

Araghchi: Regional security cannot be achieved without Iran

International Desk

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said regional security cannot be achieved by sidelining or excluding Iran, stressing that recent events have underscored the need for cooperation and respect for the interests of all countries in the region. Speaking at a meeting with grassroots social activists and organizers of public gatherings on Sunday, Araghchi highlighted the role of public participation in countering external threats and supporting the country's strategic objectives. The minister said Iran's strength on the world stage stems not only from its military capabilities but also from national unity, the resilience of its people and their continued support for the country. Referring to what he described as the achievements of the 12-day war and the recent US-Israeli attacks on Iran, Araghchi said the country had secured not only tactical and battlefield successes but also strategic gains that are increasingly shaping regional and international dynamics. On regional security, Araghchi said the recent conflict demonstrated that lasting stability, economic progress and security can only be achieved through cooperation, mutual understanding and recognition of the shared interests of all regional countries, including Iran. Araghchi stressed that any future regional security framework must involve all countries in the region and be based on collective cooperation, a principle that Iran has consistently promoted.

"The experience of the recent [US-Israeli] war showed that regional security cannot be shaped based on the exclusion or disregard of Iran," he said.

"Countries in the region have gradually come to the realization that sustainable security, economic development, and regional stability are only possible through cooperation, understanding, and consideration of the common interests of all countries in the region, including the Islamic Republic of Iran."

Pointing to Iran's achievements during the 12-day war imposed by the Israeli regime and the United States in June 2025 and their recent 40-day aggression, he said the Iranian nation did not only gain field and tactical victories, but succeeded in realizing valuable strategic breakthroughs "whose effects can be observed in regional and global equations."

The foreign minister stressed that recent events completely shattered the enemy's long-standing narrative that portrayed Iran as "weak, isolated, and vulnerable" country which is not able to withstand sanctions and economic pressures and revealed the Islamic Republic's true power to the world.

FM spox says Iran's resistance secured foes' defeat

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baqaei marked the anniversary of the Israeli regime's military aggression against Iran, carried out with US support, saying the country's resistance and determination thwarted the attackers' objectives



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (center) speaks in a meeting in the capital Tehran on June 14, 2026.

● IRNA

and turned their plots into defeat. In a message posted on X on the first anniversary of the June 13 aggression, Baqaei shared a verse by renowned Persian poet Saeb Tabrizi, saying the aggression was launched "under the delusion of victory" against a land "whose steely resistance and determination to defeat its enemies is renowned throughout history." "Today marks the anniversary of the beginning of the military aggression by the Zionist regime, with the cooperation of the United States," he wrote.

"However, the steadfast will, resistance, and self-sacrifice of the Iranian nation ultimately turned into defeat and disgrace the dream of an enemy that today admits: 'We did everything.'"

He added the events demonstrated Iran's power, resilience, and pursuit of dignity, adding that the nation's determination had become a lasting example in history. The criminal US-Israeli aggression against Iran began on February 28 with airstrikes that assassinated senior Iranian officials and commanders, including Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

Iranian Armed Forces responded by launching daily missile and drone operations targeting locations in the Israeli-oc-



cupied territories as well as US military bases and assets across the region. On April 8, forty days into the war, a Pakistan-brokered temporary ceasefire between Iran and the US took effect. Since then, both Israel and the US have violated the truce, triggering Iran's strong retaliatory strikes. Iran and the United States are set to sign a Pakistan-mediated memorandum of understanding within the next few days.

Qataris in Tehran

A delegation from fellow mediator Qatar arrived in Tehran on Sunday "to help facilitate the finalization of the agreement," AFP quoted an unnamed Iranian diplo-

mat with knowledge of the matter. Tehran and Washington have released conflicting information about the contents of the deal.

Tehran has insisted it will maintain control over the Strait of Hormuz, but the US has repeatedly said this would be unacceptable.

Since imposing its blockade on the strait in mid-April, which has thrown global markets into turmoil, Iran has demanded vessels obtain permission from its Armed Forces before transiting the waterway, and has established a new body to oversee it and collect tolls.

The US has responded with its own blockade of Iranian ports.

Israel hits Beirut's Dahiyeh in deadly airstrike; Iran vows payback



The aftermath of an Israeli airstrike that targeted a building in Beirut's southern suburbs on June 14, 2026.

● AFP

International Desk

The Israeli regime carried out a deadly airstrike on a residential building in Beirut's southern suburbs, violating a shaky ceasefire that Iran considers as a key condition for any broader agreement to end the war in the region. The airstrike, which targeted a five-story building in the

Ghobeiry area of the Dahiyeh district, led to several casualties, with the Lebanese National News Agency (NNA) later reporting that the aggression killed three people and injured 14 others.

The Israeli regime claimed that the deadly assault on Beirut's southern suburbs came shortly after Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement fired drones

into the occupied territories in retaliation for previous acts of aggression.

"The IDF has just struck Hezbollah ... targets in the Dahiyeh district of Beirut, in response to Hezbollah's firing at Israeli territory," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Israel Katz said in a joint statement.

"Israel will not tolerate fire directed at its territory," they added.

Israeli media claimed that the airstrike hit a Hezbollah command center, with footage showing an apartment building heavily damaged in the assault.

Citing Israeli and US officials, American news website Axios reported that the Israeli mili-

tary had informed the US Central Command (CENTCOM) shortly before carrying out the attack.

The latest aggression comes as Washington and Tehran are moving closer to a tentative agreement after months of indirect negotiations, with Pakistani officials indicating that a final text of a peace deal has been reached.

Iran has repeatedly stressed that a ceasefire in Lebanon is inseparable from any final agreement with the United States.

Ebrahim Rezaei, spokesman for the Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, has warned the enemies against any "miscalculations" after the airstrike on Beirut.

"One must not make any miscalculations; even if you want an agreement or understanding, its path is the disciplining of the Zionist regime. If this rabid dog is not controlled, it will bite us while the ink on the agreement

is still drying," Rezaei wrote on X.

Qalibaf rebukes US for lacking will to fulfill commitments

The Iranian Parliament speaker, responding to the Israeli regime's attack on Dahiyeh, stated that if the US lacks the will or ability to fulfill its commitments, speaking of continuing the path is not possible. Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf made the remark in a post on his personal X social media account in response to the Zionist regime's attack on Beirut's southern suburb of Dahiyeh.

"The Zionist aggression on Dahiyeh once again showed that America either lacks the will to fulfill its commitments or lacks the ability to do so. You cannot gain concessions by giving the green light to the regime. The good cop-bad cop game is outdated," Qalibaf said. "If you lack the will or ability to fulfill your

commitments, speaking of continuing the path is not possible."

Iranian cmdr. warns of retaliation

Mohammad Jafar Asadi, the deputy inspector brigadier general of the Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, warned that the Israeli attack on Dahiyeh "will not go unanswered." "Without a doubt, these crimes will not go unanswered," Asadi underlined.

Last week, Iran launched a barrage of missiles at the occupied territories after the Israeli regime bombed Dahiyeh despite warnings that such attacks could trigger an Iranian response and jeopardize diplomatic efforts aimed at ending the war.

A fragile Pakistan-brokered ceasefire has been in place since April, but repeated Israeli attacks in Lebanon and continued US violations of the truce have raised concerns about the prospects for a wider agreement.

Israel steps up ...

The prospects for ending the war in Lebanon depend on several factors. The first is the extent to which the United States, as a party to the understanding with Iran, is willing to pressure Israel to uphold the initial arrangement and constrain its freedom of action in southern Lebanon. Israel has demonstrated that it will make considerable efforts to preserve its ability to act independently in this arena. Nevertheless, if US pressure is serious, it can genuinely influence Israeli conduct. For example, if Trump is truly determined, he can certainly prevent Israeli attacks on Beirut. Another factor is the course of negotiations between the Lebanese government and Israel, which in turn depends on Israel's own behavior and whether it is prepared to withdraw from occupied territories. Ultimately, while an agreement may impose certain constraints on Israeli behavior in Lebanon, it is unlikely to guarantee a comprehensive ceasefire or ensure that Israel refrains from violating it.

If Iran and the United States reach an

understanding that includes Lebanon as part of the arrangement, to what extent would Washington have the capacity or political will to restrain Israeli military actions in Lebanon? What does the history of US-Israeli relations suggest about Tel Aviv's room for independent action under such circumstances? Based on the conduct that has been observed so far, Trump has not taken particularly serious steps to limit Israel's freedom of action in Lebanon, especially given that Israel has informed Washington ahead of its operations on each occasion.

Trump's objections to Israeli attacks have consistently come after the strikes were carried out, when he subsequently called for them to stop. If he is genuinely committed to implementing the agreement, however, he should prevent such attacks before they take place.

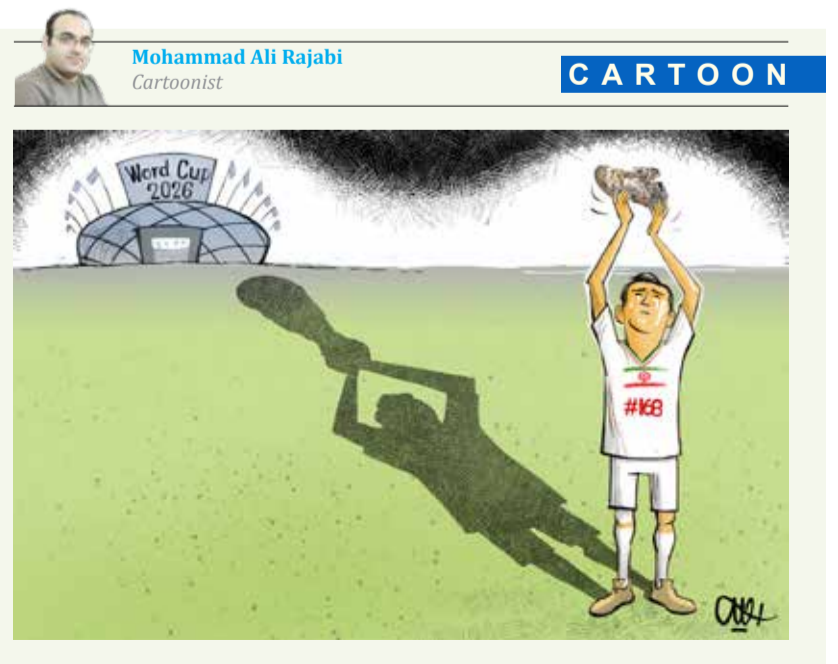
On the other hand, the proximity of nationwide elections also compels Netanyahu to project a degree of independence in his decision-making.

More broadly, how does Israel view a potential understanding between Iran and the United States? What threats and opportunities does it see in such an arrangement?

Israel opposes the underlying approach guiding an Iran-US agreement. It favors a one-sided arrangement tantamount to a capitulation document—what it refers to in the nuclear sphere as the "Libya model." Under that model, a country's entire nuclear capability would be packed into crates and shipped out of the country.

The agreement currently under discussion, however, is not based on a one-sided logic and includes benefits for the Iranian side as well. That is something Israel will find deeply unpalatable.

The lifting of some sanctions on Iran, the release of frozen Iranian assets, the end of restrictions surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, the eventual withdrawal of US forces from areas surrounding Iran's borders, and the separation of nuclear negotiations from the initial understanding all run counter to Israel's preferred model.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

CARTOON