Speaker: Tehran will determine geography of battlefield if US begins new war



Iran's Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf speaks during a parliament session in Tehran, Iran, on November 15, 2026.
ICANA

International Desk

Iran's Parliament speaker warned that if the United States launches another war against Iran, the "geography of the battlefield will be determined by the capabilities and resolve of Iran's Armed Forces".

"If the United States makes a mistake this time, the geography of the battlefield will be determined by the capabilities and resolve of Iran's Armed Forces, not by their wishes and intentions," Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf said in an address to an open session of the parliament on Sunday.

The remarks echoed instructions conveyed by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei during a meeting with senior military commanders late last month.

Elaborating on Iran's refusal to tolerate a "state of neither war nor peace," he asserted that Tehran's position would not be determined by whether Washington preferred negotiations or war. "If they accept our seven-strong reasonable conditions, which are the result of the Iranian people's sacrifices, the path to an agreement will be open," he explained.

Iran has not detailed the nature of the conditions, which it has conveyed to Washington through Qatari mediators. Iranian officials have, however, noted that the conditions are generally based on a Pakistan-mediated memorandum of understanding that was reached between Tehran and Washington in June, but was later completely violated by the US.

The memorandum features such conditions as cessation of war on all fronts, removal of an illegal naval blockade that the US has imposed on Iran, elimination of the US's illegal sanctions, and unfreezing of Iran's assets.

The parliament speaker also described the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC)'s recent unveiling of a new missile city as a symbol of changing strategic equations in the region.

"This valuable achievement, which was developed during wartime and under enemy fire, goes beyond a technical and defensive accomplishment; it is a symbol of strategic changes in the region," he said.

The US and Israel 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 retaliatory operations forced the aggressors to accept a ceasefire.

Iran has 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.

The US has also imposed a blockade on Iranian ports and have tightened sanctions against Iran to force Tehran to accept its demands to end the ongoing situation in the region, which has been caused by the US aggression.

Iran entitled to claim compensation for attacks not Persian Gulf Arab states: *Spox*

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman rejected Persian Gulf Arab countries' demands for compensation over attacks on their territories, saying that, "We are the ones entitled to claim compensation".

Esmaeil Baqaei made the remarks at his weekly press conference in Tehran on Sunday, two days after Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Secretary-General Jasem al-Budaiwi, in an address to the UN Security Council, demanded that Iran pay full compensation for damage caused by its reprisal attacks.

"We are the ones entitled to claim compensation, and we have documented all the instances in which regional countries played a role in assisting the United States and the Zionist regime in their actions against Iran," Baqaei said.

"These findings have been formally communicated to the countries concerned through diplomatic channels."

He also noted that Tehran does not take the GCC member states' claim for compensation seriously, as they themselves know how "baseless and frivolous" it is.

He further warned those states not to "reopen the old wounds" such as their provision of multi-billion-dollar financial aid, weapons, and military support, as well as their deployment of troops, in support of the regime of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein during the 1980s' imposed war on Iran.



People stand in rubble at the site of an Israel and US strike on a police station in Tehran, Iran, on March 3, 2026.
ISNA

"Given that these same countries actively participated in military aggression against a neighboring country by allowing the aggressors to use their airspace, territorial waters, and land to launch attacks against Iranian territory, how can they possibly speak of seeking compensation from Iran?" he asked.

Meanwhile, the spokesman said the regional countries that played a direct or indirect role in the criminal military assault against Iran must be regarded as "accomplices and collaborators" of the aggressors, sharing responsibility for the crimes committed on Iranian soil.

The US and Israel launched their unlawful war of aggression against Iran on February 28 by assassinating the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, along with senior military commanders.

Forty days later, on April 8, the enemies were forced to accept a ceasefire amid Iran's resistance and successful retaliatory operations.

In July, the US conducted waves of deadly air raids on Iran and imposed a naval blockade of the country in violation of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Islamic Republic, signed on June 17, to end the war.

In response, the Iranian armed forces launched devastating strikes against strategic American targets across West Asia and declared the Strait of Hormuz closed to all traffic.

IRGC targets US air defense radar in Bahrain base with six drones

International Desk

Blasts echoed over Bahrain on Sunday as the tiny Persian Gulf nation was rattled by the second Iranian drone attack in three days, ending a long lull in strikes during the US-Israeli aggression against Iran.

Sirens rang out and authorities posted several alerts on social media urging residents to seek shelter, their first warnings since September.

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said in a statement that its forces fired six drones at Bahrain, targeting a US radar system at Al-Riffa helicopter base in the desert island state, which hosts US military facilities including a major naval base.

The IRGC said the radar was targeted in the "second phase of a decisive and crushing response to [US] aggression."

"The precise and successful impact of these drones was heard in various parts of Bahrain, once again demonstrating the IRGC's operational capabilities," the statement said.

Explosions could be heard around 4:00 am (0100 GMT) on Sunday, an AFP journalist said, with residents reporting a second series of blasts around 6:30 am.

However, Bahrain's military claimed it intercepted the attacks, "preventing them from reaching their intended targets". The foreign ministry claimed air defense systems shot down Iranian drones.

On Friday, the IRGC also said it had destroyed a US military early-warning



radar in Bahrain in a precision strike by its Aerospace Force.

The statement called the Bahrain strike "a serious warning to the aggressor enemy to cease its aerial provocations and oil smuggling in the Strait of Hormuz."

The attacks came after the US launched an attack on a communications tower in Iran's southern port city of Sirik overlooking the Strait of Hormuz.

The Friday's attack on Bahrain was the first such strikes since September on US bases in Arab countries in the energy-rich Persian Gulf.

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.

Tajikistan on the ...

Small and medium-sized countries, like major powers, make decisions based on their national interests, security considerations and the constraints of their foreign relations. Iran's support should be grounded in shared regional interests and respect for Tajikistan's independent decision-making, rather than an expectation of complete political alignment. Second, expectations of non-permanent Security Council membership should not exceed its actual capacity.Such membership does not confer veto power and cannot transform the balance of power within the Security Council. However, it provides an opportunity to take part in negotiations, help shape the agenda and raise the profile of regional priorities. Even this limited capacity is valuable in international politics.

Ultimately, Tajikistan's bid for membership should be viewed in the context of a broader question: Do Central Asian countries intend to remain objects of competition and power balancing among major powers, or will they seek to become more influential actors in shaping the regional and international order? Supporting Tajikistan's bid could serve as a test of how they answer this question. For Iran, too, the choice is clear. A country that seeks to strengthen multilateralism, enhance the role of its neighbors and promote a more balanced international order should support opportunities that help increase the capacity of regional countries to act on the international stage. The significance of this initiative does not lie in the optimistic notion that a single seat can change the global balance of power, but in the reality that, in international politics, major changes sometimes begin with the accumulation of small opportunities and their transformation into sustainable capabilities.

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