Iran warns against weaponization of Artificial Intelligence

International Desk

Iran's ambassador to the United Nations warned against the weaponization of artificial intelligence (AI) and its use to fuel aggression, citing its deployment during the two US-Israeli wars of aggression against Iran in June 2025 and February 2026.

Speaking at a UN Security Council meeting on Tuesday, Gholamhossein Darzi said rapid technological advances are changing the nature of warfare while increasing the risks of escalation, miscalculation and civilian casualties.

"Technology must serve humanity and be used exclusively for peaceful purposes, not aggression, domination or violations of state sovereignty," he said.

Darzi warned that the use of AI as an instrument of aggression and conflict escalation raises serious concerns, particularly in light of reports detailing the deployment of advanced AI systems during the US-Israeli aggression against Iran.

He said reports reveal that the United States used advanced systems, including Palantir's Maven and Anthropic's Claude, during its February 28 aggression against Iran to analyze intelligence, identify and prioritize targets, and provide strike coordinates.

On March 11, 2026, the commander of US Central Command (CENTCOM) publicly confirmed the use of advanced AI tools during the aggression against Iran, Darzi added.

He further referred to a June 15, 2026 Pentagon court filing that acknowledged the use of AI during the US aggression.

According to the Iranian envoy, the filing confirmed that Grok, through the Pentagon's Maven Smart Systems, enabled US forces to deploy more than 2,000 munitions against 2,000 separate targets within 96 hours.

Darzi said these acknowledgements must be viewed alongside explicit threats made by US officials, which provide serious grounds for concern over the intention to commit war crimes.

He particularly cited the US secretary of defense's March 13 declaration that there would be "no mercy, no quarter for Iranians," as well as the attack on the Minab school, where scores of children and teachers were killed.



The photo shows remains of the Shajareh Tayyebeh elementary school in Minab, Iran, on March 31.
GETTY IMAGES

"The human cost of the US-Israeli aggression is devastating," he said, putting the death toll at more than 5,000 Iranians, including at least 254 children and 251 women, with another 34,000 injured.

The Iranian envoy stressed that neither advanced technology nor the involvement of private companies can shield Washington or the Israeli regime from accountability for violations of international law.

Turning to the international governance of artificial intelligence, he said the security and military dimensions of the technology must be addressed within the UN framework through intergovernmental processes involving all states.

Darzi also stressed that any international framework governing AI must balance security considerations with developing countries' legitimate right to access and benefit from these technologies on equal terms, free from discrimination, politicization and double standards.

Enemies facing major standstill, strategic uncertainty: *IRGC chief*



Ahmad Vahidi
defapress.ir

International Desk

IRGC Chief Commander Major General Ahmad Vahidi said Iran's enemies are facing a major standstill and strategic uncertainty due to the resistance of the Iranian nation and Armed Forces.

Speaking during a visit to an exhibition on Wednesday, Vahidi stressed that Iran's enemies are already experiencing the consequences of their actions and are forced to take the Islamic Republic's retaliatory operations into account whenever considering further moves.

"The enemy today feels defeat in every fiber of its being", he added.

Vahidi underlined that Iran's Armed Forces are stronger and better prepared than ever to confront any renewed aggression, declaring their readiness to push the enemy back by a considerable distance.

He said the enemy is facing internal divisions while the Iranian nation and its Armed Forces remained firmly in the field.

The IRGC commander said Iran's enemies are facing one of their most critical periods despite their extensive efforts to undermine the nation's resolve.

"However, the will of the Iranian nation is now stronger and more determined than ever," he said, describing the country's Armed Forces as united and powerful.

Meanwhile, Deputy Speaker of the Iranian Parliament Hamidreza Haji-Babaei also warned Washington and the Israeli regime against attempting to reignite the war, saying any new aggression would trigger a prolonged and stronger response.

Speaking at an open parliamentary session on Wednesday, Haji-Babaei said Iran neither fears war nor remains indifferent to people's problems, and will not sacrifice its national dignity at the negotiating table.

He said US and Israeli leaders are once again beating the drums of war in an attempt to escape their unresolved domestic crises and electoral challenges.

"However, they are mistaken. Our enemies are once again caught in a cycle of miscalculation," he said.

Haji-Babaei noted that the balance of preparedness has changed, with Iran better prepared and its enemies more vulnerable and confused than before.

Iran calls Israel greatest threat to Lebanon's independence, stability

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry on Tuesday condemned Israeli air and artillery strikes on southern Lebanon and the destruction of civilian infrastructure, saying Israel's escalating actions posed the greatest threat to the country's independence, territorial integrity, security and stability.

In a statement, the ministry stressed Lebanon's inherent right to defend its territorial integrity and national sovereignty, saying the escalation of Israeli aggression during celebrations marking Lebanon's independence laid bare the threat posed by Israel.

"These escalating acts of aggression by the Zionist regime against Lebanon, coinciding with the country's independence celebrations, constitute a flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter and the November 2024 ceasefire agreement," the statement said.

It added that the developments showed that "the Zionist enemy is the greatest threat to Lebanon's independence, territorial integrity, security and stability."

The ministry said Israel's actions, including serious international crimes such as genocide and grave violations of international law in Gaza, the occupied West Bank, Lebanon, Syria and other countries in the region, warranted a firm response from the United Nations and the international community.

It accused the United States, which it described as Israel's biggest supporter and accomplice, of blocking any effective international action.

The ministry said the UN Security Council's inaction over Israel's occupation of large areas of Lebanon and its continued attacks, which it said were carried out with the backing and support of the United States and some other Western countries, had undermined the credibility of the international body and encouraged further violations of international law and serious crimes by Israel.

Iran also condemned Washington's "destabilizing interference" in Lebanon's internal affairs, warning against US efforts to establish mechanisms in the country that lack national consensus.

The ministry said the proposed mechanisms were intended to pave the way for Israel to advance its expansionist objectives and would neither safeguard Lebanon's national rights and interests nor prevent Israeli occupation, expansionism, aggression and terrorism.

Araghchi raps US for 'crippling' chemical weapons watchdog



AFP

International Desk

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Tuesday accused the United States of undermining the global chemical weapons watchdog, warning that the organization could be forced to suspend operations and scale back key programs as it faces a budget crisis.

In a post on X, Araghchi said Washington was weakening the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), which oversees the implementation of the international ban on chemical weapons.

"The US is so concerned about chemical arms that it's crippling the world's chemical weapons watchdog," Araghchi wrote.

He said the United States was "deliberately putting global peace and security at risk" by obstructing the organization's mandate, describing its conduct as "shameful."

The remarks came a day after Reuters reported that the OPCW was facing a budget crisis, largely due to missing payments from the United States, its largest contributor.

The agency has warned that it may have to suspend some operational activities and reduce programs if the funding shortfall is not addressed.

Washington has not paid its full 2026 contribution to the organization, according to sources familiar with the matter.

The US administration has cut funding to some United Nations bodies and left other financial commitments unpaid, arguing that international organizations need to improve efficiency and demonstrate greater effectiveness.

The United States has said it supports the OPCW's mission and expects the organization to manage its budget efficiently.

The OPCW, based in The Hague, oversees compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention, which prohibits the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons.



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