President says Iran open to 'honorable' dialogue to end war

International Desk

Iran's president said on Monday that Tehran can engage in dialogue with dignity to resolve disputes with the United States but would not give in to coercion or bullying.

Referring to plots by Iran's enemies to undermine the country, Masoud Pezeshkian said the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei had ordered an end to the state of neither war nor peace.

"The Supreme Leader ordered us to put an end to the state of neither war nor peace. We can engage in dialogue with dignity and bring the matter to a dignified conclusion," he said.

"We are people of dialogue and negotiation, and logic dictates that if we can secure our rights through dialogue, we should not involve ourselves in war. But we will not surrender in the face of coercion and bullying," he added.

The president said he had also underscored Iran's position in his address to the United Nations General Assembly, making clear that Tehran was prepared to negotiate on the basis of justice and under equal conditions while insisting on its rights.

Regional mediators have stepped up diplomatic efforts after recent threats by the US President Donald Trump that the US could resume full-scale strikes on Iran.

However, Trump cast doubt on renewed fighting with Iran on Sunday, telling CNN it was "highly unlikely," ahead of a meeting with mediator Qatar's prime minister on Monday.

Trump threatened to resume strikes in recent weeks, with US media reports suggesting that hostilities could restart after last Tuesday's midterm elections.

The president told CNN that renewed fighting was "highly unlikely," but warned that his decision "depends on whether or not they sign a very strong agreement."

Trump is scheduled to meet Qatar's Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, who is also the country's foreign minister, at the White House on Monday.

A senior Qatari official told Al Jazeera that both parties to the US-Iran conflict continue to speak to mediators about the main details of a deal to end the eight-month war.



Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian speaks during a ceremony marking the 72nd anniversary of the establishment of Iran Milk Industries Company in Tehran on November 9, 2026.
president.ir

Iran urges S Korea to refrain from deploying troops near Strait of Hormuz



South Koreans hold placards during a demonstration against South Korea's decision to deploy forces near Strait of Hormuz in front of the US Embassy in Seoul, South Korea, on September 15, 2026.
NURPHOTO

International Desk

Iran urged South Korea to refrain from deploying military forces to the region for naval operations aimed at helping reopen the Strait of Hormuz, warning that such a move could further complicate an already volatile situation.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baqaei made the remarks in response to a question about reports concerning a possible South Korean naval deployment to help reopen the strategic waterway.

"South Korea should refrain from sending its military forces to the region to conduct certain naval operations aimed at helping reopen the Strait of Hormuz and should keep itself out of an issue that is already complicated enough," Baqaei said.

He described relations between Iran and South Korea as relatively longstanding, dating back more than 60 years, and said the ties had consistently been based on mutual respect and consideration for the interests of both countries.

"The Iranian people do not expect countries other than the United States, the Israeli regime and some of their allies, which openly or covertly supported this military aggression, to put themselves alongside the United States and the Israeli regime and in the position of accomplices in the military aggression of several months ago," he added.

He urged governments to steer clear of any moves that would only add to regional tensions and make an already complicated situation more difficult to resolve.

Iran has maintained a tight grip on the Strait of Hormuz since the early days of the US-Israeli aggression against Iran.

South Korea's Defense Ministry said on Thursday it would deploy maritime patrol aircraft and an explosive ordnance disposal team to waters near the Strait of Hormuz as part of a mission to help keep the waterway open.

The announcement comes as Seoul maintains it will not deploy troops to intervene militarily in the aggression against Iran, while seeking to protect commercial shipping and energy supplies through one of the world's most important maritime chokepoints.

Americans, region 'sick, tired' of Israel duping US into 'forever wars': *FM*

International Desk

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said Americans and people across the West Asia region are fed up with Israel's role in dragging successive US administrations into "forever wars."

In a post on his X account on Monday, Araghchi said US President Donald Trump clearly recognized that the vast majority of Americans were "disgusted with Israel," but appeared confused about the reasons behind the sentiment, Press TV reported.

"Americans are evidently sick and tired of Israel bamboozling US administrations into Forever Wars," he wrote.

The region was equally exhausted by the prolonged conflicts, the top Iranian diplomat emphasized.

Araghchi's post comes in response to earlier remarks by the US president, who said in an interview with CBS News' 60 Minutes on Sunday that a "great dislike" for Israel, public opposition to the war against Iran, and rising gasoline prices were the main reasons Republicans suffered sweeping losses in last week's midterm elections.

Despite acknowledging the political costs of the war, Trump defended his decision to attack Iran, saying he would make the same choice again.

He claimed the US had won the war and that Tehran was interested in reaching an agreement.

Democrats secured control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate in Tuesday's elections, dealing a major setback to Trump's administration.

The United States and the Israeli regime waged their first illegal war against Iran, which lasted 12 days, in June 2025. Their second aggression began on February 28, 2026, and came to a halt in early April after 40 days.

In both wars, Iran's resistance and decisive retaliatory operations forced the aggressors to accept a ceasefire.

Iran has also maintained a tight grip on the Strait of Hormuz since the early days of the second imposed war amid acts of mischief by Washington in the region.



Abbas Araghchi
AFP

China calls for new regional security framework in Middle East

International Desk

China's special envoy for Middle East affairs called for a new regional security framework based on common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, urging efforts to achieve lasting stability in the region during meetings with senior Iranian officials in Tehran.

According to a statement published on the Chinese Foreign Ministry's website on Monday, Zhai Jun met Ali Bagheri Kani, deputy secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, Majid Takht-Ravanchi, deputy foreign minister for political affairs, and Mohammad Ali Beik, assistant foreign minister and director general for Persian Gulf affairs, during a visit to Tehran on Sunday. The meetings covered bilateral relations between Tehran and Beijing as well as the latest developments in the Middle East, IRNA reported on Monday.

In separate meetings with the Iranian officials, Zhai highlighted the long-standing friendship between Iran and China, saying Beijing was ready to seize the opportunity presented by the 55th anniversary of diplomatic relations and the 10th anniversary of their comprehensive strategic partnership to advance bilateral ties.

Addressing the continued military conflict in the Middle East, Zhai said military means could not resolve problems and stressed that the sovereignty and security of all countries must be respected.

"Relevant parties should choose the path of peace and, with a rational and pragmatic approach, focus on political solutions to resolve differences so that stability and development can return to the region as soon as possible," he said.

Zhai also referred to Chinese President Xi Jinping's initiatives and views on establishing peace and stability in the Middle East, saying Beijing supported the development of good-unneighborly relations among regional countries.

He called on countries to adhere to an approach centered on common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security to build a new regional security framework and secure long-term stability across the Middle East.



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Cartoonist

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