

FM warns new Israeli-instigated attack would be 'devastating' for global markets

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi warned on Wednesday that any Israeli-instigated attack in the Persian Gulf region would have a "devastating impact" on global markets.

"Devastating impact on int'l markets of any Israel-instigated military misadventure in Persian Gulf region remains major concern for both gas suppliers and consumers," Araghchi said in a post on X.

The United States and Israel have in recent days raised the prospect of renewed attacks on Iran.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is seeking

to form a new cabinet after close elections, claimed on Wednesday he could work with US President Donald Trump to eliminate the "existential threat" posed by Iran.

Araghchi also highlighted Iran's diplomatic engagement at the eighth Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) Summit in Moscow. Established in 2001 and formalized as an intergovernmental organization in 2008, the GECF serves as a platform for gas-exporting countries to exchange information and discuss developments affecting international gas markets.

The eighth summit, held in Moscow on October 27, provided a platform for member

states to discuss the role of natural gas in global energy security and the importance of cooperation among producers.

The forum's 12 member countries collectively hold approximately 70% of the world's proven natural gas reserves, making cooperation among them significant for global energy supplies and market stability.

Iran has pursued energy cooperation with other major gas producers, including Russia, as part of broader efforts to strengthen its role in international energy diplomacy.

Iran closed the Strait of Hormuz in response to the latest round of US-Israeli aggression which

began on February 28, effectively blocking US and allied vessels from navigating the Persian Gulf.

The closure sent shockwaves through global energy markets, driving up oil, gas and other fuel prices, particularly in the US, and forcing Washington and the International Energy Agency (IEA) to release strategic reserves on several occasions in an effort to ease the supply crunch.

Following the signing of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Iran and the US in June, Tehran reopened the Strait of Hormuz, but Iran's Armed Forces shut the maritime corridor again after Washington violated the



Abbas Araghchi
● AFP

agreement by imposing a blockade on Iranian ports.

Since then, energy prices have followed an upward trend, with Brent crude reaching \$115.47

per barrel on October 28, while European benchmark natural gas prices climbed to \$113 per megawatt-hour, their highest level since December 2022.

President condemns US-Israel's attacks on civilians as violation of int'l law

International Desk

President Masoud Pezeshkian condemned attacks by the United States and Israel on civilians, particularly children in Iran's cities of Minab and Lamerd during their aggression against Iran, describing the actions as contrary to humanitarian principles and the rules of international humanitarian law.

Targeting schools, hospitals, sports facilities and residential homes while claiming to be fighting terrorism raised serious questions about the contradiction between the stated claims and the actions of those responsible for the attacks, he said during a cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

Back on February 28, the US launched a missile attack on an elementary school in Iran's southern town of Minab, killing 168 civilians, most of them children.

Many victims were girls and boys between seven and twelve years old, while 26 female teachers were also killed.

On the same day, US forces used similar methods to strike a sports hall in Lamerd City in southern Iran, killing 24 innocent civilians.

At least 3,500 civilians were killed



during the 40-day unprovoked US-Israeli aggression against Iran. Emphasizing the need to document and pursue the full dimensions of the incidents in international bodies, President Pezeshkian said the memory of those killed would never fade from the minds of the Iranian people and that the crimes would remain part of history.

He questioned how those who bombed schools, hospitals, sports facilities and people's homes in Iran in front of the world's eyes, claimed that they targeted terrorists.

"Were the children of Minab and



The photo shows the aftermath of a missile attack by the United States on a sports hall in Iran's southern city of Lamerd on February 28, 2026.

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Lamerd and the children of Gaza terrorists?" he asked.

Pezeshkian said, during meetings with a number of US think tank executives on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York, they apologized to the Iranian people and were ashamed that their country had such a president.

China slams West's policy toward Iranian nuclear program

International Desk

China denounced the policy adopted by the United States and its European allies toward Iran's nuclear program, blaming US and Israeli attacks for halting inspections of Iranian nuclear facilities by the UN nuclear agency.

The UN Security Council held a meeting on Tuesday to discuss Iran's nuclear program after the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) voted to refer Tehran's nuclear dossier to the council.

During the meeting on Tuesday, Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations Fu Cong criticized US and European policies toward Iran, saying military attacks on Iranian nuclear facilities had directly blocked IAEA inspections.

"The US and Israeli military attacks on nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards are the direct reason the agency has been unable to conduct inspections," the Chinese representative said.

He also blamed Washington's unilateral withdrawal from the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and its subsequent "maximum-pressure" campaign for the current crisis.

"The unilateral US withdrawal from the JCPOA and the implementation of the maximum-pressure policy are the root causes of the current crisis," Cong said. The Chinese diplomat also criticized Britain, France and Germany, saying the three European countries had failed to fulfill their commitments.

The representative said the mechanism for re-imposing UN sanctions on Iran, commonly known as the snapback mechanism, had fundamental legal and procedural flaws.

Russia's representative, Vassily Nebenzia, also challenged the legality of holding the meeting under the "non-proliferation" item of the Security Council's agenda.

"We are compelled to take the floor on a point of order in connection with yet another attempt to flagrantly violate the Security Council's rules of procedure and convene a meeting under a non-existent agenda item."

He said that under Resolution 2231 the council had concluded its consideration of Iran's nuclear program on October 18, 2025, and removed the "non-proliferation" item from its agenda.

He also rejected claims that earlier UN resolutions on sanctions against Iran had been reinstated, saying such claims "have no legal basis whatsoever."

The IAEA Board of Governors adopted a resolution on September 9 proposed by the United States, France, Britain and Germany calling for Iran's nuclear file to be referred to the Security Council.

The US and Israel launched unprovoked aggression against Iran two times in June 2025 and February 28 amid indirect talks between Iran and the US.

Other than military and civilian facilities, including hospitals and schools, Iran's safeguarded peaceful nuclear facilities were targeted by the aggressors in both wars, as the international community and the IAEA were reticent.

Iran rejects Kuwait's allegation linking Iranian national to assassination plot

International Desk

Iran's Embassy in Kuwait strongly rejected allegations by the Kuwaiti government that an Iranian national was involved in a plot to assassinate certain individuals or in any other activity that could threaten the Arab country's national security.

In a statement, the embassy stressed that the individual in question had not been present in Kuwait at any time during the past 10 years.

The embassy also expressed deep regret over the continued negative approach toward Iran, reflected, among other things, in the repeated allegations



Iran's Embassy in Kuwait
● IRNA

of Iranian interference in Kuwait's internal affairs. It emphasized that leveling such baseless accusations against Iranian nationals runs counter to the principle of good neighborliness and violates international law. Given the dangerous

consequences unfolding across the region following the US-Israeli military aggression against Iran, the embassy said regional countries are expected to pursue responsible and prudent policies to prevent further escalation of tensions and

conflicts imposed on the entire region.

A Kuwaiti court sentenced three men to death after convicting them of collaborating with Iran and Hezbollah and plotting to assassinate senior officials, including First Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef Al-Sabah.

Huseein Abdallah al-Maatouq, a religious dignitary and secretary-general of the National Islamic Alliance, was among the three condemned by the criminal court, the sources said. The court sentenced 11 other people connected to the case to five years of hard labor.



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Cartoonist

CARTOON

