

US dishonesty main obstacle to ending war: *Araghchi*

International Desk

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said the United States' threatening and provocative rhetoric, lack of goodwill and dishonesty in the negotiations are the main obstacles to resolution of the current situation in the region. Abbas Araghchi made the remarks during a meeting with Norwegian Deputy Foreign Minister Andreas Motzfeldt Kravik in Tehran on Tuesday. The Iranian top diplomat also described the US's maximalist approach as well as its other instances of counterproductive attitude as other obstacles to ending the situation that has arisen out of unprovoked aggression by the US and Israel against Iran in February. Together with the Israeli regime, the US waged its latest bout of unlawful attacks on Iran from February 28 to

April 7. US President Donald Trump announced a ceasefire on the latter date amid decisive Iranian retaliation, but on April 13, declared continuation of an illegal blockade of Iranian vessels and ports. The Islamic Republic began shutting down the strategic Strait of Hormuz to enemies and their allies after the launch of the aggression. Tehran brought in far stricter controls following Trump's decision to sustain the blockade. Iran has ruled out returning to negotiations as long as the US refused to meet its conditions, including cessation of aggression on all fronts and removal of the blockade. Araghchi also stressed that the main source of the current situation in the Strait of Hormuz was the American-Israeli aggression, followed by repeated violations of the ceasefire



Norwegian Deputy Foreign Minister Andreas Motzfeldt Kravik (L) talks with Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi during a visit to Tehran on May 12, 2026. IRNA

through continued blockade. According to the foreign minister, the Islamic Republic, as a littoral state of the Strait of Hormuz, is engaged in consultations and discussions to formulate regulations related to arrangements concerning the waterway in line with the international law. The arrangements, he added, is aimed at strengthening and facilitating safe passage through the strait. For his part, the Norwegian official emphasized the necessity of establishing lasting peace and stability in the region and efforts to safeguard the international law. He also expressed his coun-



try's readiness to assist in strengthening diplomacy as well as consultations regarding maritime safety and environmental protection in the region.

Army warns no American arms to transit Hormuz into regional bases



Iran will no longer allow US weaponry to transit the Strait of Hormuz into regional bases, said the Iranian Army, declaring that the strategic waterway is now under the coordinated strategic control of the Iranian Armed Forces. "From now on, we will not allow American weapons to transit the Strait of Hormuz and enter regional bases," Army spokesman Brigadier General Mohammad Akraminia said on Wednesday. "Any country wishing to transit the waterway must do so under the supervision of Iran's armed forces, ensuring a 'passage without harm,'" he said during a ceremony marking the 40th day after

the burial of former Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi. According to Akraminia, the western part of the strait is under the command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy, while its eastern section is controlled by the Islamic Republic of Iran Army's Navy. "This coordinated and synergistic control, while enhancing Iran's monitoring and sovereignty over the region, will generate revenues for the country up to twice the oil income," he stated. Iran has closed the Strait of Hormuz to shipping associated with the aggressors and their allies in

response to the US-Israeli aggression which began on February 28. Iran began enforcing much stricter controls last month following US President Donald Trump's announcement of a blockade targeting Iranian vessels and ports. The general further asserted that despite two decades of planning by enemies to attack Iran, the country's armed forces not only maintained their combat capability but also actively thwarted hostile objectives through missile strikes and ground operations. He noted that in the recent war, all of the enemy's goals, including the destruction of missile and nuclear capabilities, the fragmentation of the country, and the overthrow of the system, failed. Akraminia maintained that Iran's military doctrine is now offensive in nature and any mistake by an enemy will be met with the most severe response. "After the first revolution that expelled the Shah and the second revolution that expelled America from Iran, today we will expel America from the entire region, and its presence will be eliminated from this region forever," he said.

Deputy FM urges BRICS to defend nations' rights against monopoly, sanctions, coercion

International Desk

Iran on Wednesday called on the BRICS group of emerging economies to turn into a platform for equal cooperation, mutual respect, independent decision-making, and the defense of nations' rights against monopoly, sanctions, and the policy of coercion.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal Affairs Kazem Gharibabadi, who has traveled to India's capital to participate in BRICS meeting of foreign ministers on Thursday and Friday, made the remarks in a post on X. Gharibabadi said that Iran's active participation in BRICS represents "a strategic choice to strengthen genuine multilateralism, expand equal cooperation and help shape a fairer order in international relations." He expressed hope that the main ministerial session scheduled on Thursday and Friday could be an important occasion to discuss the future of cooperation in the Global South, reform international economic governance, develop independent trade, strengthen financial and banking ties, and reduce dependence on unilateral mechanisms. Referring to Iran's role in BRICS, Gharib-



abadi pointed out that the country, with its geopolitical, energy, transit, scientific, and human capacities, can make an effective contribution to the bloc's agenda for balanced development, economic security, regional connectivity, and strengthening the voice of independent nations. The senior diplomat further stressed the need for opposing the unilateral coercive actions of the United States and defending the rights of nations, saying the future of the world lies in cooperation, justice, and true multilateralism. Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi left Tehran for New Delhi on Wednesday to take part in the two-day BRICS summit. He will also hold talks and exchange views with his counterparts attending the meeting.

Iran calls for Kuwait to immediately release Iranians arrested on 'baseless' accusations

International Desk

Foreign Ministry in a statement on Wednesday rejected "baseless" accusations leveled by Kuwait against Iran after the Arab country arrested four Iranian nationals for allegedly attempting to "infiltrate" the Persian Gulf state. The ministry strongly condemned the "improper action" of the Kuwaiti government in "politically and propagandistically exploiting" the case of four Iranian personnel who had been on a routine naval patrol mission and entered Kuwaiti territorial waters due to a navigational system malfunction. "The Islamic Republic of Iran, while reiterating its principled policy of respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries in the region, including



Kuwait, declares that it expects the Kuwaiti authorities, while avoiding hasty statements and baseless allegations, to pursue the existing issues through official channels," it said. Iran's reaction came after Kuwait's Interior Ministry claimed on Tuesday that the Arab country has arrested four people affiliated with Iran's Islamic Revolution

Guards Corps who attempted to infiltrate the Persian Gulf state's Bubiyan Island by sea. It also claimed that Iranians injured a soldier during clashes with Kuwaiti forces. Kuwait said the operation took place on May 1 and the naval officers arrested "aboard a fishing boat specially chartered to carry out hostile actions against Kuwait". Iran's Foreign Ministry stressed the need for Iran's Embassy in Kuwait to be granted "the fastest possible access" to the detained Iranian nationals in accordance with international legal norms, and called for their immediate release. Kuwait's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced on Tuesday that it had summoned the Iranian ambassador and delivered a note of protest to him.



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