

# FM spokesperson: Tehran offers 'reasonable, generous' reply to US

'The only thing we have demanded is Iran's legitimate rights'

## International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Monday that Tehran's response to US peace proposal was "reasonable and generous" after the US president rejected it as "completely unacceptable."

Esmail Baqaei said that, "We did not demand any concessions. The only thing we have demanded is Iran's legitimate rights."

"Is it unreasonable for Iran to demand an end to the war in the region, a halt to maritime piracy against Iranian ships, and the release of assets belonging to the Iranian people that have been unjustly blocked for years?" Baqaei asked.

"Is our proposal for safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz unreasonable? Is establishing peace and security across the entire region irrespons-

ble?" Baqaei said.

"Everything we proposed in the plan was reasonable and generous, and it is for the good of the region and the world," he further said.

He expressed regret that the American side, based on a mindset shaped by the Israeli regime, continues to insist on unreasonable demands.

Baqaei added that all of Iran's points were supposed to be discussed, but the US side has so far refused to engage with them in good faith.

A report by IRIB said that Iran has demanded full compensation for war damages, lifting of all sanctions imposed on Iran, release of frozen Iranian assets and the recognition of Iran's sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz.

US President Donald Trump reacted to Tehran's formal response to the American side,

calling it "completely unacceptable."

Trump also told Axios in an interview that he has discussed Iran's response with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Baqaei's remarks came as regional efforts are underway to end the ongoing tensions in the region, which have been caused by a US-Israeli aggression against Iran on February 28.

On April 11-12, Iran and the United States held the first round of negotiations brokered by Pakistan, days after Islamabad mediated a ceasefire to halt the aggression on Iran. However, it failed to produce an agreement due to the US excessive demands.

Efforts to bring back the sides to the negotiating table also failed after Iran refused to take part in the second round due to the US violation of the ceasefire.



Esmail Baqaei  
IRNA

However, the two countries have been exchanging proposals through mediator Pakistan to find a way out of the crisis which has also disrupted global

economy. Iran submitted its response to the American side's proposed text earlier on Sunday. Tehran has repeatedly empha-

sized that at this stage, negotiations will only focus on ending the war in the region, rejecting any talks on Iran's nuclear program.

## Iran warns of 'decisive response' to any European naval deployment in Strait of Hormuz



Charles de Gaulle Aircraft Carrier  
CREATIVE COMMONS

## International Desk

Iran warned of "a decisive and immediate response" to any deployment of military vessels by European countries in the Strait of Hormuz, stressing that the Islamic Republic alone holds the authority to maintain security in the strategic maritime corridor.

Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi made the remarks in a post on his X account on Sunday, after France and Britain announced their decision to deploy warships to the region.

"Whether in times of war or peace, only the Islamic Republic of Iran can

establish security in this strait and will not allow any country to interfere in such matters," he said.

Gharibabadi said that France has announced plans to send its flagship aircraft carrier, the Charles de Gaulle, to the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, while the UK has indicated it will send a warship to the area in an effort to allegedly preserve freedom of navigation.

"Any deployment and stationing of extra-regional destroyers around the Strait of Hormuz, under the pretext of protecting shipping, is nothing but an escalation of the crisis, the militarization of a vital waterway, and an attempt to cover up the true root of

insecurity in the region," he warned. He also emphasized that maritime security cannot be ensured through military posturing, particularly by those nations who, by "supporting, participating in, or remaining silent in the face of aggression and blockade, are themselves part of the problems."

The Iranian diplomat further pointed out that the root of regional insecurity lies in the illegal use of force, consistent threats aimed at coastal states, and a disregard for international law as outlined in the United Nations Charter.

"The Strait of Hormuz is not the common property of extra-regional powers; it is a sensitive waterway adjacent to coastal states," Gharibabadi said.

"The exercise of Iran's sovereignty over this strait and the establishment of its legal frameworks fall within Iran's rights as a coastal state," he added. France and Britain are leading efforts to create an international coalition to break Iran's control over the Strait of Hormuz, but only after a deal between the US and Iran is secured.

In response to the US-Israeli aggression, Iran has closed the Strait of Hormuz to shipping associated with the aggressors and their allies, sending oil prices soaring.

Iran began enforcing much stricter controls last month following US President Donald Trump's announcement of a blockade targeting Iranian vessels and ports.

## Pezeshkian: Battlefield victory should be reinforced through diplomacy

## National Desk

Iran's president said on Monday that the "rational and logical preference" is to complete the victory achieved by the Armed Forces on the battlefield through diplomacy, and to secure the rights of the Iranian people from a position of pride and power.

Masoud Pezeshkian made the remarks during a meeting with commanders of the Iran's Police Command in Tehran.

"The great nation of Iran and its armed forces managed to deny the enemy its goals and forced it to accept a ceasefire and stop the war," Pezeshkian said.

Outlining the country's options, he said Tehran could either engage in talks with dignity and strength to secure national rights, remain in a state of no war, no peace, or continue the path of conflict and confrontation.

However, he said that the rational, logical preference which is based on national interest is that the victory achieved by the Armed Forces on the battlefield be complemented in the field of diplomacy and the rights of the Iranian nation be established from a position of dignity and authority.

On February 28, the United States and Israel launched an unprovoked war of



Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian (C) speaks in a meeting with commanders of the Iran's Police Command in Tehran, on May 11, 2026.  
president.ir

aggression against Iran, assassinating the late leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and striking nuclear sites, schools, hospitals and civilian infrastructure.

Iran's Armed Forces have retaliated against the aggression by launching missile and drone attacks on US military sites in regional countries and Israel's positions in the occupied territories.

Iran and the US have also held one round of negotiations in Pakistan to end the conflict. The negotiations between the two sides have yet to produce an agreement.

## China chastises anti-Iran US sanctions as 'illegal, unilateral'

## International Desk

China voiced strong opposition to US sanctions, calling the curbs on three China-based companies, which the US claimed enabled Iran's military operations, illegal and unilateral.

"We have always required Chinese enterprises to conduct business in accordance with laws and regulations, and will firmly safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese enterprises," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said.

Guo emphasized the importance of making every possible effort to prevent a resumption of hostilities in the region as the world's most urgent priority at this juncture.



Guo Jiakun  
VCG

"The pressing priority is to prevent by all means a relapse in fighting, rather than using the war to maliciously associate and smear other countries."

The US State Department this week sanctioned three Chinese companies it accused of aiding Tehran during the US-Israeli aggression against Iran, the latest in the back-and-forth between the two countries just days before President Donald Trump will meet

with China's leader Xi Jinping in a high-stakes confab in Beijing.

The agency accused the firms — Meentropy Technology (Hangzhou) Co. Ltd, The Earth Eye and Chang Guang Satellite Technology Co., Ltd. — of "providing satellite imagery that enables Iran's military strikes against US forces in the Middle East," according to a fact sheet Friday.

"The United States will continue to take action to hold China-based entities accountable for their support to Iran and ensure Iran cannot reconstitute its proliferation-sensitive programs following Operation Epic Fury," the State Department wrote.

"The targeting of US service members and partners will not go unanswered."

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

## CARTOON

