliamentary elections, in Baghdad on November 9, 2025.

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Time for international bodies to name real aggressor on Iran



By Mahmoud Abbaszadeh Meshkini
Political analyst

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

The recent admission by US President Donald Trump has effectively confirmed Iran's long-standing claim that during the direct military assault on Iran in June, Israel acted just as a contractor, while the aggression was, in fact, planned, commanded, and executed by the United States. At the time, even German chancellor Friedrich Merz brazenly said that "this is the dirty work Israel is doing for all of us." In fact, an illegitimate entity called the "Zionist regime" was put up as a front so that Iran could not pursue legal action or file complaints through international bodies. Today, there exists a wealth of evidence and numerous statements demonstrating that it was Washington that launched the attack on Iran. The United States decided to strike from a base "bearing the name Israel," making itself legally responsible for the

aggression. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the US to compensate for the damages inflicted during this imposed war, and it falls upon international legal and institutional bodies to name and shame the aggressor. Iran's diplomatic apparatus should move swiftly to build a strong case, file formal complaints, and urge the United Nations to determine accountability. Now that the US has openly acknowledged starting this war, Tehran's first priority should be to push for Washington's designation as the aggressor. Through intensive lobbying, legal action, and rigorous documentation, Iran stands a real chance of success. Although international organizations have historically been instruments serving Western interests, the clarity of this act of aggression may compel them to act lawfully. The Iranian side recalls that during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s, many of these same Western powers resisted labeling Saddam Hussein's regime as the aggressor, yet despite Iran's limited experience and diplomatic reach at the time, the effort ultimately succeeded. Iran's expectation from international

bodies is simple: to uphold their own laws and charters. Tehran seeks no illegal resolutions, only adherence to the United Nations' founding mission, to safeguard peace and prevent war. One of the UN's essential duties is to identify aggressors when conflicts arise, ensure their punishment, and demand reparations. Whoever is found guilty must face consequences, beginning with compensation for the damage caused. In the meantime, Iran can reshape the regional power dynamics to serve its own strategic interests. The United States, driven by its hegemonic ambitions, is pursuing domination over the Middle East as part of a broader strategy to tighten its grip before confronting China on the global stage. Yet powerful nations will not allow such imbalance to persist. With its global standing now surpassing pre-war levels, Iran can recalibrate the geopolitical equation, not by depending on foreign powers, but by harnessing its own indigenous strength. Even under pressure, Iran can turn threats into opportunities, extracting concessions and securing its national

interests more efficiently and at lower cost. Navigating this interconnected, conflict-prone world to advance Iran's interests is the true test of statesmanship.

Unprecedented phenomenon

Now that the United States has explicitly confirmed that it "commanded" this military assault, a new geopolitical reality has come to light. Iran has emerged as a unique and unprecedented phenomenon in global politics, one capable of shaping history itself. Despite enduring assassination plots, crippling sanctions, and now a direct military confrontation with the world's leading military power, Iran has stood its ground and prevailed. The post-war Iran is fundamentally different from the Iran prior to the conflict.

The West has reached the limits of the pressure it can exert; it can no longer impose another war on the nation. For this reason, Iran today stands as an exceptional force in the world, one whose destiny is intertwined with the fate of global politics itself.

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