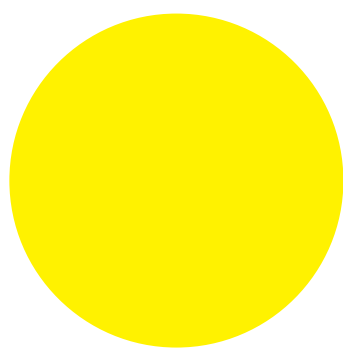


Minab tragedy to become national, global cultural narrative



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Persian Gulf Arab states urge reset with Iran as conflict drags on

Strategic pivot of Iran's Arab neighbors toward Tehran: *Waning of security reliance on US*

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Pezeshkian vows to firmly defend Iran's positions at UNGA

US open to meeting Iran at United Nations: *Rubio*

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President Masoud Pezeshkian waves goodbye as he departs Tehran for New York to take part in the UN General Assembly meeting on September 22, 2026.

president.ir

In search of sellable win

What's on the table for Trump and Xi?



By Mohammad Sajjad Kashani
Regional affairs researcher

**ANALYSIS
EXCLUSIVE**

Xi Jinping's three-day visit to Washington (September 23-25) opens with a gesture that

says almost everything about the logic of the relationship: Trump will personally greet Xi the moment he lands at Joint Base Andrews on September 23, the first time in his second term that he has gone in person to welcome a foreign leader at that military base. White House officials have described the move as part of an effort to "woo" Xi, since he is arriving for a dense and consequential summit and Trump is hoping to bank some goodwill before talks even begin. Politico quotes a US administration official saying the whole point is respect, being seen as an equal to the president, and that this gesture will carry real weight for the Chinese side. What's clear is this: they seem to be learning to speak the language of the East. The White House program shows a visit built in careful layers. Thursday morning, September 24, brings the formal arrival ceremony on the South Lawn with 479 troops from every branch of the US military. That evening comes the state dinner in the East Room, and Friday morning a tea reception in the Red Room. This level of pageantry mirrors, almost point for point, the lavish send-off China gave Trump in May 2026, when Xi announced the two sides had agreed to build a "constructive, strategic and stable relationship," a phrase that now serves as the official frame for these talks.

Economic dimension: fragile truce, fight over time

The most pressing item on the agenda appears to be extending the tariff truce, set to expire in November 2026. Beijing wants a longer horizon, one to two years, to give its economy room to breathe, while Washington prefers a shorter extension, three to six months, to keep its leverage intact. Commitments on agricultural purchases and Boeing jets, along with a proposed "trade council" for lower-sensitivity goods, function less as a real resolution and more as a mutual risk-management exercise. The 21% drop in rare earth export licenses in August is a signal that Beijing is still holding that card as pressure heading into the summit.

Security, technology dimension: rivalry dressed up as dialogue

Washington's proposal for a mutual notification mechanism on AI incidents involving national security risk looks more like risk management than genuine strategic cooperation. Semiconductor export restrictions remain firmly in place, and the presence of executives from Nvidia, OpenAI, Apple, and Tesla at the state dinner signals how much economic and security weight this sector carries for both sides, not any real opening.

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Iran says foreign flights still operating despite US pressure
Beijing rejects Washington's 'illegal' sanctions threats

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American power; a view from China

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Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Games:
Nemati opens gold account as Iran bags four karate medals

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