

Pezeshkian demands end to 'no war no peace' situation

President to meet Putin in Moscow on Tuesday

International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Saturday reiterated the need to move beyond the current state of "no war no peace" so that the authorities can make plans in a "transparent and predictable environment" for the country.

"We need to move beyond ambiguity. For this reason, the martyred Leader ordered to go and get the job done" Pezeshkian said while addressing a ceremony to begin population census in the current Iranian year.

He was referring to the late Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, having agreed to negotiations with the United States aimed at ending the war against Iran. But the Americans betrayed the negotiations by launching strikes on Iran, the Iranian president said, however, "I still believe that we must go and get out of

the no war, no peace" situation.

Pezeshkian added that a way forward had to be found to improve conditions and bring the country out of its current situation.

Iran complains that it has entered negotiations twice in the past year, only to be attacked by Israel and the United States. In June, Iran signed a memorandum of understanding with the US in Pakistan to end the war. But the US violated the agreement by launching new attacks against Iranian cities.

Washington has also rejected a new seven-day proposal by Tehran to open the Strait of Hormuz which was closed by Iran since the beginning of the US-Israeli aggression against Iran in February.

Diplomatic efforts by regional mediators are also underway to bring the two countries back to the negotiating table. Pakistan's army chief Asim Munir, whose country mediated negotiations



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian addresses a ceremony to begin the population census in the current Iranian year in Tehran on October 24, 2026.
● president.ir

between Iran and the US, visited Tehran on Tuesday for talks with Iranian officials. Munir's visit followed one by Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov. Russian President Vladimir Putin has also expressed his country's readiness to mediate between Iran and the US. Iranian Ambassador to Russia Kazem Jalali said on Saturday that Pezeshkian will meet with Putin in Moscow on Tuesday. Jalali added that the Iranian president will also participate in the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) in Russia.

The meeting would continue a series of high-level diplomatic contacts between Tehran and Moscow, including recent



meetings between senior officials in Tehran and Dushanbe, Tajikistan, Jalali

told Russia's state-owned RIA Novosti news agency.

2,200 Palestinians displaced amid Israeli raids in Al-Khalil

International Desk

The Israeli military forced around 2,200 Palestinians to leave their homes in Al-Khalil in the occupied West Bank, a Palestinian official said on Saturday, a day after two Israeli soldiers killed in a shooting attack.

Al-Khalil's mayor Yousef al-Jabari told Al Jazeera that around 2,200 Palestinians have been forcibly displaced from their homes in the city's Al-Jaladah and Ein Deir Baha neighborhoods. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Friday had said the military would launch a large-scale operation after the soldiers were killed when two Palestinian gunmen opened fire at a military checkpoint near the city. The Israeli military said the gunmen were shot dead. The Israeli military also demolished Palestinian buildings in the city of



Israeli soldiers patrol at the northern checkpoint in Al-Khalil, in the occupied West Bank, on October 24, 2026.
● AFP

Al-Khalil.

The Palestinian Authority has criticized the operation as a "collective punishment". Yousef Zouhair Al-Jabari, the head of Al-Khalil's municipality, said around 1,300 faced losing their homes in addition to the 1,200 already displaced. He also said the Israeli operations were motivated by parliamentary elections on Tuesday when Netanyahu's right-wing coalition may lose his majority, opinion polls show.

"Netanyahu and the radical ministers in his government are trying to win as many votes as possible from the settlers," Al-Jabari said. The non-governmental organization the Palestinian Prisoners' Club said Israeli forces had arrested around 70 Palestinians on Friday and Saturday. Israeli officials have not commented on any arrests. Al-Jabari said the military had demolished shops, factories, homes, and roads in Al-Khalil and that the

response was disproportionate and unjustified. Residents in Al-Khalil said the military expelled many people with no connection to the Palestinian attackers. Netanyahu's cabinet has presided over a rapid expansion of settlements, deemed illegal by UN bodies and most countries.

Across the West Bank, Israel has blocked the entrances to most Palestinian cities and towns, severely curtailing Palestinians' freedom of movement.

Yousef Mur, a resident of the Palestinian town of Yatta, said the closures meant he was unable to reach Jerusalem with his daughter for her cancer treatment.

"The situation is bad, and we are suffering. When we tried to cross, they fired stun grenades towards us, and my girl got scared on the way. They fired stun grenades towards people. The situation is very difficult," Mur said.

US military ships will never be allowed to enter Persian Gulf: *Top general*

International Desk

Iran said on Saturday that US military ships would never be allowed to enter the Persian Gulf "under any circumstances" and President Donald Trump will "take that dream to his grave".

The remarks came amid mounting US and Israeli threats of renewed attacks on Iran, as US ambassador to Turkey Tom Barrack warned that Washington could "absolutely" strike Iran as soon as this weakened.

"We will not allow US military ships in the Persian Gulf under any circumstances and at any time," said Iran's Armed Forces Chief of Staff Major General Ali Abdollahi.

"The US president must dream of seeing the armed forces enter the Persian Gulf. He will take that dream to his grave."

He said Iran's Armed Forces have rendered the US Navy ineffective, despite

Washington's portrayal of the force as a symbol of American power and its use to threaten countries in the region and beyond.

The senior commander also questioned US President Donald Trump's repeated claims that Iran's nuclear facilities have been destroyed, while Washington continued to insist that Tehran must not possess nuclear weapons — a claim repeatedly rejected by the Islamic Republic.

"If you have destroyed everything, then what is the meaning of repeating this delusion?" Abdollahi said, describing the statements as meaningless and contradictory.

He argued that they were intended to mislead public opinion worldwide, particularly in the United States. He also challenged Washington's assertions that Iran's military capabilities have been eliminated, asking why US warships and military forces have



not dared to approach the Strait of Hormuz or Iran's maritime and land borders. Iranian forces have restricted traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, a vital energy conduit and gateway to the Persian Gulf, since the United States and Israel launched their aggression against Iran on February 28.

In retaliation, the United States has imposed a counterblockade on Iranian ports and ships.

Tehran has required vessels to seek permission to transit, and targeted ships attempting to pass through Hormuz via the unauthorized routes.

Several ships attempting to transit Hormuz through the route Tehran considers "illegal" were hit by mines in recent days.

No state can rewrite NPT to undermine Tehran's right to nuclear energy: *Iran*

International Desk

Iran's Ambassador to the United Nations defended his country's inalienable right to peaceful nuclear energy, accusing the United States and Israel of waging two "wars of aggression" against Iranian facilities and warning that no single nation can unilaterally rewrite the global Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Addressing the UN General Assembly, Ambassador Gholamhossein Darzi pushed back against Western pressure, asserting that Article IV of the NPT guarantees all state parties the right to develop peaceful nuclear energy, including the full nuclear fuel cycle, Press TV reported. "The United States seeks to deny Iran that right while claiming to uphold the Treaty," Darzi declared. "No State can unilaterally rewrite the Treaty or impose its own political veto."



The Iranian envoy leveled severe accusations against Washington and Tel Aviv, stating they had launched two distinct "wars of aggression" against Iran in 2025 and 2026. Crucially, he noted that these military strikes specifically targeted nuclear facilities that were under the strict safeguards and monitoring of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Darzi condemned the silence of the

international community, pointing out that neither the IAEA's leadership nor the UN Security Council has formally condemned the attacks on safeguarded civilian infrastructure.

He denounced the "blatant" hypocrisy of the international system for pressuring the victim of military aggression while allowing the aggressors to escape accountability.

Regarding IAEA inspections, Darzi clarified that Tehran has neither abandoned nor formally suspended its safeguards obligations.

However, he stressed that the military attacks have fundamentally altered security conditions on the ground, making physical inspections unsafe without adequate security guarantees.

"Responsibility for those circumstances rests with the aggressors, not Iran," he asserted.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

CARTOON

