

Baqaei: Saudi-Turkey-Pakistan pact shows region no longer trust US security promises

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said a recent defense agreement signed between Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Turkey indicates a change in the perception of regional countries that they can no longer rely solely on the United States' claim of providing security.

The development shows a change in the perception of regional countries when it comes to the issue of security, Baqaei said during his weekly press conference on Monday in response to a question about Iran's stance vis-à-vis the trilateral pact.

"Given developments over the past two or three years, regional countries have realized that security is not a commodity that can be purchased from false security brokers," Baqaei added.

Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan signed the defense agreement on Friday with the purpose of strengthening collective deterrence against any act of aggression.

In a joint statement, the signatories said the pact stipulates that an armed attack against any one of the three countries will be regarded as an attack on all.

It aims to strengthen collective security and promote peace, security and stability in the region and beyond, the statement added.

Baqaei dismissed concerns over the defense agreement, emphasizing that Tehran has "deeply rooted bonds" with the three countries.

"We maintain deep bonds with Pakistan, Turkey, and even Saudi Arabia and there is no reason for Iran to be concerned about the pact," he said.

"This development shows that regional countries cannot trust the claim by the United States and other extra-regional countries to provide security," Baqaei



Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei speaks during his weekly press conference in Tehran on August 10, 2026.

● ISNA

effort to de-escalate tensions, including helping broker a ceasefire in April and a framework agreement in June.

Terrorist attacks from Iraq's soil

Baqaei also said Tehran expects the Iraqi authorities to make their utmost efforts to prevent terrorist groups and hostile foreign actors, including the US, from using the Iraqi territory against Iran's interests.

He added that Iran and Iraq need to strive to reach a "clear" prospect for mutual relations in all fields, including security.

"Consultations between the two countries are ongoing continuously. We are aware of the threats and dangers facing the security of our borders," the spokesman emphasized.

Ukraine's attack

Baqaei further rejected Ukraine's claim that its attack on an Iranian commercial vessel in the Caspian Sea was not deliberate, saying it remains unconvinced by Kiev's explanation and expects compensation for the incident.

"We are not yet convinced by the Ukrainian side's claim that this action was unintentional," the Iranian spokesman added.

Pointing to senior Ukrainian officials' acknowledgment of the attack, Baqaei emphasized that Kiev bears responsibility for addressing the consequences of the incident.

Baqaei further stressed that Tehran expects Kiev to compensate for the damage caused by the attack.

Pezeshkian: No disagreement between officials, Armed Forces on Islamabad MoU



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (c) speaks during a meeting with the secretaries of Iran's political parties in Tehran on August 10, 2026.

● president.ir

International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Monday that the country's Armed Forces had fully backed the government's diplomatic efforts, including the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, while warning that internal divisions pose a greater threat to Iran than military attacks.

Pezeshkian made the remarks during a meeting with the secretaries of the country's political parties.

President said there was no disagreement between political officials and the Armed Forces on the Islamabad memorandum of understanding signed between Iran and the United States to end the US-Israeli aggression against Iran. He said Iran's adversaries were no longer relying solely on military means, arguing that their strategy had shifted toward fueling domestic divisions.

"The reality is that the enemy's plan to bring about the country's collapse is no longer merely a military plan. Based on analyses of the enemies' behavior and approach, they are counting on creating divisions from within and deepening rifts in order to push the country into crisis and collapse," he said.

"You cannot destroy this country with missiles and bombs alone, but through division you can weaken and destroy the country," he added.

The president called on political and social factions to put aside their differences, particularly under the current circumstances, saying his government's priority remained improving people's livelihoods and addressing social and economic challenges.

"The first step toward overcoming these problems is to reach an understanding on shared concepts and issues and, at the present stage, set aside our differences," Pezeshkian said.

Pezeshkian also said eliminating bureaucracy, while creating greater opportunities for participation by the public, political parties, political movements and social groups, formed a key pillar of his government's approach to governance.

Aliyev says Baku stands by Iranian people



Ilham Aliyev

International Desk

Azerbaijani president said on Monday that Baku has always stood by Iranian people after Iranian president appreciated cooperation by regional countries during the US aggression against Iran.

"The peoples of Azerbaijan

and Iran have always stood by each other's side in narrow and difficult days," Ilham Aliyev said in a post on X.

"Against the backdrop of the recent events that have taken place in our region, Azerbaijan has once again demonstrated that it stands by its brotherly Iranian people," he added.

The Azerbaijani president also thanked his Iranian counterpart Masoud Pezeshkian "for his kind and sincere words".

President Pezeshkian on Saturday outlined the growing cooperation with countries in the region, including Azer-

baijan, during the recent aggression by the United States which has imposed a naval blockade on Iranian ports and intensify economic pressure on Iran.

Pezeshkian said neighboring countries had played an important role in supporting Iran under wartime conditions.

"Pakistan is now cooperating with us wholeheartedly. Afghanistan has also been highly cooperative. Turkmenistan has provided appropriate cooperation. Russia and Iraq have also assisted us well. As for the Republic of Azerbaijan, despite certain

political issues, dialogue and engagement have continued," he said.

Pezeshkian said regional diplomacy had helped cushion the impact of wartime restrictions and what he described as a blockade.

"Had this regional diplomatic process not existed, one would have to ask where the supplies and resources currently available to the country would have come from," he said.

According to Tasnim, Pezeshkian said Azerbaijani authorities in Baku provided "significant and substantial" assistance to Iran across a

range of areas during the conflict, despite existing political issues between the two countries.

The US has imposed the blockade on Iranian ports after Iran closed the strategic Strait of Hormuz in response to the US-Israeli aggression against Iran in February 28. Washington aims to force Tehran to accept its conditions in a possible agreement to end the US-Israeli aggression against Iran.

Iran has expanded its cooperation with regional countries to alleviate the economic pressure caused by the US blockade.

Mohsen Rezaei appointed as secretary of Iran's top security body

National Desk

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei appointed Mohsen Rezaei as his representative to the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), Iran's highest national security decision-making body.

The appointment was formalized in a decree issued by the Leader on Sunday, citing Rezaei's extensive experience, particularly his role as one of the pioneering military commanders during the eight-year Sacred Defense (Iran-Iraq War) in the 1980s.

In the decree, the Leader also expressed his gratitude to Mohammad Bagher Zolqadr for his



Mohsen Rezaei

"round-the-clock efforts" while serving as his representative to

the SNSC.

Following the Leader's decree, President Masoud Pezeshkian appointed Rezaei as the new secretary of the SNSC.

Ayatollah Khamenei also appointed Zolqadr as his political adviser.

The Leader expressed hope that Zolqadr would successfully carry out his new responsibilities and contribute to advancing the ideals of the Islamic Revolution.

His appointment comes as tensions between Iran and the United States remain high, with Washington continuing to escalate in brazen violation of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between the two sides to end the third imposed war.



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Cartoonist

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