

# Pezeshkian: Iran will not leave negotiating table

Talks will only succeed without 'pressure, threats'



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (L) meets Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) summit and the Caspian Sea environmental summit in Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan, on October 8, 2026.  
● [president.ir](http://president.ir)

## International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian reaffirmed Tehran's commitment to diplomacy while firmly rejecting US unilateralism, telling Russian President Vladimir Putin that Tehran will not walk away from the negotiating table even as Washington continues its attacks. "We are engaged in dialogue; yet, every time we talk to the US, they launch new attacks. Nevertheless, we will not walk away from the negotiating table," President Pezeshkian said on Thursday evening when he met President Putin on the sidelines of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

summit and the Caspian Sea environmental summit in Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan. "Proposals were exchanged, both from our side and from the Americans, and we have made our own revisions to them. Once finalized, we intend to sit down with the relevant intermediaries to consolidate and conclude the matter," Pezeshkian said. Pezeshkian also thanked Russia for its positions at the regional level and in the United Nations, as well as its role in checking the unchecked assertion of unilateralism. "Our goal is to end the conflict and ensure the rights of the Iranian nation are

respected within the framework of international law; however, if the US insists on pursuing a path of unilateralism, this will not be feasible," Pezeshkian stressed. The war started with US and Israeli attacks on Iran, while Washington and Tehran were locked in negotiations on Iran's nuclear program. The warring parties agreed a memorandum of understanding in June that spelled out a framework for a permanent resolution to the conflict, but the US violations of the agreement prompted a resumption of military operations. Negotiations have effectively been at an impasse since then, and recent indirect

talks between the US and Iran on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly failed to produce a breakthrough. Despite a hiatus in negotiations, exchange of messages and proposals through regional mediators are underway to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz, a vital global energy shipping route.

According to Iranian officials, Tehran is reviewing a Washington's response to its recent proposal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, which was delivered to US officials during the 81<sup>st</sup> session of the UN General Assembly in New York.

Addressing the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) summit on Friday, Pezeshkian said negotiations will only succeed without "pressure and threats".

"Negotiation conducted in the shadow of force is not negotiation, it is imposition and coercion," he said, warning that sanctions on Iran would affect "regional trade, connectivity, energy, and order."

The comments came as Pezeshkian on Monday said talks with the United States to end the war that began in late February were meaningless and only resulted in renewed attacks.

"With an enemy that every day resorts to assassination, sanctions, pressure and threats, and that breaks its commitments, negotiations are meaningless," he noted.

# Leader hails Iran's police for standing firm against enemy's malicious blows



Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei  
● [IRNA](http://IRNA)

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei hailed Iran's police force, FARAJA, as a key pillar of national security, saying its role has become increasingly prominent in recent years and calling for the force to be strengthened. In a message issued on the occasion of Police Week, Ayatollah Khamenei said security is among the most important divine blessings and praised the role of FARAJA personnel in maintaining security across Iran, from major cities and villages to the country's borders, mountains, forests and seas, Press TV reported. "Security, in its various dimensions of social and moral well-being and public comfort, is provided in society," the message said, adding that maintaining it across the country is "indebted to the courage and bravery of the devoted and hardworking forces of FARAJA as one of the solid pillars of the country's security." The message said the contribution of FARAJA has become more pronounced at different levels, "from command and staff ranks to police stations and outposts," and that signs of its impact became more visible during the second and third imposed wars.

It said the focus of the "criminal American-Zionist enemy" on striking different levels of FARAJA, "from the highest levels to its fingertips," has further demonstrated the importance of the institution. "But this futile effort and malicious

blows to the pillars of order and security in society, for which there is no precedent throughout history, did not cause the brave forces of FARAJA to retreat even an inch from their mission," the message said.

Ayatollah Khamenei said police personnel continued to perform their duties even when operating outside their usual locations.

The message said the police force's role extends beyond conventional law enforcement, adding its work contributes to social and moral security as well as public welfare.

The Leader also called attention to the sacrifices of police personnel, saying that their work could sometimes be taken for granted by members of the public.

"It is possible that many times the efforts and sacrifices of the guardians of security are taken for granted by some ordinary people, and it is precisely this state of being wronged and unrecognized that increases their reward before God," the message said.

"At the same time, the forces of FARAJA, who, like the Army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, arise from the depths of society, can increase the people's trust in this valuable institution through trust-building behavior."

The message then turned to the modernization of the force, calling for comprehensive strengthening of personnel and technological capabilities.

## Yemen's attacks on Riyadh's int'l airport claim three lives

### International Desk

Saudi Arabia said on Friday that three people were killed including a pilot were killed in attacks on Riyadh's international airport, after Yemen's Ansarullah resistance movement claimed a series of attacks targeting the facility. The conflict between Ansarullah and Saudi Arabia has widened, with the resistance fighters staging repeated attacks on Saudi targets since they began a lightning offensive just across the border. While seizing large swathes of territory along the Red Sea coast in Yemen, the Ansarullah has also attacked Saudi transport hubs, oil facilities and other civilian targets in the world's largest crude exporter.

The Saudi civil aviation authority said two attacks on Thursday on the Saudi capital's airport and a Saudia Airlines plane there "resulted in the martyrdom of three citizens".

Saudi Arabia and the Yemeni forces it backs have struggled to contain Ansarullah's advance, despite a counter-offensive aimed at recapturing territory including the area around the Bab al-Mandab strait that is crucial to global energy flows.

But a regional source told AFP on Friday that Riyadh would not bow to the Ansarullah's "military blackmail" and would not agree to a truce until the Saudi-backed forces regain all territory it has lost in recent weeks. The attacks forced diplomats stationed in the Saudi capital to shelter in



● [AFP](http://AFP)

place and international schools to take safety measures, as explosions echoed across the city on Thursday. The Ansarullah had already controlled the capital Sana'a and most of Yemen's major population centers since the start of the war in 2014. Riyadh's military coalition intervened to support the government the following year.

## South African judge Navi Pillay wins Nobel Peace Prize

The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded Friday to South Africa's Navi Pillay, the judge who headed the Rwanda genocide tribunal and presided over a UN commission which accused Israel of genocide in Gaza – a laureate immediately blasted by Israel.

The 85-year-old has spent her career defending international law, which is under attack from wars and US President Donald Trump. Currently a judge on the International Court of Justice in a case where Myanmar also stands accused of genocide, Pillay has been "instrumental in ensuring that war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide are prosecuted," said Jorgen Watne Frydnes, the chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee in Oslo. Israel's Foreign Ministry said the award legitimized "anti-Israel hatred", and that Nazi propagandist Joseph Goebbels must be "applauding from hell". The daughter of a bus driver in a family of Tamil descent, Pillay served as UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (2008-2014). Her career has taken her from South African



The 2026 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, South African lawyer and champion of international law Navi Pillay (C) poses for a photo after she gave a press statement on October 9, 2026 at the Courtroom 600 of Nuremberg's Palace of Justice.  
● [AFP](http://AFP)

courts, where she defended anti-apartheid activists, to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Court.

"In historic international court cases, she has shown that legal measures can help prevent acts of war and violence," the committee said. Pillay's "independence, her expertise and steadfastness have made her one of the most respected international jurists of our time." She reacted to the news by making a quip about US President Donald Trump's well-documented desire to win the prize himself. "If you clap a little bit more I may

share this prize with Trump," the 85-year-old said during a standing ovation after Amnesty International Secretary General Agnes Callamard in Nuremberg and posted on the social network X.

Pillay headed the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry (COI), which does not speak on behalf of the world body, and which last year found that genocide was occurring in Gaza.

Pillay told AFP at the time that her team had shared "thousands of pieces of information" with prosecutors at the International Criminal Court. Israel had categorically rejected the report's findings, slamming it as "distorted and false".



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

## CARTOON

