

FM spokesperson: Iran on peace acts as per mechanisms in Constitution

'Global opposition to war bespeaks Iran's legitimacy'

International Desk

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said the Islamic Republic, regarding peace at the time of war, acts based on mechanisms foreseen in the Iranian Constitution, stressing that the country continues to defend its legitimate rights through both diplomacy and military capabilities.

"Our duty regarding war and peace is clear; in times when it is necessary to defend the integrity of the country, we act under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief and the mechanisms specified in this regard, and regarding peace, we will act based on the specified mechanisms in the Constitution and the decisions of high-ranking institutions such as the Supreme



National Security Council," Baqaei told reporters during his weekly press conference in Tehran on Monday. "At a time when the enemies do not observe any red lines and have intensified their

attacks, our thoughts must be focused on defending the country with all our might. Currently, our armed forces are sacrificing their lives and defending the integrity of the country, and our duty

is to support this epic and sacrifice in any way we can." In response to the question of whether a new plan between Iran and the US has been proposed regarding the issue of peace — con-

sidering some media comments and news raised in international media — the Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "As I have said before, a few days ago, issues and ideas were raised by mediators, and in this regard, a plan known as the '15-point plan' was proposed by the Americans, which was transmitted to us by several friendly countries, including Pakistan. We announced at that time that this plan is intensely expansionist, unreasonable, and irrational, and is effectively not acceptable to us." Baqaei added, "Based on the interests and considerations we have, we have compiled the set of demands we had and have; we are not ashamed to shout our wants and demands, and if we raise our

wants and demands against a plan, it should not be interpreted as relenting to the enemy."

The Foreign Ministry spokesman also underlined that international opposition to the US-Israeli war on Iran and global support for the Islamic Republic signify Iran's legitimacy and righteousness in the face of the imposed aggression. "This support and opposition to the Iran war, which we even see in Europe and in the United States itself, is indicative of our legitimacy on this path and can also create a deterrent against the expansion of the war," Baqaei said.

"Governments will clearly understand that this war is an imposed war by a power-hungry and lustful group with no legal basis or moral

legitimacy." Iran and the United States received a plan to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz, a source aware of the proposals told Reuters on Monday.

"All elements need to be agreed today," the source said, adding the initial understanding would be structured as a memorandum of understanding finalized electronically through Pakistan, the sole communication channel in the talks.

Under the proposal, a ceasefire would take effect immediately, reopening the Strait of Hormuz, with 15-20 days to finalize a broader settlement. The deal, tentatively dubbed the "Islamabad Accord," would include a regional framework for the strait, with final in-person talks in Islamabad.

Araghchi raps Washington for normalizing war crimes

Trump seeking to drag region into endless war: **UN Mission**

International Desk

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi described US threats to attack Iranian infrastructure as an attempt to "normalize war crimes and genocide," warning that any such action would be met with a "decisive and comprehensive" response from Iran's armed forces.

In a phone call with his French counterpart Jean-Noel Barrot on Monday, Araghchi stressed that the repercussions would not be confined to Iran or the region, but would have devastating effects on global energy and economy — responsibility for which would lie solely with US authorities and aggressors, IRNA reported.

The warning comes amid repeated threats from US President Donald Trump to bomb and destroy Iranian infrastructure if the Strait of Hormuz remains



Karaj-Tehran B1 Bridge was partially destroyed in multiple US strikes on April 1, 2026.

closed before his deadline on Tuesday.

Iran's mission to the United Nations in New York also responded to the threats, accusing Trump of seeking to drag the region into an endless war.

It called on the UN to act immediately against this "blatant and shameless threat" to target civilian infrastructure, describing it as direct incitement to terror and clear evidence of intent to commit war crimes.

Decisive, immediate response to any aggression

Kazem Gharibabadi, deputy foreign minister for legal affairs, echoed the condemnation in a tweet, urging Trump to cease threats whose impact, he said, would not be limited to Iran. He cited violations of the UN Charter and the Rome Statute, framing threats against bridges and power plants as war crimes under international law. Gharibabadi affirmed that, under Article 51 of the UN

Charter, Iran would deliver a "decisive, immediate, and regret-inducing" response to any aggression or imminent threat. These exchanges occur against a backdrop of already ongoing attacks on Iranian civilian sites—including hospitals, schools, universities, research centers, nuclear facilities, oil installations, and bridges—since February 28.

One of the latest strikes targeted the data center at Tehran's Sharif University of Technology, which hosts the national Artificial Intelligence platform and many other services.

First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref denounced the attack as a symbol of Trump's "madness and ignorance," asserting that Iranian knowledge resides not in concrete but in the will of its scholars and elites—a fortress that cannot be destroyed. Israel also targeted Iran's South Pars petrochemical facilities in Assaluyeh, Khuzestan, on Monday.

IRGC intelligence chief assassinated in Israeli attack

International Desk

The head of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Intelligence Organization was assassinated in an Israeli airstrike on the Iranian capital of Tehran, amid the unprovoked US-Israeli aggression against the country. In a statement released on Monday, the IRGC Public Relations Department announced that Brigadier General Seyed Majid Khademi was targeted in a criminal and terrorist attack by the US and Israeli enemies in the early hours of the day.

The statement paid homage to Khademi for his achievements, stating that the late IRGC intelligence chief sincerely and courageously defended the principles of the 1979 Islamic Revolution, as well as Iran's Islamic establishment and territories for nearly half a century, and played an outstanding role in various intelligence and security domains. The IRGC highlighted that Khademi's strenuous ef-



IRNA

orts, particularly in the path of confronting foreign enemies at strategic levels, have for years paved the way for Iran's intelligence apparatus to thwart the foes' fiendish and satanic plots to penetrate into Iran, and undermine the national calm and security. Later in the day, the Israeli regime claimed responsibility for the assassination, with Defense Minister Israel Katz saying he was updated on the strike during an assessment with military chief of staff Eyal Zamir.

The United States and Israel initiated a bloody war against Iran on Febru-

ary 28, assassinating the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and several high-ranking military commanders and civilians.

The aggression has comprised a series of intensive strikes on both military installations and civilian facilities throughout Iran, leading to considerable loss of life and widespread damage to infrastructure.

In response, Iranian Armed Forces have carried out waves of retaliatory missile and drone operations against US interests across West Asia and Israeli positions in the occupied territories.

Trump confused, lacks ...

Nor are the consequences confined to energy markets. The war has driven up the cost of trade, disrupted air travel and introduced broader frictions across the global economy. Against this backdrop, Washington appears to be operating without a clear exit strategy. It has turned to a combination of military pressure and media campaign aimed at framing the conflict as a victory. The episode surrounding the downing of a US fighter jet in Iran illustrates this approach. By announc-

ing that American forces had rescued the pilot in a military operation, Trump sought to project control and success. Yet the facts on the ground tell a more complicated story: the pilot's fate remains uncertain, while the operation reportedly came at the cost of twelve US aircraft, including two planes, several helicopters and drones.

The difficulty lies in the absence of a credible narrative of success. Without a clear strategy, Washington appears increasingly caught in a cycle of reactive measures. Each attempt to ratchet up

pressure on Iran has instead compounded the challenges it faces. The trajectory suggests that the United States may ultimately be forced to withdraw from the region in disgrace under adverse conditions.

Trump's latest approach points in that direction. It hinges on declaring victory in the media while sidestepping the realities of the battlefield, coupled with an escalation in attacks on Iran's infrastructure. This comes even as Tehran has signaled that it will determine the timing of the war's end.

Such escalation is not without precedent. Key infrastructure, including major industries such as Mobarakeh Steel and Khuzestan Steel, as well as power and energy facilities, has already been targeted. Iran has responded to these strikes and has prepared a broader, pre-identified set of targets for potential drone and missile operations should such attacks continue. It has made clear that any further targeting of its infrastructure will be met with a decisive and consequential response.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

