US miscalculates Iran's strength by comparing it with others: *Pezeshkian*



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (L) shakes hands with his Brazilian counterpart Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on the sidelines of the 31st UN Climate Change Conference (COP31) in Turkey on November 12, 2026.
president.ir

International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said the United States miscalculated Iran's capabilities and strength by comparing the country with others, stressing that Iran will not surrender in the face of oppression and aggression.

Pezeshkian made the remarks in a meeting with Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on the sidelines of the 31st UN Climate Change Conference (COP31) in Turkey on Thursday.

Pezeshkian said the Israeli regime deceived US President Donald Trump and pushed him toward war, stressing that Iran is not responsible for the current situation in the region.

"The Israeli regime has played the role of a fire-starter in this crisis and, by deceiving Trump, has pushed him toward war," Pezeshkian told Lula.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran is not responsible for the current situation in the region. For what purpose and on what basis has the United States entered this region and imposed a naval blockade?"

Pezeshkian said the era of unilateralism has come to an end, stressing that no country can impose its preferred order on others through force and coercion.

"War is in no one's interest, but the Islamic Republic of Iran will not surrender in the face of oppression and aggression and will deliver a firm response to any attack," Pezeshkian stated.

The president said Washington has sought to break the resistance of the Iranian nation, pointing to its terrorist assassination of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, military commanders, scientists, schoolchildren and other civilians.

"Nevertheless, these actions have produced the opposite of what the enemy intended, and national unity and internal cohesion have increased significantly compared to the pre-war period."

Pezeshkian also said the United States is seeking to restrict Iran's maritime and air routes and is now attempting to block its land routes, but stressed that such measures will not achieve their intended objectives.

For his part, Lula condemned the US military aggression against Iran, saying Brazil had never imagined that Washington would attack the Islamic Republic.

Recalling his 2010 meeting with the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, the Brazilian president said he had been explicitly assured that Iran's nuclear activities were exclusively peaceful.

"The bombing of Iran was carried out under false pretexts, and this was a very difficult and bitter development for us," Lula said.

He expressed Brazil's solidarity with Iran, noting that the war has also caused serious economic difficulties for countries around the world, including Brazil, through rising gas, gasoline and oil prices.

Lula said Brazil is prepared to take the necessary steps to help restore peace and stability in the region and offered to facilitate efforts toward that goal.

He also expressed readiness to participate in regional security arrangements aimed at strengthening peace.

Criticizing Western efforts to portray Iran negatively in international relations and negotiations, Lula said Western governments repeatedly seek to present a distorted image of the Islamic Republic.

Iran targets US radar system in Bahrain in response to attack on Sirik

International Desk



Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said on Friday that it targeted a US early warning radar system in Bahrain in response to the US attack on a telecommunications tower in Iran's southern port city of Sirik.

"A few hours ago, IRGC Aerospace Force fighters targeted and destroyed the US aggressors' early-warning radar on the island of Bahrain in response to the enemy's air aggression against a telecommunications tower in Sirik," the IRGC said in the statement.

"This is a serious warning to the aggressor enemy to stop its aerial provocations and oil smuggling in the Strait of Hormuz," it added in the statement.

It added that should violations and acts of aggression recur, the IRGC Aerospace Force "stands in full readiness to engage without limits." Offending companies "that allow themselves to be deceived by the aggressor enemy will face even more severe punitive measures."

The operation comes amid the ongoing US-Israeli war of aggression against the Islamic Republic, launched on February 28 with the assassination of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and senior military commanders.

Iranian forces have responded with repeated waves of deadly missile and drone strikes on US military bases and assets across the Persian Gulf, including facilities in Bahrain, repeatedly targeting early-warning radars and air-defense systems.

Previous Iranian operations have degraded US surveillance and defensive capabilities in the region, while American forces have continued strikes on Iranian territory, including civilian and infrastructure sites.

Iranian officials have repeatedly warned that any further aggression will be met with expanded retaliation without geographical restriction, particularly in defense of the Strait of Hormuz.

Most Persian Gulf Arab countries host major US military installations and were targeted in Iranian retaliatory attacks in the weeks after the US-Israel war on Iran began on February 28.

During the recent acts of aggression against Iran, some regional countries allowed the US to use their territories to launch attacks on Iran. Tehran had repeatedly warned the countries about the issue.

Violating LPG carrier hits mine in Strait of Hormuz: *IRGC*

International Desk

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said on Friday that a ship passing through an unauthorized route in the Strait of Hormuz suffered a massive explosion after hitting a naval mine.

"A few hours ago, a ship carrying liquefied natural gas east of the Strait of Hormuz tried to cross an unauthorized passageway south of the strait, but was hit by a naval mine and exploded violently," the IRGC said on Friday.

In recent weeks, Iran's Armed Forces have repeatedly reported fires or explosions on board ships in the strait after hitting mines.

The US military, however, claims to have cleared the main routes through the waterway of mines.

The IRGC said that the vessel failed to "learn from the fate of previously destroyed oil tankers" and chose to rely on the support of US fighter jets to exit the waterway.

It further stated that the Strait of Hormuz is being managed with the supervision of Iranian forces, adding that any vessel attempting to violate Iranian sovereignty over the strait and ignore warnings issued by the IRGC Navy's Strait of Hormuz traffic control center by entering unauthorized routes would "meet the same fate as previous vessels."

On Thursday, two other oil tankers violating the regulations also caught fire while attempting to take the illegal route and exit the strait with their radar systems switched off. The offending vessels struck naval mines despite repeated warnings.

The IRGC has repeatedly stated that the unauthorized route near Omani waters is unsafe and that vessels risk striking naval mines while passing through it. The route has been encouraged by the US, which has claimed that it is safe.

Iran imposed restrictions on the Strait of Hormuz on February 28, following the US-Israeli attacks on the country. Since then, the strategic waterway has been managed under the control of Iranian naval forces.

Tehran has made clear that the restrictions will remain in place until its demands, including the lifting of the US blockade on Iranian ports, are met.

Iran rejects UK's claims of involvement in violent, espionage acts

International Desk



Iran dismissed as "unacceptable" British authorities' accusations about the Islamic Republic's involvement in acts of violence and espionage activities in the UK.

The Iranian Embassy in the UK released a statement on Thursday, after a British court convicted two Iranian men of spying for Tehran by carrying out surveillance on anti-Iran journalists and a lawyer, Press TV reported.

The Embassy said that it "categorically rejects the British judicial authorities' destructive actions in attributing the direction or support of acts of violence in the United Kingdom, as well as any alleged links between the individuals concerned and Iranian institutions, to the Government of Iran, or alleging that they were engaged in espionage activities."

It also condemned "the instrumental use of security-related allegations and judicial proceedings to advance political agendas," noting that such practices "create a climate conducive to hostile narratives" against Iran and "foster suspicion" towards Iranians residing in the United Kingdom.

Meanwhile, the diplomatic mission urged British authorities to handle sensitive matters professionally and in full accordance with the law.

British authorities, it added, should "safeguard the rights of Iranian nationals, including access to legal counsel, the right to pursue legal remedies and appeals, and consular access, in accordance with the United Kingdom's international obligations."

Following a six-week trial at Woolwich Crown Court in south London, the two Iranian nationals were found guilty of purportedly monitoring targets who worked for the media network "Iran International" and the chief executive of UK Lawyers for Israel.

Frank Ferguson, chief prosecutor for the Crown Prosecution Service's special crime and counter-terrorism division, claimed that the pair were promised rewards in exchange for sending intelligence, while one of them intended to go beyond surveillance to commit serious violence against his targets.

The defendants are expected to be sentenced at London's Central Criminal Court, better known as the Old Bailey, on December 17.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

CARTOON

