

President calls Iranians country's 'real heroes'

National Desk

President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Saturday that Iranians have been the "real heroes" of the country's current difficult times which have caused by the recent acts of aggression by the United States and Israel against Iran.

"Two years ago, our work began with the assassination of our dear guest by the Zionist regime; two years during which imposed wars, pressure and repeated hostility were inflicted on the people of Iran", Pezeshkian said in a post on X as he marked two years since taking office. Ismail Haniyeh, former head of the political bureau of the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas, was as-

sassinated in an attack in the Iranian capital Tehran in July 2024.

"In all these difficult days, the real heroes were the people. The future of Iran will be shaped by the people of Iran," he wrote.

Pezeshkian's remarks looked back on the start of his administration two years ago, which coincided with the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh, former leader of the Palestinian resistance group Hamas, by Israel in Tehran.

Since the beginning of Pezeshkian's tenure, Iran has endured a series of wars of aggression imposed by the United States and the Israeli regime, including the 12-day war in June 2025 and the 40-day war, as well as ongoing US attacks on Iranian soil

since earlier in July.

The US and Israel claimed the lives of many high-ranking Iranian officials, including the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, many top military commanders, thousands of personnel of armed forces and ordinary people.

The wars have also made many economic problems for the country as the US has imposed a naval blockade on Iran's ports. However, the current administration has managed to handle the situation despite economic pressure imposed on the country.

Despite the problems, Iranians have shown their support for the country and the establishment by attending nighttime gatherings across the country.



Masoud Pezeshkian
● president.ir

Araghchi: Foreign Ministry pursues national interests within guidelines of Leader

National Desk

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi stressed on Saturday that Iran's diplomatic apparatus pursues the country's national interests within the framework and guidelines of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei and the directives of the Supreme National Security Council.

Addressing a meeting of the government's Information Council in Tehran, the Iranian top diplomat explained the developments after a Memorandum of Understanding reached between Iran and the US to end the war and the repeated violations of the treaty by the US as well as efforts made by the foreign policy apparatus to protect national interests.

Tehran entered Pakistan-mediated negotiations with Washington to end an unprovoked aggression against the country. The negotiations led to



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi speaks during a meeting of the government's Information Council in Tehran on August 1, 2026.
● IRNA

a Memorandum of Understanding to stop conflict and reach a comprehensive agreement which will address Iran's nuclear program and sanctions imposed on Iran.

Back in June, Ayatollah Khamenei approved the Memorandum of Understanding. The Leader said he initially disagreed with the memorandum of understanding but ultimately approved it after receiving assurances from president and other officials that the country's interests would be protected.

Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei said he had "a different opinion" on the agreement but granted permission

after President Masoud Pezeshkian and other officials pledged to safeguard "the rights of the Iranian nation and the resistance front" and accepted responsibility for the deal.

During the Saturday's meeting, Araghchi also referred to the role of media in the ongoing war against Iran, stressing the need for the country's media to reflect the defense of the Iranian people in the face of the enemy's barbaric aggression, as well as to promote national unity and cohesion.

The Iranian foreign minister pointed to the critical role that the media can play in presenting a true narrative of the Iranian people's resistance and steadfastness against the aggressors.

Regional states serving as US shield will 'burn in fire of war': Top commander



Ali Abdollahi
● IRNA

International Desk

Commander of Iran's top joint military command, the Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, warned regional countries against aligning with the United States, saying any state that acts as a "defensive shield" for Washington will "burn in the fire of war."

In a message addressed to countries in the region on Saturday, Major General Ali Abdollahi said the United States is "pursuing, with increasing speed, the path of widespread warmongering in a regional war," describing the approach as part of "a dangerous strategy aimed at expansion and illegitimate domination across the entire region."

"We explicitly declare that Muslim countries must exercise foresight, monitor America's crimes, and reconsider cooperation and alignment with the United States," he said. "Otherwise, any country that turns itself into a defensive shield for the criminal and aggressor United States will burn in the fire of war."

The United States has used its bases that are spread out in regional countries in its 40-day joint war of aggression on

Iran, which began on February 28. Iran, in response, has attacked US military bases and interests in those countries, in addition to Israeli targets in the occupied territories.

In its latest retaliatory attacks, Iran's Armed Forces launched strikes on the US bases in Kuwait on Saturday.

The commander said the recent war against Iran demonstrated that the "criminal United States" would refrain from no act of "mischief or destruction" in pursuit of its "satanic objectives," even at the expense of the interests and resources of Muslim nations.

He said Muslim countries should recognize that Washington is using their capital, wealth, critical infrastructure, and strategic resources "as a defensive shield for its worn-out army" while simultaneously strengthening the military and security apparatus of the "child-killing and terrorist Zionist regime."

He further said Iran, its armed forces, and the Axis of Resistance have shown that the regional balance of power "no longer follows its previous parameters," arguing that the United States and Israel have failed to achieve their "aggressive and illegitimate strategies" against the Islamic Republic.

However, the US President Donald Trump reiterated his threats against Iran on Friday.

Speaking to reporters Friday during a meeting with members of his Cabinet at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland, Trump said "we just want to win" in Iran and signaled that he expected US military action to continue for some time.

He claimed the US will hit Iran "very hard" until they can't take it anymore.

US warmongering will tighten closure of Strait of Hormuz: Iran's security chief

International Desk

Iran's security chief warned that continued warmongering on the part of the United States towards the Islamic Republic will tighten the closure that the country has imposed on the Strait of Hormuz in response to Washington's violations.

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, Mohammad Bagher Zolqadr made the remarks in a message issued on Friday as he cautioned against continuation of the US's warlike attitude towards the Islamic Republic, including the illegal naval blockade that Washington has imposed on the country.

The two sides signed a memorandum of understanding last month to end the cycle arising from the latest bout of unprovoked American-Israeli aggression against the Islamic Republic, which had begun on February 28.

Under the understanding, Iran agreed to allow fee-free maritime transit through the strait for a period of 60 days.

In compliance with the MoU, the Islamic Republic devised a special maritime route for vessels to cross the chokepoint, warning vessels against using illegal routes.

The US has, however, been trying to escort transit through the strait along an illegal passageway, prompting the Islamic Republic to confront every instance of Washington-instigated transit through the chokepoint and shut



A commercial vessel is anchored in the Strait of Hormuz as a small fishing boat sails in the foreground in southern Iran on July 27, 2026.
● ISNA

the corridor until Washington ended its interference in regional maritime movement.

Adding to his remarks, Zolghadr noted that, not only would Washington's prolonged adversarial approach further complicate the closure of the waterway, "but also close other straits and chokepoints."

"The global economy, energy markets, and American voters will pay the price," he concluded as skyrocketing gasoline prices continue to exact a toll on American taxpayers.

The Strait of Hormuz, located between Iran and Oman, is one of the world's most critical maritime chokepoints, linking the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. A significant share of global oil and liquefied natural gas exports passes through the narrow waterway, making any disruption a source of concern for international energy markets and global shipping.

Iran shut down the chokepoint to enemies and their allies after February 28, when the US and the Israeli regime began their latest bout of wholesale

unprovoked aggression against the Islamic Republic.

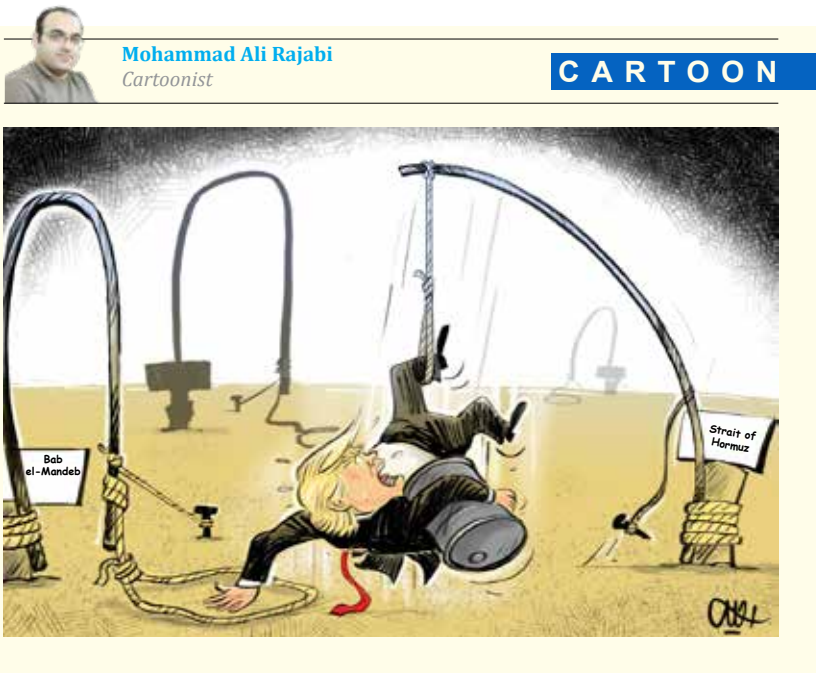
It began exercising far stricter controls after US President Donald Trump announced continuation of an illegal naval blockade of Iranian vessels and ports in spite of a ceasefire that the US president, himself, had declared on April 7.

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi in a phone conversation with his Indian counterpart S Jaishankar described the US's violations of the MoU and continued military aggression against Iran — including the naval blockade and attacks on Iranian commercial shipping — as the primary causes of insecurity in the region and the Strait of Hormuz.

The US violations of the agreement's clauses, especially those related to the management of the Strait of Hormuz, have worsened situation in the strategic waterway and have caused incidents involving vessels attempting to use unauthorized routes.

In the latest of such incidents, a tanker off the coast of Oman was hit by an "unknown projectile" on Saturday, a British maritime agency said.

No injuries were reported in the incident, which occurred 12.5 miles off the coast of Lima, Oman, according to the agency.



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