

The Islamic Republic of Iran and Oman Held a Joint Rescue Drill in The Territorial Waters of Oman at The End of the 17th meeting of the Military Friendship Committee of Iran and the Sultanate of Oman

# IRAN NEWS

Finance Minister of Iran Ehsan Khandouzi Says the Country Will Engage in Trade With the Caspian Sea Littoral States Through Their National Currencies

VOL. XXVIII, No. 7603 TEHRAN Price 50,000 Rials

www.irannewsdaily.com

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8, 2022 - MEHR 16, 1401

**2 DOMESTIC**

**Gov't to Uphold, Safeguard Rights of Iranians Abroad**



> SEE PAGE 2

**3 DOMESTIC**

**Iranian Companies Blamed for Slow Down in Iran-Russia Trade**



> SEE PAGE 3

**4 INTERNATIONAL**

**Ex-Cop Kills 24 Children In Knife and Gun Rampage in Thailand**



> SEE PAGE 4

**8 SPORTS**

**Haaland Scores Double As City Cruise**



> SEE PAGE 8

## EU Urged Not to Sacrifice Own Interests For U.S. Policies

TEHRAN (PressTV) - The Iranian deputy foreign minister says the Islamic Republic knows no restriction for interaction with other countries, calling on European states not to sacrifice the interests of their nations for the sake of U.S. policies.

Ali Bagheri Kani made the remarks in an interview with Hungarian media in the capital Budapest on Thursday on the first leg of his European tour.

"Iran does not place any restrictions on relations with other countries," Bagheri Kani said. "But in a situation where the Europeans, despite having long-term contracts with the Iranian parties and only because of American pressure, have preferred the interests of the United States over the those of the European nations and sacrificed their own interests and severely reduced their economic relations with Iran, Iran will not stand idle and will pursue its interests in any possible way."

The Europeans thought they had pressured Iran by cutting off oil imports from the country, the senior diplomat said. "But today, as the demand for Iran's oil exceeds its current production capacity, and the Europeans, due to the war in Europe and...

See Page 7

## Iran Calls for Formation of Caspian Sea Free Economic Zone



IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - First Vice-President called for formation a joint free economic zone among the Caspian Sea littoral states on Thursday.

Mohammad Mokhber made the remarks in his speech at the 2nd Caspian Economic Forum on Thursday in Moscow. In addition to proposing the formation of free economic zone among the Caspian Sea littoral states, Mokhber also made other suggestions to enhance cooperation among those neighboring states.

The first vice president emphasized that the Islamic Republic of Iran, in line with the foreign policy of the 13th government under President Ebrahim Rais, seeks to expand comprehensive cooperation and interaction with neighboring countries, especially with the littoral states of the Caspian Sea.

"Given its geopolitical and geoeconomic location which links the Caspian Sea region with the southern warm waters of the Persian Gulf, the Oman Sea and the Indian Ocean, Iran is resolved to generate momentum in economic and commercial cooperation between the economic countries of the Caspian Sea region," Mokhber said.

He stated that "the Caspian Sea has provided a very suitable platform for the expansion of cooperation in various fields among littoral countries of this sea," stressing that "the use and benefiting of each other's economic capacities for the development, progress and well-being of the people of the region"

He proposed seven proposals to develop relations and enhance the level of cooperation among the Caspian Sea littoral states, including expanding banking and financial relations; strengthening the North-South transit corridor, unifying customs duties; facilitating transit as well as formation of free economic zone.

The First Vice President said that Tehran is determined to create momentum in the economic and commercial cooperation of the littoral states of the Caspian Sea.

He said that the Caspian Sea Marine Environmental Protection Convention, known as the "Tehran Convention," is a suitable legal framework for the preservation of the environment of this sea by the Caspian littoral states.

Mokhber stated that the Caspian Sea is the common heritage of Caspian littoral states and must be preserved for future generations.

Mokhber emphasized that, unfortunately, in recent years, the water level of the Caspian Sea has decreased and the littoral countries should be committed to their obligations in the framework of the Tehran Convention in order to use the resources of this sea.

In the Second Caspian Economic Forum in Moscow, Mokhber proposed to develop and implement a special initiative in monetary, banking and financial development with Caspian Littoral states.

The first vice president of the Islamic Republic of Iran also proposed to form a committee for the cooperation of oil, gas and oil products of the countries bordering the Caspian Sea.

The second Caspian Economic Forum was held in Moscow on Wednesday and Thursday (October 5th and 6th) in the presence of Mohammad Mokhber, the first vice president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the prime ministers of the four littoral states of Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Russia.

The first edition of the event was held in 2019 in Turkmenistan in the presence of five member countries.

## Iran Proposes Stronger Int'l Cooperation, More Effective Multilateralism

NEW YORK (IRNA) - Permanent head of Iran mission to UN said in 77th General Assembly said that answering the serious challenges posed against the global society calls for stronger international cooperation and more effective multilateralism.

Ali Hajilari, the 1st counselor of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the General Debate of the 2nd Committee of the 77th Meeting of the General Assembly, said that his remarks are aligned with those of the Pakistani, Chinese and G77 counselors.

Hajilari referred to the international hiatus due to three years of Covid-19 pandemic and the international challenges, especially the global economic situation that continues to deteriorate.

"We believe that in order to overcome today's fragilities and challenges, we need stronger international cooperation and more effective multilateralism through which the collective interests of the member states, especially developing countries, are secured and promoted," he said.

The Iranian diplomat also criticized the unilateral approaches adopted by a few, which are "undermining and threatening multilateralism when it is most needed".

See Page 7

## FM Slams Rioters, Terrorists Who Tried to Hijack Peaceful Demos

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian denounces the rioters and terrorists, who tried to hijack recent peaceful demonstrations across Iran, in order to sow unrest throughout the country.

The top diplomat made the remarks during separate phone calls with his Finnish and Irish counterparts, Pekka Haavisto and Simon Coveney, on Thursday.

Riots erupted in several Iranian cities after a young woman died in the Iranian police's custody. A thorough investigation is underway to ascertain the exact cause of the woman, identified as Mahsa Amini's death.

Speaking with the Finnish official, Amirabdollahian differentiated between the rioters and peaceful demonstrators.

In line with its constitution, he said, Iran considers people's "peaceful" pursuance of their demands to be their "legal right" and has "always been attentive and responsive towards it."

He, however, noted how the rioters had tried to misuse recent demonstrations to destroy public properties, and attack the Iranian people and police with firearms and cold weapons "under the influence" of some foreign states and amid instigation by foreign television channels.

See Page 7

## 50% Surge in Exports of Iran to Africa

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's non-oil exports to Africa rose by 50% in value terms in the six months to September 22, according to an official in the Iranian Trade Promotion Organization (TPO).

TPO's head of Africa department Mohammad Sadegh Ghannadzadeh said on Wednesday that Iranian exports to African countries had surged by 25% in volume terms in the April-September period.

Ghannadzadeh did not elaborate on any figures but said that the value of Iranian exports to Africa over the six months to late September had exceeded figures reported for the entire past calendar year in late March.

The TPO had reported a historic surge in Iranian exports to Africa of more than 200% in the nine months to late December last year.

That comes as recent figures by Iran's customs office (IRICA) show that Iranian exports to 37 African countries reached some 1.311 million metric tons worth \$696.7 million in the five months to August 22. The figures showed that Iranian exports to Africa had increased by 40% against the April-August period in 2021.

See Page 7

## NAM Concerned About Distortion of Religions by Terrorist Groups

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - Iran's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations says the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is concerned about the distortion of religions by terrorist groups to justify their heinous crimes.

Zahra Ershadi made the remarks during a meeting of the UN General Assembly's Sixth Committee to discuss measures to eliminate international terrorism.

She said the Non-Aligned Movement is concerned about the arbitrary interpretation and misrepresentation of religions by terrorist groups to justify their actions.

She said NAM condemns and rejects terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including state terrorism, and reiterates its support for relevant UN resolutions regarding the legitimacy of the struggles of people under foreign domination and occupation for freedom and exercising their right to self-determination.

Speaking at the Sixth Committee's Monday meeting, Ershadi said all states must combat terrorism, including by prosecuting or extraditing the perpetrators of terrorist acts.

See Page 7

## Tehran, Moscow Discuss Oil, Gas Swap, Investment in LNG

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber has called for the Caspian littoral states to create an oil and gas cooperation committee.

Mokhber broached the idea during the second meeting of the Caspian economic forum in Moscow.

The Iranian official said the Caspian Sea is a mutual heritage and a connection hub among its littoral states. He said countries bordering the sea need to expand cooperation in various fields.

The forum initiated in 2018 is meant to act as a platform to discuss economic cooperation, transport and security in the region. Representatives from Russia, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Iran are attending the event.

Speaking to reporters before leaving Tehran for Moscow, Mokhber said the Caspian Sea littoral states are determined to develop their relations. He said developing relations with neighboring states is one of the Iranian government's strategies.

Mokhber is in Moscow on the official invitation of Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin. In their meeting on Thursday, Mishustin said creating comfortable bilateral business conditions between Russia and Iran amid sanctions is a "two-way road".

See Page 7

Sokhan Gostar Institute

# IRAN NEWS

PRIVATE ENGLISH NEWSPAPER IN IRAN



Advertisement Department  
021-44253335-39

www.irannewsdaily.com  
info@irannewsdaily.com

@irannewsdaily @irannewsdaily



## Armed Forces Renew Allegiance to Commander in Chief Ayatollah Khamenei

TEHRAN (IRNA) - The commanders of country's armed and police forces in a joint statement appreciated the support by Commander in Chief and Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei while renewing their loyalty and allegiance to him. The head of the Joint Chief of Staff, Khatam ul-Anbia Headquarters, the Islamic Republic of Iran Army, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps commander, and the Ministry of Defense of Logistical Support for Armed Forces, in a joint statement appreciated the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution and renewed allegiance and voiced their loyalty to him on Thursday evening.

## Gov't to Uphold, Safeguard Rights of Iranians Abroad

TEHRAN (PressTV) - A senior Iranian diplomat says the government is determined to uphold and safeguard the rights of Iranian nationals living abroad, vowing to use all capacities to prevent any violations of their rights.

Ali Bagheri Kani, the deputy foreign minister for political affairs, made the remarks on Wednesday during a meeting with a group of Iranians living in Budapest, Hungary. The senior diplomat and the top nuclear negotiator arrived in the Hungarian capital on Tuesday, on the first leg of his tour-nation tour of Europe. "The government does not tolerate violation of the rights of Iranians anywhere in the world," he stressed, noting that it will use all its capacities as well as political and legal tools to safeguard the rights of its people. Among the responsibilities of the foreign ministry with regard to Iranians living abroad, he emphasized, are supporting their rights, facilitating their constant relations with their home country, and following up on their problems. As a "valuable, influential asset," the Iranian diaspora can explain the realities of



progress and development in the Islamic Republic of Iran, he added.

It comes as according to officials, some 3,800 Iranians are imprisoned outside their country, with some of them serving jail terms in inappropriate conditions.

Kazem Gharibabadi, the Iranian judiciary chief's deputy for international affairs and secretary of the country's High Council for Human Rights, mentioned the figure back in February, saying some of the charges are on political pretexts, including for circumventing illegal US sanctions.

Stressing that the duty of the administration in different sectors of the Islamic Republic is to defend the rights of such prisoners, the senior official said some of these Iranian prisoners are "not in good condition abroad and many problems have arisen as some of them are the heads of their families."

## Chances for Nuclear Deal High If U.S., Europeans Fulfill Commitments

TEHRAN (IFP) - President Ebrahim Raisi says Iran is interested in forging a viable and lasting agreement to revive a 2015 nuclear accord, noting the prospects for a deal are bright provided the United State and Europe live up to their commitments.

In an interview with China's Central Television (CCTV) and China's Global Television Network (CGTN), President Raisi reiterated Iran's stance that the nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), can be restored after the removal of anti-Iran sanctions and the necessary guarantees to Iran that the parties will not backtrack on their commitments as per the deal.

The JCPOA almost fell apart after the US withdrew from the deal in 2018 and reinstated harsh sanctions against Iran.

President Raisi hit out at Washington for using sanctions as a weapon against other countries, explaining, "Until yesterday, the US would impose its goals on other countries through military campaigns, but today sanctions are a tactic to threaten countries and governments."

The Iranian president also referred to Iran's recently-approved membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) as a good basis for communication between the Islamic Republic and other member states to use their capacities for the growth of the security and economic alliance.

Regarding the recent deadly unrest and riots in Iran following the death of a young Iranian woman in police custody, President Raisi said different teams are investigating the issue and any comment on the issue should be withheld until after the final report is released.

Brushing aside the West's concerns in raising human rights issues over the death of Mahsa Amini as dishonest, President Raisi stated, "Protection of human rights is a part of the essence of the Islamic Republic."

## Iran Targets \$3b Worth of Trade With Kazakhstan

TEHRAN (IRNA) - First vice-president said that the capacities of cooperation between Iran and Kazakhstan are far beyond the current level of relations, adding that with the existing capacities of the two countries, the level of trade exchanges between Tehran and Astana can quickly reach \$3b in trade exchanges.

Speaking in meeting with Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Alikhan Smailova on the sidelines of the Second Caspian Economic Forum, Mohammad Mokhber said that during the visit of the President of Kazakhstan to Iran, 10 cooperation documents were signed in the government sector and 11 cooperation documents in the private sector of the two countries, which will be a turning point in the relations between the two countries.

He announced Iran's readiness to send mining companies to Kazakhstan, and added, "Tehran is ready to cooperate with Astana in port, dam



construction, hydropower plant construction, knowledge base and technical and engineering services.

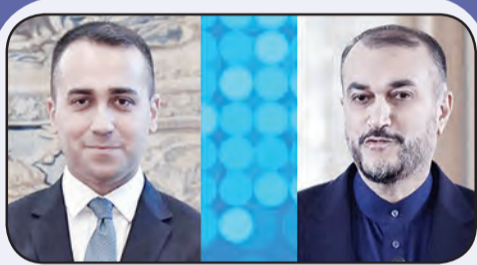
Iran's first vice-president emphasized on the use of the national currency of the two countries in trade exchanges, and said, "We should take steps with good faith and serious will in the direction of the will and wishes of the presidents in the development of the relations between the two countries.

In this meeting, the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan also welcomed the proposal of Mokhber and said that the necessary platforms and capacities of the two countries are ready to raise the level of trade exchanges between Iran

and Kazakhstan to reach \$3b in value of trade exchanges.

Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Alikhan Smailov in the meeting emphasized the importance of improving the level of cooperation between Tehran and Astana in the fields of oil swap, industry, agriculture, scientific and cultural sectors.

## Iran Decries EU Meddling, Vows Response to Any Ill-Considered Move



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's foreign minister has decried the role of European Union countries and terrorist groups based there in instigating recent riots in the country, vowing response to any "hasty" and "ill-considered" action against the Islamic Republic.

In a phone call with his Italian counterpart Luigi Di Maio, Iran's foreign minister Hossein Amirabdollahian discussed a wide range of bilateral and global issues, including the recent foreign-backed riots in Iran, which led to many casualties.

"We are dissatisfied with the positions and interference of some European officials concerning recent incidents," the top Iranian diplomat asserted, referring to meddlesome remarks made by some EU officials about recent developments in the country.

"If the European Union seeks to adopt a hasty and ill-considered measure through a double standard behavior, it should await the Islamic Republic of Iran's effective and reciprocal action," he added.

"With its practical belief in democracy, the Islamic Republic of Iran has always paid heed to peaceful demands of people," said Amirabdollahian.

"Foreign meddlers, organized agents, and terrorists, especially in Zahedan and west of Iran, changed the course of people's peaceful protests towards violence, riot, and killing of innocent people as well as police and security forces," he noted, referring to a terrorist attack last Friday in Zahedan, southeast Iran, which killed 19 people and left 20 others injured.

In accordance with its strong laws, Iran is committed to "a precise and fair investigation" into the death of Amini and is pursuing the matter seriously, the top Iranian diplomat informed his Italian counterpart.

For his part, Di Maio said Italy respects the sovereignty and laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran, according to the foreign ministry statement.

Italy also believes that a response to peaceful demands is different from the one to riots and terrorism, he hastened to add.

## Two French Spies Admit Attempts to Incite Riots in Iran

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Two French spies arrested in Iran some four months ago have admitted to their attempts to provoke anti-government protests and riots with the ultimate goal of putting pressure on the country's Islamic establishment.

The two French nationals, Cécile Kohler, 37, and Jacques Paris, 69, traveled to Iran on April 28 as tourists but turned out to be spies for the Western agencies.

In a video aired on Iran's Arabic-language television news network al-Alam TV on Thursday, Kohler admitted to being an agent of the French General Directorate for External Security (DGSE), which is equivalent to the British MI6 and the American CIA.

In the recording, Kohler said she and her partner were in Iran with the main purpose of laying the groundwork for mass unrest in an attempt to trigger "a revolution" in the Islamic Republic and overthrow the Iranian government.

She explained that they brought in large sums of cash in order to fund riots and strikes, and purchase weaponry in an attempt to stir up chaos.

Kohler added that the weapons were meant to be used "to fight against the police," if necessary.

According to the other spy, who was also shown in the video, the DGSE's objective was to "put pressure on the Iranian government."

Iran's Intelligence Ministry announced in May that it had arrested the two French spies for attempting to stoke chaos and social disorder in the country during protests by teachers.

According to the ministry, the duo attempted to foment instability and social disorder when some teachers took to the streets in peaceful protests to demand fair wages and better working conditions.

Some photos show that the two were linked with teacher's unionists including Rasoul Bodaghi.

## Majlis Fails to Endorse Labor Minister Nominee

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Majlis has failed to endorse a nominee for the country's labor ministry, forcing President Ebrahim Raisi to introduce a new candidate to take over the key government post.

Members of the Iranian parliament, known as Majlis, were split on a confidence vote motion launched on Tuesday to back Mohammad Hadi Zahedi Vafa who had been nominated by Raisi to lead the Ministry of Cooperatives, Labor and Social Security (MCLS).

Votes cast in Zahedi Vafa's favor were 136 while 125 lawmakers opposed him, according to a report by the IRIB News which added that there were nine abstentions and two votes were dismissed. Iran's parliament has 290 seats.

A report by the official IRNA agency said that Zahedi Vafa had narrowly won the parliament's confidence vote in a first ballot but failed to get a majority after a vote recounting that was demanded by opposing lawmakers.

The IRNA criticized the parliament for failing to endorse Zahedi Vafa, an economist educated in Canada who took over as caretaker labor minister in early July after a former minister resigned under pressure from pensioners and government authorities. That comes as monthly pensions rose by 37% under Zahedi Vafa's watch.

The MCLS is one of the largest ministries of the Iranian government that controls financial holdings and economic institutions. It was established in 2011 with the merger of three smaller ministries.

## Omani FM Hails Tehran For Its Trust in Muscat

TEHRAN (IP) - In a telephone conversation with his Iranian counterpart, the Omani Foreign Minister greatly appreciated the trust of Tehran officials in the authorities of Muscat in international mediation efforts.

During the conversation between Hossein Amirabdollahian and Sayyid Badr Albusaidi, the top Omani diplomat expressed gratitude and appreciation for Tehran's trust in the Omani authorities and the humanitarian action of Iran in handing over Bagher Namazi, who was convicted of espionage in Iran, to Muscat.

Albusaidi said his country had always supported the Islamic Republic's wise positions in the region and in international bodies.

The telephone call was initiated by the Omani side.

## Iran Not to Tolerate Terrorist Acts From Kurdistan

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's foreign minister has told his Iraqi counterpart that the Islamic Republic will not tolerate continued acts of aggression against it by terrorist groups based in the Arab country.

"We will not tolerate the continuation of aggression and terrorist acts by groups that have taken refuge in the Kurdistan region of Iraq and targeted Iran's national security," Hossein Amirabdollahian told Fuad Hussein in a phone conversation.

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has pounded terrorist bases in northern Iraq with drones and artillery fire in order to ensure Iran's border security.

Amirabdollahian touched on provocative acts originating from the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, saying after four decades and despite repeated commitments of the regional authorities, they continue against Iran's territorial security.

"While respecting and adhering to the development of privileged relations between the two countries, as stressed by the high military officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we will not tolerate the continuation of aggression and terrorist acts by these groups that have taken refuge in the region and target Iran's national security."

Iran's military officials have said the operations will continue until all separatists and terrorist acts against the Islamic Republic are neutralized.

On Tuesday, the IRGC targeted their positions in Sidekan, north of the regional capital Erbil, with multiple rocket launchers, precision-strike weapons and drones.





## PRAYER TIME

■ Noon (Zohr)	11:51
■ Evening (Maghreb)	17:56
■ Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	04:42
■ Tomorrow's Sunrise	06:05

74. And to Lut, too, We gave Judgment and Knowledge, and We saved him from the town which practised abominations: truly they were a people given to Evil, a rebellious people.

75. And We admitted him to Our Mercy: for he was one of the Righteous.

Surah 21. The Prophets (74 - 75)

## Iranian Companies Blamed for Slow Down In Iran-Russia Trade

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

**TEHRAN – Head of Commercial Representative of Russia in Iran says several big Iranian companies have had meetings for joint cooperation with their Russian counterparts in recent months but for weeks Russians have been waiting for the final decisions from their Iranian counterpart for beginning of the cooperation.**

Iranian economic activists with a trade delegation from Ural Republic of Russia, the vice-president of Ural Chamber of Commerce and Industry as well as the deputy head of commercial representative of Russia and deputy head of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mine and Agriculture (TCCIMA) had meeting in Tehran last week where they discussed several issues.

In the beginning of the meeting, deputy for international affairs of the TCCIMA Mr Hessameddin Hallaj pointed to the visits of several delegations from different republics of Russia to Tehran and said that one of the main and serious problems of economic activists in relation with Russian market is lack of enough information which is required for trade and unfortunately real needs and demands of Russians have not been identified for the Iranian traders.

He urged chambers of commerce of Tehran and Ural to take action for identifying the needs of the other party in their countries. He added that recent visits of Russian delegations to Iran in the past six months can be described as the clear sign of interest for broadening ties. He stated that Iran is in touch with different republics in Russia and this connection will continue with other republics in order that traders of both countries know each other well, adding that TCCIMA in correspondence with major chambers of commerce in Russia has announced readiness for hosting Russian delegations in Tehran or planning for their visits to other provinces of Iran.

Hallaj noted that Iran has progressed considerably in different fields and added that these progresses have been considerable especially in the health and health tourism sectors because the cost of medication in Iran is lower in comparison with other countries in the region.

He added that Iran can cooperate with Ural in different fields like IT, oil, gas and petrochemicals, chemical industries, agro and food industries, technical and engineering services and transportation, adding that because of high purchasing power of people in Ural Republic, export of Iranian carpet will be a good topic for discuss.

He also announced the interest of TCCIMA for obtaining the list of prestigious exhibitions which are to be held in Ural for cooperation and presence of Iranian companies, and expressed hope that with restoration of free trade with the EAEU, a great leap will happen in trade between the two countries.

Vice-President of Ural Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mr.Mikhail Kozlov, for his part, said that the current economic condition has provided a good opportunity for closeness of the two countries for improving the bilateral cooperation, adding that these



two chambers of commerce can bring closer the economic activists of both states.

He added that they have realized that Russian companies are eager to enter Iran's market and many Russian companies and producers come to Iran but they have no certain outlook for Iran's market and here it is the task of chambers of commerce to come and present capacities of the country

He reiterated that Ural is one of the most industrialized areas of Russia, adding that all elements which have been mentioned in Mendeleev's formulating table of elements exist in Ural.

Kozlov added that Ural has progressed in manufacturing tools, wood industries and medicines and the republic with 16m population enjoys a high purchasing power and it is a good opportunity for Iranian traders.

Then Deputy Head of Commercial Representative of Russia Mr. Andrey Blinnikov, for his part, said that according to the official statistics the trade volume between Iran and Russia was \$4b in 2021 while the unofficial statistics is estimated at around \$10b and the difference is because of trade through the third party countries.

He pointed to problem in transfer of money and said that the SWIFT system between Iran and Russia has not fully been restored yet and the MIR system in Russia and Iran should work more coordinated. He said Russia exported \$3b of goods to Iran in 2021 and Iran's share of the trade was \$1b. He added that in order that the trade balance of the two countries becomes more balanced, some solutions have been suggested and talks are underway.

Blinnikov then added that experts of the two countries are to meet between November 29 and December 1 in Grozny, Republic of Dagestan, where they discuss ways of financial interactions.

He reiterated that Russia is currently working with China, India and Turkey, adding that in comparison to the traders of those countries, Iranian traders reply late to their Russian counterparts and they waste time and the trade ties between Iran and Russia move sluggishly. He reiterated that Russia does not want to limit its trade only to one country and it wants work with different countries to avoid any dependence on a certain country.

He reiterated that some big Iranian companies in recent months have had different meetings with Russian counterparts but we have been waiting for weeks to get final decisions and finalization of talks and start of cooperation.

## Iran to Become Energy Hub in Region

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Iran's oil minister said on Thursday that oil and gas swap between Iran and Russia would make Iran the hub of energy in the region.

Javad Owji who accompanies Iran's First Vice-President Mohammad Mokhber in Moscow to attend the second meeting of the Caspian Economic Forum (CEF) said that Iran and Russia had made a lot of collaboration on energy swap.

He said that the two countries would make new agreements on establishing facilities and extracting joint gas fields, mentioning a joint investment with Russia's Gazprom in LNG production and gas-related technologies.

The total agreements with Russian businesses on oil and gas accounted for 40 billion dollars, Owji said.

He also underlined that Tehran and Moscow will jointly construct pipelines from Iran to Oman and Pakistan and will swap up to 10 million tons of oil and non-oil products.

The oil minister expressed hope that the agreement to swap 15 billion cubic meters of gas will be finalized within weeks.



## Russia's 3rd Consignment to India Reaches Iranian Port

BANDAR ABBAS (IRNA) - Russia's third transit train destined for India arrived here in this southern Iranian port, a provincial official announced.

Two more transit trains containing 37 and 39 wagons of potash fertilizer had reached Bandar Abbas in the past two days, head of the Hormuzgan railway company Hamid Gogochani told IRNA.

The trains start journey from Russia, pass Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan and arrive in Sarakhs border in northeastern Iranian province of Razavi Khorasan; then they move to Bandar Abbas after travelling about 1,600 kilometers, the official said.

Totally, one million tons of potash fertilizer have been loaded up from Russia and are en route to Iran for reaching India.

The consignments will leave Bandar Abbas for India by ships, he added.

As the official underlined, such a transit proves Iran's strategic position; its foothold in the North-South Transport Corridor in particular.

North-South Transport Corridor is a sea, rail, and road route expected to facilitate and boost exchange of goods between Iran, India, Russia, Europe, and the Central Asian states.

## Kojur of Mazandaran, the Lost Heaven of Tourism

BY: VAHID BAHRAMI

TEHRAN – Meisam Gholamali, the model entrepreneur and economic expert, says Kojur District of Mazandaran is the lost heaven and golden opportunity for investment and attracting international tourism enthusiasts.

In a ceremony for introducing the tourism investment opportunities and addressing the domestic and foreign reporters, Gholamali said that in line with materialization of the Supreme Leader recommendations regarding the development of tourism industry, the policies of the Second Step of the Revolution and fighting with Iranophobia in the region, Aftab-e Talae Shomal (Golden Sunshine of North) Cultural and Tourism Group with employing the possible potentials in the field of tourism, real estate, construction and creating modern tourism complexes with art-of-the-state technologies wants to operationalize the biggest technological tourist village project of the region in Kojur District.

The national model entrepreneur added that the intact area of Kojur with 8 hectares is consisted of 62 integrated villages and it has a very beautiful nature and pleasant



climate. High level of oxygen of the area, appropriate ratio of green space and easy access to freeway and Tehran-North Freeway are of the other advantages of the district which makes it a good choice for visit and investment.

He added that Kojur also with altitude of 1600 meters above sea level is one of the highest parts if the region and in case of getting support of the related officials, it will lead to creation of over 1500 direct and indirect jobs and it is a good entrepreneurship. He reiterated that this is while

implementation of the similar projects in other representatives of Aftab-e Talae Shomal are of the other targets of this group

Gholamali added that the group is keen both to attract investor and to work with its own investment and it is eager investors to enter the scene in other forms like investing for hospital, clinic, educational space, welfare complexes which are required in the area while with implementation of these projects, the value of real estates and properties of the district will soar.

He then pointed to some tourist attraction sites of Kojur District like Div Spring, Kandolus, Lasht Kenar and other villages that each has its own special beauties.

Gholamali emphasized necessity for identifying the important priorities and offering operational solutions aimed at access to the economic development growth of the province, reiterating that requirement of economic development of the province is both efficient utilization of capacities, existing facilities and jihadi efforts of managers absorbing investor in different sectors.

Kojur District is a district in Nowshahr County, Mazandaran Province, Iran and it is one of the unique and intact areas of Mazandaran Province.

## Iranian Co. Awarded Deal to Manufacture Cars in Venezuela



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's second largest car manufacturer Saipa will launch new models in Venezuela under a deal signed between the company and Venezuelan government authorities.

Saipa's PR office said in a Tuesday report that the company's CEO Mohammad Ali Teimouri and visiting Venezuelan transport minister Ramón Blázquez had signed a cooperation deal earlier in the day in a meeting held in the headquarters of Saipa in western Tehran.

It said the deal was focused on joint manufacturing of cars in Venezuela where Iranian carmakers have previously contributed to various projects.

Teimouri said Saipa will export 1,000 complete cars to Venezuela under a first phase of the deal signed with the Venezuelan transportation ministry.

He said the company will then supply parts and equipment to Venirauto, a Venezuelan automotive company where Saipa and Iran's largest carmaker the IKCO own shares, to start assembling new models in the plant.

Iran and Venezuela have been seeking closer economic and energy ties in recent years in a bid to offset the impacts of American sanctions on their economies.

Iranian companies have provided Venezuela with key equipment and technology needed in the country's oil sector in the past. Iran has also supplied fuel top Venezuela to help the country cope with shortages caused by US sanctions.

Bilateral ties between Iran and Venezuela deepened further in June after a visit to Tehran by Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro in which the two countries signed dozens of documents to expand their cooperation.

## Iranian Expats Invited to Invest in Free Zones

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - Secretary of High Council for Free Trade-Industrial and Special Economic Zones says free zones with providing required international infrastructures for the economic activists would welcome the presence of Iranian expatriates for investment in the country's free zones.

Speaking on Monday during the introduction ceremony of new CEO of Maku Free Zone Organization, Saeed Mohammad said that free zones in the current world enjoy special and undeniable place in the economic booms in the countries. He added that one of the main advantages of the free zones is facilitation of investment in these zones because in the mainland investment has more complicated bureaucratic process and these zones are assigned to ease and remove these hurdles but unfortunately in Iran, this special advantage has not been used properly for absorbing the Iranian investors living abroad.

Mohammad went on to say that Iranian investors are active in many countries in the world and most of them are keen to invest in their own country. He reiterated that if the proper ground is provided in this field, without any doubt a big breakthrough will happen in the free zones of the country and these zones will get closer to its real and main place and function.

He noted that these investors because of having broad international economic and trade

experience in the high levels of economy in different countries are not easily affected by the propagations of enemies of Iran and media hype, and they can start their economic activities with peace and stability and they can train new generation for the country due to their skills.

Mohammad further said that cruel sanctions against Iran and revolution have created many problems for Iranian economic activists and through this way, the country can compensate some of those backwardness and improve these economic activists.

He termed important using the capacities of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) for materialization of this issue and added that free zones with providing required infrastructures for the launch of the offshore bank, offshore insurance and international stock market can provide favorable acceleration for providing requirements of international activities.

Then Mohammad invited all Iranians living abroad to invest in the free zones, reiterating that in this regard politicization should be put aside and experience, skills and good records should be prioritized.

Then Hossein Garrousi was officially started his job as the new CEO of Maku Free Zone Organization and he replaced Mohammad Reza Abdollahimi.





## Mexico Town Hall Massacre Leaves at Least 20 Dead

MEXICO CITY (Dispatches) - Gunmen attacked a town hall and murdered at least 20 people, including a mayor, in a southern Mexican state riven by turf wars between rival drug cartels, authorities said Thursday.

Soldiers guarded the bullet-riddled building in San Miguel Totolapan following Wednesday's massacre, in which Mayor Conrado Mendoza and his father, who held the job before him, were killed in broad daylight.

The mayor was in a work meeting when he was shot dead, municipal official Freddy Vazquez told reporters.



## Demonstrators Rally in Support of New Burkina Faso Leader

OUAGADOUGOU (Dispatches) - Demonstrators gathered in the capital of Burkina Faso on Thursday to show their support for the country's new junta leader, as rumors swirled of internal divisions in the army.

Ibrahim Traore was declared president on Wednesday after a two-day standoff that ousted Lieutenant-Colonel Paul-Henri Damiba, who had seized power only in January.

Traore was at the head of a core of disgruntled junior officers -- but there were rumours just a few days later of discussions among some other army generals over potentially replacing him. A crowd of several hundred people, mostly young men, gathered in front of the national radio and television centre in the city.



## Ex-Cop Kills 24 Children in Knife And Gun Rampage in Thailand



NA KLANG (Dispatches) - A former policeman killed 34 people, including 23 children, during a knife and gun rampage at a daycare centre in northeast Thailand on Thursday, police said, before later shooting dead his wife and child at home and turning his weapon on himself.

In one of the world's worst child death tolls in a massacre by a single killer in recent history, most of the children who died at the daycare center in Uthai Sawan, a town 500 km (310 miles) northeast of Bangkok, were stabbed to death, police said.

The age range of children at the daycare center was from two to five years, a local official told Reuters. Police identified the attacker as a former member of the force who was dismissed from his post last year over drug allegations and he was facing trial on a drugs charge. The man had been in court earlier in the day and had then gone to the daycare center to collect his child, police spokesperson Paisal Luesomborn told broadcaster ThaiPBS.

When he did not find his child there, he began the killing spree, Paisal said. "He started shooting, slashing, killing children at the Uthai Sawan daycare centre," Paisal said.

"It's a scene that nobody wants to see. From the first step when I went in, it felt harrowing," Piyalak Kingkaew, an experienced emergency worker heading the first responder team, told Reuters.

"We've been through it before, but this incident is most harrowing because they are little kids."

A large van that police said contained bodies of 22 people, mostly children, was seen by Reuters departing from a police station headed towards the city of Udon Thani, 80 km (50 miles) away, where autopsies would be performed.

A Reuters photographer also saw late on Thursday the body of the shooter, Panya Khamrapm, being moved in a bodybag from a van to a police station in the province.

Photographs taken at the daycare centre by the rescue team and shared with Reuters showed the tiny bodies of those killed laid out on blankets. Abandoned juice boxes were scattered across the floor.

"He was heading towards me and I begged him for mercy, I didn't know what to do," one distraught woman told ThaiPBS, fighting back tears.

"He didn't say anything, he shot at the door while the kids were sleeping," another woman said, becoming distraught.

Police said the attacker's weapon was a 9 mm pistol and it had been obtained legally.

Thailand's police chief said the perpetrator had tried to break into the premises and had mostly used a knife in the killings.

"Then he got out and started killing anyone he met along the way with a gun or the knife until he got home. We surrounded his house and then found that he committed suicide in his home," Damrongsak Kittiprapas told reporters.

He said a few children had survived, without giving details.

About 30 children were at the facility - a pink, one-storey building surrounded by a lawn and small palm trees - when the attacker arrived, fewer than usual, as heavy rain had kept many people away, said district official Jidapa Boonsom, who was working in a nearby office at the time.

## Russian Missile Razes Ukraine Apartment Block

BAKHMUT (Dispatches) - A Russian missile demolished an apartment block in a Ukrainian region that Moscow says it has annexed, killing at least three people, as discontent mounted within Russia about the handling of the war by the top brass.

The missile attack on the city of Zaporizhzhia in the southern region of the same name left some people buried under rubble, the regional governor said, and was a reminder of Moscow's ability to strike targets even at a time when its forces have been pushed back in the south and east.

There was no immediate comment from Russia, whose invasion of Ukraine has begun to unravel after a Ukrainian counteroffensive in which thousands of square miles of territory have been retaken since the start of September, including dozens of settlements in recent days. Thousands of Russian troops have retreated after the front line crumbled, first in the northeast, and, since the beginning of this week, also in the south.

Public criticism of Russia's top military officials, once taboo, is growing.



## UN Calls for Humanitarian Corridor in Haiti's Crisis-Hit Capital

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - The United Nations is calling for a humanitarian corridor to allow fuel to leave Haiti's main terminal in Port-au-Prince, where an outbreak of cholera and surging gang violence have raised international concern.

Armed gangs have blockaded the Varreux terminal, the country's primary fuel entry point, for weeks in anger over cuts to government subsidies, and a worsening lack of supplies has pushed health facilities to the brink of collapse.

The UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) on Thursday called "for the immediate opening of a humanitarian corridor to allow the release of fuel to meet the urgent needs of the population".

"Access to potable water, sanitation and health care is severely disrupted, which is essential to prevent and respond quickly to cholera," it said in a statement. "The crisis that Haiti is going through affects the population throughout the territory and the most vulnerable people are the first to suffer from the blockage."

Local authorities and international aid groups have raised alarm after Haiti on the weekend reported its first cholera cases in more than three years.

Prime Minister Ariel Henry called for international assistance in a speech to the nation on Wednesday night. "We want them to provide all the support that is necessary to prevent people from dying," Henry said, as reported by The Miami Herald.

An earlier cholera outbreak in 2010 linked to United Nations peacekeepers in Haiti caused approximately 10,000 deaths and more than 820,000 infections.

On Thursday, the Haitian public health and population ministry said 11 cases of cholera had been confirmed as of Wednesday evening, while two deaths also occurred at health facilities.

Another 111 suspected cases have been reported, including 27 among children aged four and under. Nearly all of the suspected cases were in and around Port-au-Prince, but two also were in Mirebalais, about 60km (37 miles) from the capital.

## North Korea Fires Ballistic Missiles After Condemning U.N. Meeting

SEOUL (Dispatches) - North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles into the sea on Thursday in the direction of Japan, after the return of a U.S. aircraft carrier to the region and a U.N. Security Council meeting in response to the North's recent launches.

The missile launch was the sixth in 12 days and the first since North Korea fired an intermediate-range missile (IRBM) over Japan on Tuesday, which prompted joint South Korean and U.S. missile drills during which one weapon crashed and burned.

The launch was reported by South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Japanese government.

"This is the sixth time in the short period, just counting the ones from the end of September," Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters. "This absolutely cannot be tolerated." The launch came about an hour after North Korea condemned the United States for talking to the United Nations Security Council about Pyongyang's "just counteraction measures of the Korean People's Army on south Korea-U.S. joint drills," suggesting its missile tests are a reaction to the allied military moves.

In a statement released by the reclusive nation's foreign ministry, North Korea also condemned Washington for repositioning a U.S. aircraft carrier off the Korean peninsula, saying it posed a serious threat to the stability of the situation.

The supercarrier Ronald Reagan and its strike group of accompanying warships was abruptly redeployed in response to North Korea's IRBM launch over Japan.

The United States accused China and Russia on Wednesday of enabling North Korean leader Kim Jong Un by blocking attempts to strengthen U.N. Security Council sanctions on Pyongyang over its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs.

U.S. State Department Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel echoed the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations in calling the Chinese and Russian positions "deeply disappointing" but said Washington still intended to hold



North Korea accountable "through actions at ... multilateral institutions and other actions otherwise."

"We continue to have a number of tools in our tool belt - sanctions, other things - to continue to hold the regime accountable. ... I don't have any specific actions to preview, but the United States is monitoring and watching closely and ready to take additional action as well."

South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol, who was due to speak to Kishida by phone on Thursday, told reporters his country would ensure its security through its alliance with the

United States and cooperation with Japan. He said the U.S. carrier had entered waters off South Korea late on Wednesday.

Yoon's national security council warned that North Korea would face a strong international response over the tests.

Tokyo lodged a "vehement protest" with North Korea over Thursday's launches through delegations in Beijing, Japanese Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada said.

The first missile on Thursday likely flew to an altitude of about 100 km (60 miles) and a range of 350 km (220 miles), while the second one had an estimated altitude of 50 km (30 miles) and covered 800 km (500 miles), likely flying in an irregular trajectory, he said.

Many of North Korea's most recent short-range ballistic missiles (SRBMs) are designed to fly on a lower, depressed trajectory and potentially manoeuvre, complicating efforts to detect and intercept them.

"North Korea has relentlessly and unilaterally escalated its provocation especially since the beginning of this year," Hamada told reporters.

South Korea's JCS said the missiles were launched from near the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

North Korea has launched about 40 missiles this year. Its record schedule began in January with the launch of a new "hypersonic missile," and went on to include long-range cruise missiles; SRBMs fired from rail cars, airports, and a submarine; its first intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launches since 2017; and the IRBM shot over Japan.

## UN Extends Sri Lanka War-Time Violations Monitoring, China Opposes

GENEVA (Dispatches) - The U.N. rights body renewed the mandate of a U.N. office to collect and preserve evidence of alleged war-time human rights crimes in Sri Lanka, despite opposition from the government and allies including China.

The resolution brought by Britain, Canada, the United States and others passed with 20 votes in favour and seven against at the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. China and several other countries supported Sri Lanka's view that the monitoring amounted to meddling.

"Sri Lanka categorically rejects the resolution presented without our consent, despite our efforts to engage with the main sponsors," Foreign minister Ali Sabry said, rejecting it as "rambling" and a "drain on resources".

China, a close ally of Sri Lanka, voted against the resolution, which it called an example of "politicisation" of human rights issues. Pakistan called the resolution "intrusive".

Sri Lanka's neighbor India, which has extended the most financial support during the island's financial crisis this year, abstained.

The resolution renews the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to observe Sri Lanka's progress towards establishing a credible investigation into alleged war crimes during the civil war that ended in 2009 and promote demilitarisation of its north and eastern regions.

The renewed resolution also called for the government to investigate and prosecute former and current public officials who triggered the country's worst financial crisis in more than seven decades, plunging the population of 22 million population into soaring inflation, currency depreciation and severe food and fuel shortages.

It mandates the U.N. rights office to prepare a comprehensive report for release in 2024, essentially giving Sri Lanka two more years to meet its rights-related obligations.





## Tesla Could Face Its Toughest Challenge Yet as Economy Cools



SAN FRANCISCO (Dispatches) - As recently as July, Tesla (TSLA.O) Chief Executive Elon Musk said the electric-car maker did not have a problem with customer demand, simply a problem making and shipping all the Model Ys and Model 3s consumers were ready to buy.

That may no longer be true.

Analysts see early signs of caution for the world's most valuable car maker, including for its increasingly premium pricing, at a time when the global economy is slowing and expectations for global auto sales are being dialed back.

Tesla has navigated supply-chain challenges better than most of its rivals and analysts expect it to post strong growth through next year as it expands output, but there are also indications it is being forced to respond to a tougher market.

The most immediate concern: Tesla made over 22,000 more EVs than it delivered to customers in the third quarter, data released this week showed. That is the first time it has had to finance that many cars in inventory. For most of the past three years, Tesla has been selling more EVs in a quarter than it can produce. The one notable exception was in early 2020 when COVID disrupted deliveries.

While Tesla's numbers remain low, building inventory has historically been a down-cycle indicator for automakers, forcing markdowns in past recessions of the kind Tesla has not yet faced.

Tesla blamed transport issues for a delivery total that fell short of Wall Street expectations.

If Tesla needs to hold more inventory in coming quarters to smooth deliveries and avoid the end-of-quarter rush that has been its norm, that would add to the \$1.2-billion in undelivered cars it held at the end of the second quarter.

Analysts believe Tesla still has more demand than it can supply, the bedrock assumption behind its aggressive expansion plan over the next year as it ramps up production at factories in Shanghai, Berlin and Austin, Texas.

Morgan Stanley analyst Adam Jonas said he believed Tesla did not face an immediate demand problem, but added a caution on pricing and Tesla's ability to buck the economic cycle.

"It would be unreasonable to assume that there is: (a) a limit to how much Tesla can continue to increase prices without demand suffering and (b) that the company was not exposed to decelerating macroeconomic growth," he said in a research note.

Tesla's average vehicle transaction price jumped 31% to \$69,831 in August, compared with \$53,132 at the start of 2021, according to Kelly Blue Book. That outpaced industry-wide price hikes on new cars of 18% to \$48,301 during the same period.

The waiting time Tesla customers face between order and delivery has also been dropping in both the United States and China, Tesla's largest markets. In China, that lag, one indicator of the supply-demand balance, has been cut four times since August to a minimum of a week for delivery.

And Tesla, which has resisted marketing and incentives, offered Chinese buyers a rebate of 8,000 yuan (\$1,100) if they took delivery before the end of September.

Musk himself in July said Tesla prices were hitting "embarrassing levels" and that "demand falls off a cliff" when prices are rising to "some arbitrarily high level."

As Tesla pushes its own capacity expansion, it is running into a wave of new EV competition, especially in China from the likes of BYD, Nio and Xpeng.

## Europe's Crisis Measures to Tackle Energy Price Spike



BRUSSELS (Dispatches) - European Union countries on Friday approved a package of emergency measures aimed at pulling down surging gas and power prices that are stoking inflation, hampering industrial activity and inflicting sky-high bills on consumers ahead of winter.

The deal came as countries were investigating the cause of leaks in Russia's Nord Stream gas pipelines to Europe, and as Europe heads into an energy-scarce winter after Russia slashed gas deliveries in the wake of its invasion of Ukraine.

Moscow blames the supply cuts to EU countries on Western sanctions.

EU energy ministers immediately launched talks on Friday on their next move to contain the energy crunch, which many countries have said should be a bloc-wide cap on gas prices.

But for now, here are the energy measures EU countries approved on Friday.

The EU agreed to claw back revenue from electricity generators with low running costs to raise cash for governments to spend on cushioning consumers and industry from soaring energy bills.

In the EU system, gas plants often set the price of electricity. Wind, solar and nuclear power plants can still sell their electricity at the resulting high prices even though they have far lower running costs, and do not have to pay huge bills for fuel.

EU countries will skim off excess revenue made by these generators, and also by electricity traders, from December to June 2023.

The measure would apply a price limit of 180 euros per megawatt hour (MWh) until March on the revenue these generators get for their power in the market.

The limit would be applied after power transactions are settled, so it would not directly affect prices in Europe's exchange-traded electricity market.

Countries could opt to also impose an even tougher national cap on revenues, or only recoup 90% of firms' excess revenues if they choose. They can also set a separate cap to skim off coal plants' revenues.

National governments would be responsible for recouping the cash and spending it to mitigate soaring energy prices. That could include giving consumers financial incentives to use less power, lowering consumers' electricity bills, or helping them invest in energy-saving measures such as home insulation.

The Commission said the proposal would raise 117 billion euros (\$117 billion), although that cash would not be evenly shared, and countries such as Estonia have said they expect to gain little revenue from the measure.

The levy would not be mandatory for Malta and Cyprus, island countries not fully connected to the EU electricity system.

EU countries will also skim off excess cash from companies that have made bumper profits from selling fossil fuels at record prices.

They also agreed last Friday to introduce a temporary windfall profit levy for oil, gas, coal and refining companies.

This would apply to 33% of firms' taxable surplus profits from 2022, 2023, or both, with surplus profits defined as those 20% above a company's average taxable profits in the last four years.

States including Italy and Greece already have a windfall profit tax on energy firms, and countries agreed that governments can keep such national measures, instead of replacing them with the EU scheme.



**Don't Waste Your Time**

Visit our website to choose your desired rental Properties

**www.DeltaHOME.ir**

The Most Specialized Website for Foreigners

**HOME**  
Real Estate

Member of **DELTA** Real Estate Group  
(021) 88888865





## Polish Central Bank Holds Rates

WARSAW (Dispatches) - The National Bank of Poland (NBP) kept its main interest rate on hold at 6.75%, it said, opting to leave borrowing costs unchanged despite soaring inflation as it warned of an economic slowdown in the coming months.

With regional peers finishing monetary tightening cycles, Polish policymakers had also signalled that the end of rate hikes was near. However, with inflation rising to 17.2% in September, the highest since 1997, most economists had predicted that the cost of credit would continue to rise.

Economists polled by Reuters had expected the main rate to rise to 7.00%.



## OPEC+ Agrees Deep Oil Production Cuts, Angers Biden

VIENNA (Dispatches) - OPEC+ agreed steep oil production cuts, curbing supply in an already tight market, causing one of its biggest clashes with the West as the U.S. administration called the surprise decision shortsighted.

OPEC's de-facto leader Saudi Arabia said the cut of 2 million barrels per day (bpd) of output - equal to 2% of global supply - was necessary to respond to rising interest rates in the West and a weaker global economy.

The kingdom rebuffed criticism it was colluding with Russia, which is included in the OPEC+ group, to drive prices higher and said the West was often driven by "wealth arrogance" when criticizing the group.

The White House said President Joe Biden would continue to assess whether to release further strategic oil stocks to lower prices.

"The President is disappointed by the shortsighted decision by OPEC+ to cut production quotas while the global economy is dealing with the continued negative impact of (Russian President Vladimir) Putin's invasion of Ukraine," the White House said.

Biden faces low approval ratings ahead of mid-term elections due to soaring inflation and has called on Saudi Arabia, a long-term U.S. ally, to help lower prices.

U.S. officials have said part of the reason Washington wants lower oil prices is to deprive Moscow of oil revenue. Biden travelled to Riyadh this year but failed to secure any firm cooperation commitments on energy. Relations have been further strained as Saudi Arabia has not condemned Moscow's actions in Ukraine.

The cut in oil supplies decided in Vienna on Wednesday could spur a recovery in oil prices that have dropped to about \$90 from \$120 three months ago on fears of a global economic recession, rising U.S. interest rates and a stronger dollar.

Saudi Energy Minister Abdulaziz bin Salman said OPEC+ had needed to be pro-active as central banks around the world moved to "belatedly" tackle soaring inflation with higher interest rates.

Pump jacks operate in front of a drilling rig in an oil field in Midland Wednesday's production cuts of 2 million bpd are based on existing baseline figures, which means the cuts would be less deep because OPEC+ fell about 3.6 million barrels per day short of its output target in August.

Under-production happened because of Western sanctions on countries such as Russia, Venezuela and Iran and output problems with producers such as Nigeria and Angola.

Prince Abdulaziz said the real cuts would be 1.0-1.1 million bpd.

Analysts from Jefferies said they estimated the figure at 0.9 million bpd, while Goldman Sachs put it at 0.4-0.6 million bpd saying cuts would mainly come from Gulf OPEC producers such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait.

The West has accused Russia of weaponising energy, with soaring gas prices and a scramble to find alternatives creating a crisis in Europe that could trigger gas and power rationing this winter.

## Moody's Expects Malaysia's Islamic Banking to Continue to Grow

KUALALUMPUR (Dispatches) - Malaysia's Islamic finance industry is expected to grow faster than conventional banking with growth driven by the retail segment in 2022 and 2023, Moody's Investors Service said.

Analyst Li Tengfu said at this point, the credit rating agency maintained a projection of four to five per cent growth for Malaysia's banking sector.

"We may see a few percentage points higher for the Islamic banking," he said at Moody's Investors Service Global Islamic Finance Industry Update media roundtable here today.

He said the expansion in gross domestic product (GDP), projected to be slightly below six per cent for 2022 and 2023, and commodities prices such as oil and crude palm oil (CPO) would contribute to demand for financial products and services.

"The oil price is still at fairly elevated level and at the same time, CPO prices are still significantly higher compared to pre-pandemic level of 2019 and 2018. These are essentially what really driving our current expectation," he said.

He said commodity-exporting countries such as Malaysia and Indonesia are also seeing a balancing effect from aggressive United States (US) interest rate hikes.

"One is that you had, a very strong economic growth and of course inflation is rising as well but here in Asia Pacific such as Malaysia and Indonesia, the government has the fiscal capacity somewhat because of the benefit in term of commodity export that they can use to sort of partially offset those pressure.

## Wage-Price Spirals Are Rare

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - New research by the International Monetary Fund shows that sustained wage-price spirals are historically rare, and recent sharp interest rate hikes by central banks are likely to help prevent high inflation expectations from becoming entrenched.

In an analytical chapter released on Wednesday from the IMF's forthcoming World Economic Outlook, the Fund said wage and price hike dynamics in 2020 and 2021 were driven by "highly unusual" COVID-19

pandemic shocks, unlike past episodes that reacted to more conventional economic forces.

IMF researchers studied 22 episodes of high inflation and falling real wages in advanced economies over the past 50 years and found most subsided quickly.

Wage hikes over the past two years were driven by production capacity and labor supply shocks, while prices were driven up largely by a build-up of private savings and the release of pent-up demand as the pandemic eased, the IMF said.

Past inflationary episodes usually ended as nominal wages gradually caught up with prices over several quarters, avoiding an upward spiral, the IMF said. This generally happened when economic shocks were viewed as temporary, leading wages and prices to stabilize based on normal labor supply dynamics.

But the chapter noted a few key exceptions, including the U.S. "stagflation" era that followed the 1973 OPEC oil embargo, when nominal wages failed to increase with prices and further oil shocks in 1979 kept inflation high and real wages falling. This trajectory changed only when the Federal Reserve raised interest rates sharply, prompting years of recession in the early 1980s.

Indexing of wages to cost-of-living increases in Belgium also helped fuel a major wage-price spiral there in the 1970s, with wage inflation sometimes exceeding price gains, the IMF said.

And the end of World War Two rationing in the United States unleashed massive pent-up demand for scarce consumer goods, fueling double-digit wage and price gains for years until industry fully readjusted to peacetime production and excess demand was sated by 1949.

"Overall, the historical evidence suggests that episodes characterized by about a year of accelerating prices and wages have not generally lasted, with nominal wage growth and price inflation tending to stabilize on average" after several quarters, the IMF said.

## Goal of Ending Extreme Poverty By 2030 Unlikely To Be Met

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - Shocks related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine mean the world is unlikely to meet a longstanding goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030, the World Bank said in a new report released.

The COVID-19 pandemic marked a historic turning point after decades of poverty reduction, the report said, with 71 million more people living in extreme poverty in 2020.

That meant 719 million people - or about 9.3% of the world's population - were living on just \$2.15 a day, and the ongoing war, reduced growth in China and higher food and energy prices threatened to further stall efforts to reduce poverty, it said.

Barring sharp growth gains, an estimated 574 million people, or about 7% of the world's population, would still be subsisting at that same income level by 2030, mostly in Africa, it said.

World Bank President David Malpass said the new Poverty and Shared Prosperity report showed the grim outlook facing tens of million of people, and called for major policy changes to boost growth and help jumpstart efforts to eradicate poverty.

"Progress in reducing extreme poverty has essentially halted in tandem with subdued global economic growth," he said in a statement, blaming inflation, currency depreciations and broader overlapping crises for the rise in extreme poverty.

Indermit Gill, the World Bank's chief economist, said failure to reduce poverty in developing countries would have profound implications for the world's broader ability to combat climate change and could unleash large new flows of migrants.

It would also limit growth in advanced economies, since extreme poverty rates would prevent these often heavily populated developing countries from becoming bigger consumers of goods on the global market.



World Bank President David Malpass said the new Poverty and Shared Prosperity report showed the grim outlook facing tens of million of people, and called for major policy changes to boost growth and help jumpstart efforts to eradicate poverty.

"Progress in reducing extreme poverty has essentially halted in tandem with subdued global economic growth," he said in a statement, blaming inflation, currency depreciations and broader overlapping crises for the rise in extreme poverty.

Indermit Gill, the World Bank's chief economist, said failure to reduce poverty in developing countries would have profound implications for the world's broader ability to combat climate change and could unleash large new flows of migrants.

It would also limit growth in advanced economies, since extreme poverty rates would prevent these often heavily populated developing countries from becoming bigger consumers of goods on the global market.

"If you care about prosperity in advanced economies, sooner or later you want these countries to have large markets, countries like India, countries like China," he said.

"You also want these countries to grow so they actually start to become sources of demand and not just supply."

To change course, the World Bank said countries should boost cooperation, avoid broad subsidies, focus on long-term growth and adopt measures such as property taxes and carbon taxes that could help raise revenue without hurting the poorest people.

It said poverty reduction had already slowed in the five years leading up to the pandemic, and the poorest people clearly bore its steepest costs. The poorest 40% of people saw average income losses of 4% during the pandemic, twice the losses experienced by the wealthiest 20%, the World Bank said.

To change course, the World Bank said countries should boost cooperation, avoid broad subsidies, focus on long-term growth and adopt measures such as property taxes and carbon taxes that could help raise revenue without hurting the poorest people.

It said poverty reduction had already slowed in the five years leading up to the pandemic, and the poorest people clearly bore its steepest costs. The poorest 40% of people saw average income losses of 4% during the pandemic, twice the losses experienced by the wealthiest 20%, the World Bank said.

It said poverty reduction had already slowed in the five years leading up to the pandemic, and the poorest people clearly bore its steepest costs. The poorest 40% of people saw average income losses of 4% during the pandemic, twice the losses experienced by the wealthiest 20%, the World Bank said.

## SWIFT Sets Out Blueprint For Central Bank Digital Currency Network



LONDON (Dispatches) - Financial messaging system SWIFT has laid out its blueprint for a global central bank digital currency (CBDC) network following an 8-month experiment on different technologies and currencies.

The trial, which involved France and Germany's national central banks as well as global lenders like HSBC, Standard Chartered and UBS, looked at how CBDCs could be used internationally and even converted into fiat money if needed.

Around 90% of the world's central banks are now using, trialling or looking into CBDCs. Most don't want to be left behind by bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies, but are grappling with technological complexities.

SWIFT's head of innovation Nick Kerigan said its trial, which will be followed by more advanced testing over the next year, resembled a bicycle wheel where 14 central and commercial banks in total connected spoke-like into its main hub.

The idea is that once scaled-up, banks may need only one main global connection, rather than thousands if they were to set up connections with each counterpart individually.

"We believe that the number of connections needed is much fewer," Kerigan said. "Therefore, you are likely to have fewer breaks (in the chain) and you are likely to achieve greater efficiency."

The trial also tested different underlying CBDC technologies known as Distributed Ledger Technologies. The use of various technologies has also been raised as a potential hurdle for rapid global adoption.

There was a separate trial too carried out alongside Citi, clearing house Clearstream and Northern Trust on "tokenised" assets - traditional assets like stocks and bonds transformed into digital tokens that can then be issued and traded in real-time.

## Bank of Spain Cuts 2023 Growth Forecast to 1.4%

MADRID (Dispatches) - The Bank of Spain significantly cut its GDP growth forecast for next year due to the impact of higher energy prices in Europe and lower consumer spending.

It said it expected gross domestic product to expand 1.4% in 2023, down from a previously expected growth rate of 2.8%, in stark contrast with the government's forecast of 2.1% growth.

Economic activity in the euro zone has been hit by the financial fallout from Russia's invasion of Ukraine, triggering an increase in gas and power prices that the central bank said would affect the domestic economy in coming quarters.

"The high cost of energy and lack of supply are affecting the production of the most energy-intensive industries ... Overall, this decline in industrial and household income is leading to a reduction in demand for the production of other industries," a central bank statement said.

In this context, it said it estimates the economy grew 0.1% in the third quarter after expanding a higher than expected 1.5% in the second quarter, following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions and a stronger recovery in tourism.

This led the Bank of Spain to revise upwards its economic growth forecast for this year to 4.5% from 4.1%.

Due to geopolitical uncertainty stemming from the war and tighter finance conditions in the euro zone introduced to combat soaring inflation, the Bank of Spain said it did not expect the Spanish economy to recover to pre-pandemic levels until the first quarter of 2024, two quarters later than seen in June.

It then sees the economy growing 2.9% in 2024, faster than the previously expected 2.6%, as energy market tensions and disruptions in global supply chains are likely to ease, and also thanks to a faster deployment of European Union recovery funds. Last year, the Spanish economy rebounded 5.5% after a record 11.3% slump in 2020 induced by the coronavirus pandemic.

The central bank projected annual EU-harmonised consumer inflation to reach 8.7% in 2022, up from a previously expected price increase of 7.2%. It expects a still hefty inflation rate of 5.6% in 2023 before it falls to 1.9% by 2024.

"In the coming quarters, inflation will remain above 8%. Only from spring onwards will it slow down," the central bank's chief economist, Angel Gavilan, told reporters.

Core inflation is forecast to rise to 3.9% this year before easing to 3.5% in 2023 and 2.1% in 2024.





## Iran National Football Team Among World Top 20

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Iran's national football team – Team Melli – is in the 20th place in the global ranking, as it is preparing to take part in the World Cup 2022.

The latest ranking issued by the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) ahead of the World Cup 2022 to be held in Qatar has listed Iran on the 20th place in the world.

Iran's position in this ranking has improved by 2 places, with the previous ranking released last month placing Iran in the 22nd position. Iran is the top Asian national team in the latest FIFA ranking.



## Iran Test Launches Indigenous Saman Space Tug

TEHRAN 9PressTV) - Iran has test launched a domestically designed and manufactured space tug capable of shifting satellites between orbits and transferring spaceborne cargo from one orbit to another with different energy characteristics.

The spacecraft, dubbed Saman and built by experts and technicians from the Iranian Space Research Center (ISRC), was successfully sent into suborbital space on Tuesday by the Iranian Defense Ministry.

"As part of efforts to further expand homegrown telecommunications technology and manufacture a satellite rotating on a geostationary orbit (GEO), the development of the space tug was placed high on the agenda of the ISRC. This means a quicker and smoother process of obtaining the orbital point synchronized with the Earth once a satellite elevates its orbital height from the geostationary orbit to the operational

one," Hassan Salariyeh, acting chief of Iran's space agency, said.

"Since the design and construction of a tug is a very sophisticated and costly task and its launch must be carried out with reliability considerations taken into full consideration, the intermediate steps of technology development were therefore included in the program," he added.

"The first step, which included the test of the engine of the first stage of the space tug as well as the test of the performance of its rotation generating and de-rotating motors, was successfully completed," Salariyeh noted.

He further explained that the suborbital payload was sent to a high altitude during the second step so as to test the performance of the cold gas thrusters, the rotation generating and de-rotation engines, the tracking and aiming system, and the payload separation system.

## Enemies After Creating Fatalities' to Fuel Riots in Iran

TEHRAN (IFP) - The chief commander of Iran's Police Force sheds lights on the circumstances surrounding the death of Mahsa Amini in custody and the deadly riots that ensued under that pretext, saying the enemy's strategy during the unrest is to "create fatalities" in an attempt to fuel the violence.

In comments on state TV, Brigadier General Hossein Ashtari said he quickly issued an order for investigations into the death of the 22-year-old woman, adding that CCTV footage from the moment of her arrest until her collapse at a hijab education center in a policy facility in Tehran showed there had been no beating or any other physical harassment.

Amini died at a Tehran hospital on September 16, three days after she slipped into a coma while receiving training on Islamic dress code rules at the HQ of morality police, triggering anger across Iran.

Police say she suffered a heart attack but many in the public believed she may have been mistreated. Investigations are still ongoing. Amini's deaths sparked countrywide protests, which soon descended into deadly violence as rioters and thugs entered the stage.

Ashtari highlighted the role of foreign media and enemies of Iran, who used the opportunity created by the protests to stoke tensions in the country and deprive the people of peace.

"Groups of people express their protests naturally but some engage in riots," said the police chief, adding that law enforcement forces have a duty to protect the people's lives and property in the face of "organized" violence.

He said the strategy of the enemies in the unrest is to create fatalities, which they can blame on the police and fuel the protests.

During the gatherings, he said, a number of individuals were murdered by stones or knives, while police forces use non-lethal weapons, including riot shots that fire plastic birdshots.

He also pointed to the arrest of individuals in border regions, who were trying to smuggle arms to other cities, saying the detained confessed that they received the weapons free of charge.

## Tehran, Damascus Talk on Railway Transport

DAMASCUS (IRNA) - Minister of Road and Urban Development Rostam Qasemi and Syrian Transport Minister Zouhair Khazim in a meeting in Damascus talked on rail transport of passengers and goods among Syria, Iraq, Iran.

During the meeting, Qasemi and Khazim talked on the prospects of bilateral ties between the two countries in the field of land transport, sea, and air transport. Another important issue was discussed in the form of work of the joint committee of Syria and Iran to set up railway transport passengers & goods among Syria, Iraq and Iran.

This railway transportation will move from Shalamcheh to Basra and then to Syria. The Iranian road and urban development minister arrived in Damascus on Wednesday morning for a two-day trip.

He also met with Syrian Minister of Public Works and Housing Suhail Muhammad Abdullatif.

They discussed mutual cooperation on housing, including projects to build social housing properties on the outskirts of cities, as well as formation of joint ventures.

### FM Slams Rioters...

FROM PAGE 1

Such malpractice is unacceptable no matter where it takes place across the world, Amirabdollahian asserted.

The Finnish minister, for his part, expressed hope that the Islamic Republic would publish an unbiased and impartial report on Amini's death.

Addressing his Irish counterpart, Amirabdollahian vowed that "a scientific, technical, and thoroughgoing forensic report" would soon be published concerning the cause of Amini's death. The top Iranian diplomat also said Tehran accords great "primacy" to women's rights. He noted how the Iranian women play "a very influential role" across the country's various academic, scientific, medical, educational, administrative, and technological sectors.

Amirabdollahian lauded the Iranian police for meeting the people's demand of confronting the rioters. "Not a single person has been arrested during peaceful demonstrations," he said, adding that the law enforcement force, though, staged a rigorous and strong performance in the face of those, who had been seeking to sow unrest across the country.

The Islamic Republic will, nevertheless, "consign to justice" all those, who have used weapons or acted as "organized members of terrorist groups." "Beyond all doubt, the Islamic Republic would continue to decisively confront acts of instigation and [other] measures that are staged by terrorist groups."

Responding to the Iranian foreign minister, the Irish official considered the Islamic Republic's attention towards the people's peaceful demands to be important, and acknowledged Amirabdollahian's emphasis on the issue.

### Tehran, Moscow Discuss Oil...

FROM PAGE 1

"We welcome the Iranian side's decision to provide comfortable conditions for Russian business. Due to the withdrawal of companies of unfriendly states from Russia, a large number of areas have been freed up in our market that our Iranian partners will be able to occupy. So it is a two-way street and they are welcome in Russia," Mishustin said.

Mokhber said Iran and Russia have good and growing relations, and the will of the two countries to comprehensively strengthen relations is serious.

He touched on the meeting of the managers of major Russian companies with the Iranian delegation Wednesday night, saying they had discussed investment in oil fields, as well as in the agricultural, financial, banking and transit and transportation sectors and decided to work out a timetable for their implementation.

The first vice president listed transportation, transit, energy and activating the North-South corridor as the most important axes of cooperation between Iran and Russia.

He said establishing a joint bank, electrifying the Garmsar-Inchebron railway and speeding up oil and gas contracts and creating a free trade zone is among other areas of cooperation that the sides must pursue seriously.

Mokhber also touched on Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's order to expedite development of relations with Russia, saying the message for the enemies is that "sanctions cannot prevent the implementation of our plans".

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak said his country and Iran are working on swap oil and gas supplies, and are already working on routes and implementation mechanisms for the arrangement.

"We are already working with them (with the Iranian side) in this direction, we are working on separate routes,

mechanisms. This concerns oil and gas swaps," Novak told a briefing, commenting on the prospects of working with Iran on swap oil supplies.

Oil Minister Javad Owji, who is accompanying the Iranian delegation in the visit, noted that Iran and Russia, as gas exporting countries, have already been cooperating on energy swaps, saying new MoUs will be signed for exploitation of Iranian gas fields.

The minister announced plans for joint investment for production of LNG and technologies related to gas facilities with Russia's Gazprom.

"Fortunately, good negotiations have been held with this company and other companies, with memorandums reaching \$40 billion under which they will invest in our oil and gas fields and recoup the costs from production."

Owji described cooperation between Iran and Russia on developing Iran's North Pars and Kish gas fields and increasing gas pressure in the South Pars field as "important".

The two sides have also signed memorandums of understanding on the export of gas to Pakistan and Oman and construction of export pipelines to those countries, he said.

The minister further touched on swap of oil products such as gasoline in the Caspian Sea and bartering non-oil items with oil, saying the two countries are capable of swapping 10 million tons of oil and non-oil products, the infrastructure for which is already in place.

He said Iran's cooperation with the Caspian states on oil, gas and energy is strategic. "The cutoff of Russian gas exports to Europe and the change in international conditions have allowed Iran to become a bridge for the transfer of Russian oil and gas products to other countries and turn to a gas hub in the region," Owji added.

### 50% Surge in Exports of...

FROM PAGE 1

South Africa remained Iran's main export destination in the African continent over the five months to late August with some \$212.74 million worth of purchases, followed by Mozambique at \$105.29 million and Sudan at \$85.28 million, showed IRICA figures.

Iran has sought to boost its non-oil trade with other countries as part of efforts to offset the impacts of US sanctions imposed on its oil exports in 2018. Experts say increased exports of non-oil products from Iran have helped the country diversify its economy away from crude revenues while boosting business activity in the country and creating more jobs for the its youth.

## Minister Warns of Enemies Lurking

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - Interior Minister Ahmad Vahidi calls on the Iranian people to close ranks against the enemies as he visits a city which was recently the scene of violence by a terrorist group.

Vahidi on Thursday traveled to Zahedan where he met with the families of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attack on a police station and a mosque in the southeastern city last Friday.

Zahedan is the capital of Sistan and Baluchestan province which is home to Iran's Baloch minority.

The terrorists torched a fire engine, an emergency station, and a bank but their attempts to trigger an ethnic sedition in the region fell flat, thanks to the timely presence of security forces, authorities said.

The attacks, claimed by the so-called Jaish al-Adl terrorist group, left at least 19 people, including police officers, dead and 20 others injured.

Vahidi warned of the enemies' plots to wreak havoc across Iran. "People should know that there are many enemies lurking in every corner, so we should stand against them with strength and stop their enmity."

He said that what transpired in Zahedan was "bitter which caused grief to a group of our compatriots", calling it a source of regret and sadness.

"We were faced with a large amount of destruction by rioters and those who targeted the unity, peace and comfort of the Baloch and non-Baloch people. This is not unexpected from the enemy," he said.

"We have a duty to maintain our peace in honor of those who passed away and give a strong response to terrorist groups and rioters because we will not allow them to infiltrate our ranks," Vahidi added.

The minister said, "The enemy has targeted our unity, so we must show more than ever that the effort is futile and that we will defend the strong Iran and our borders and will not allow any meddling in the affairs of our country."

Vahidi also underscored the need to identify and punish those behind the recent acts of terrorism.

On Thursday, the commander of the police force of Iran's Khuzestan Province announced the dismantling of a gang smuggling arms and ammunition in the city of Andimeshk.

Brigadier-General Mohammad Salehi said police identified and arrested members of the four-member gang with two vehicles at the entrance of Andimeshk during a complex operation.

Salehi said 11,600 pistol cartridges, 7,200 Kalashnikov cartridges, two hand-held wireless devices, a large amount of rivets among other things were discovered during the inspection of the seized cars.

### EU Urged Not to...

FROM PAGE 1

...due to the war in Europe and lack of energy sources, have to be looking for their energy supply through coal, it is possible that they have realized their strategic mistake in blindly complying with the US against the Iranian nation."

Following in the United States' footsteps, most European countries slashed their trade relations with the Islamic Republic after Washington unilaterally pulled out of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Elsewhere in his interview, Bagheri Kani highlighted Iran's membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and the world's emerging economies, known as BRICS.

"The international community's need for Iran's regional and international strategic capacities is the reason for an agreement on Iran's joining the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the BRICS group," the senior diplomat said, stressing that the Islamic Republic, as an important and influential country in the region, strives to use all available capacities to create and strengthen peace and stability in the region.

"The Islamic Republic believes that the main cause of instability in the world is unilateralism; therefore, in order to restore peace and stability in the world today, we need to abandon the policy of unilateralism and shift to multilateralism," Bagheri Kani said.

"The Shanghai Organization and the BRICS group are important tools and mechanisms to meet this strategic need of the current world," he added. "Iran's joining these two international groups can promote multilateralism," he added.

The SCO was founded by China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan in 2001, and currently forms the world's biggest regional market with eight official members, and three observer states.

### Iran Proposes Stronger...

FROM PAGE 1

"Taking these approaches while the entire world continues to grapple with the most devastating challenges, namely difficulties stemming from the pandemic, conflicts, climate change, hunger, poverty, economic crises, food insecurity, health challenges, widening inequalities and many others, is a crime against humanity and a total failure of multilateralism. As a matter of fact, we have to add the implementation of unilateral coercive measures to the top of the list of the main current global challenges," he added.

Hajilari said that the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly believes that the right to development and its full realization serves the best interests of the international community and paves the way for further promotion of all human rights throughout the world. Therefore, it is imperative to place the right to development at the top of our agenda so as to realize it for each and every subsequent goal. Unfortunately, the right to development has been heavily sacrificed to the narrow interest of the blind unilateralism.

### NAM Concerned About...

FROM PAGE 1

She noted, however, that terrorism should not be equated with the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation.

The brutalization of peoples remaining under foreign occupation should continue to be denounced as the gravest form of terrorism, she stressed.

She also said Iran rejects the use or threat of use of force by any state against any Non-Aligned Movement member country under the pretext of combating terrorism.

Terrorism is being perpetrated not just by terrorist groups, but by certain states against civilians, scientists and government officials, Ershadi said.

She recalled several assassinations and attacks, including the assassination of General Qasem Soleimani, "the hero of combating [Daesh] in the Middle East", in Baghdad International Airport by the former United States administration, the assassination of Mohsen Fakhrizaeh, an Iranian nuclear scientist and deputy foreign minister, and the terrorist attack by Israel on Iran's nuclear facility in Natanz.

Those attacks and others, including cyberattacks on critical infrastructure in Iran, were reprehensible practices of terrorism, she said. Also hypocritical, she continued, is the labeling of people exercising their right to self-determination as terrorists and those who support the oppressed peoples as sponsors of terrorism.

"It is the woeful tale of the Middle East," she said, underscoring the destructive role of foreign military forces in the region and the protracted occupation of the Palestinian territory. According to the top Iranian envoy, unilateral coercive measures were not only tantamount to terrorism, but also constituted crimes against humanity, impairing appropriate resources required to combat terrorism and for effective cooperation among member states.



## Woods to Be Part of Team USA In Some Capacity

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - Tiger Woods will be involved with the United States Ryder Cup team in "some capacity" for the 2023 edition in Rome, captain Zach Johnson said.

Woods, 46, has played in three majors this year following a February 2021 car crash that nearly cost him his right leg.

The 15-times major champion finished in 47th place at the Masters in April, withdrew in pain after the third round of the PGA Championship in May and missed the cut at the British Open in July - his most recent start.

LICENCE HOLDER: SOKHAN GOSTAR INSTITUTE

**Switchboard:**  
(+98) (21) 44253448

**Public Relations Tel:**  
(+98)(21) 44253450

Editorial Board: 44253449

**Public Relations Fax:**  
(+98)(21) 44253395

**Advertising Department:**  
Tel/Fax: (+98) (21) 44253335-9/44253234

**Website:**  
http://www.irannewsdaily.com

**E-Mail Address:**  
info@irannewsdaily.com

**ISSN 1024-6053**

**P.O. Box:** 15875-8551

**Address:** No 13, Pajouhesh St., Golestan II St, Golestan St. Marzadaran Blvd., Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Printed by:** Honar Sarzmin Sabz

**Distributed by:**  
Cities of Iran Cultural and Artistic Institute

**Managing Director:** Fereydoon Taherpour Asl

## Raducanu out of Transylvania Open Due to Injury

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - Britain's Emma Raducanu has pulled out of the Transylvania Open due to a wrist injury, organisers of the WTA 250 event said.

Raducanu's season has been blighted by a series of different injuries, ranging from blisters to side strains and hip and back problems. Last month, the 19-year-old was forced to retire during the Korea Open semi-final. Raducanu, who won her first Grand Slam title at the U.S. Open last year, was beaten by Daria Kasatkina in the first round of the WTA 500 event in Ostrava, Czech Republic on Tuesday.

# Haaland Scores Double As City Cruise

LONDON (Dispatches) - Erling Haaland continued his remarkable goalscoring form by netting twice as Manchester City thrashed FC Copenhagen 5-0 in the Champions League, while Chelsea saw off AC Milan to revive their hopes of reaching the last 16.

Holders Real Madrid survived a spirited challenge from Ukrainians Shakhtar Donetsk at the Santiago Bernabeu to win 2-1 and extend their advantage in Group F.

Lionel Messi scored but Paris Saint-Germain were held to a 1-1 draw by Benfica in Lisbon.

Haaland went into City's game against Copenhagen at the Etihad Stadium having becoming the first player in Premier League history to score three successive home hat-tricks in Sunday's demolition of Manchester United.

The Norwegian slammed in the opening goal on seven minutes with his weaker right foot before prodding in a rebound for his second 25 minutes later.

The 22-year-old has now scored 28 times in his 22 Champions League appearances, already breaking Ruud van Nistelrooy's record for most goals in a player's first 30 games in the competition. "I've never witnessed anything like it in my life," City's Jack Grealish told BT Sport.

"For the first and second goals I was just laughing. He is always there.

"The 'keeper said something to me as I was walking back. He said 'He's not human!' I said 'You're telling me?' Hopefully he can carry on this form and take us to glory."

Visiting centre-back Davit Khocholava put through his own net, with Haaland waiting behind him, to make it three before half-time.

Haaland was denied a fourth City treble as he was replaced at the interval, but a Riyad Mahrez penalty and Julian Alvarez's fourth goal for the club completed the rout.

Pep Guardiola's men remain three points clear of second-placed Borussia Dortmund in Group G and will qualify for the knockout phase with a victory in the Danish capital next week.



The Blues made it back-to-back victories under new boss Graham Potter to set up a crucial clash at the San Siro in six days' time.

Chelsea are second in Group E, level on points with third-placed Milan, one point behind leaders Salzburg who edged out Dinamo Zagreb 1-0. "It's easier when you win games," said Aubameyang. "The mood is very good at the moment. We'll try to keep it up."

Shakhtar put on a battling display in Madrid, with goalkeeper Anatoliy Trubin making 11 saves, but could not overcome a two-goal deficit against Real.

Goals in the first half-hour from Rodrygo and Vinicius Junior put Real in control and the 14-time champions made it three wins from three in Group F despite Aleksandr Zubkov's effort for Shakhtar.

Madrid will be sure of a last-16 spot if they can beat second-placed Shakhtar next time out.

RB Leipzig are just a point behind Shakhtar after Joe Hart's error helped the Germans down Celtic 3-1. The former England goalkeeper's poor pass led to Andre Silva restoring Leipzig's lead in the second half before the Portugal striker netted again late on.

Benfica remain level on points with leaders PSG at the Group H summit after a hard-fought draw against one of the tournament favorites.

Messi produced a trademark left-footed finish into the top corner after a neat exchange of passes also involving Neymar and Kylian Mbappe to score his 127th Champions League goal in the 22nd minute.

Benfica levelled four minutes before the break as Danilo Pereira scored an own goal and both sides spurned chances to win in the second half.

Messi only scored 11 goals in 34 games in his first season for PSG last term, but already has eight in 13 this time around.

"It's normal, it takes a little time," PSG skipper Marquinhos told Canal Plus. "Now he feels a little more comfortable... I hope Leo Messi has a great season until the end to win this title."

Juventus moved within four points of the top two as Adrien Rabiot's brace and a Dusan Vlahovic goal gave the Italians a 3-1 victory over Maccabi Haifa for their first points.



## Sevilla Sack Coach Lopetegui

MADRID (Dispatches) - Struggling La Liga side Sevilla sacked coach Julen Lopetegui after they were thumped 4-1 at home by Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League, the club announced.

The record six-times Europa League winners continued their poor start to the campaign, having won only one match in all competitions so far this season.

"Thanks to all the people and players who have given me wonderful things here in Seville," Lopetegui told Movistar Plus after the loss on Wednesday, but before the team had officially announced his dismissal.

"I am sad to leave a team that I love very much. I also thank the Sevilla fans, who have to understand it and appreciate the support.

"I have already said goodbye to the players. It is not time to talk about being disrespected. I'm thankful for all that I have achieved in this club."

Lopetegui, who was in tears, received a standing ovation at the end of the game from the fans, who were chanting that the board should resign.

It was widely reported by Spanish media earlier on Wednesday that Sevilla had a deal in place with former Olympique de Marseille manager Jorge Sampaoli to take over for a second stint at the club and that Lopetegui already knew that he was going to be sacked before the game.

## Brazil Extend Lead In World Rankings

LONDON (Dispatches) - In the last change to the FIFA World Rankings before the World Cup starts next month, Brazil increased their lead at the top and Spain dropped below Italy.

Brazil, the only team to have competed in every World Cup finals, will go into next month's tournament in Qatar seeking a record-extending sixth crown.

They will do so with a bigger lead at the top of the rankings after friendly wins over Ghana and Tunisia widened the gap on second-placed Belgium who lost to the Netherlands in the Nations League.

Brazil's great rivals Argentina remained third, with world champions France fourth and Euro 2020 runners-up England fifth.

There was good news for Italy, who failed to qualify for the World Cup finals again, as they climbed above Spain into sixth place.

Other World Cup-bound teams climbing the rankings were Croatia, up three places to 12th, Iran up two spots to 20th and Serbia who rose to 21st.

## Swiatek Wins First Match Since US Open

OSTRAVA (Dispatches) - Iga Swiatek won her first match since clinching the US Open title as Ajla Tomljanovic retired injured from their second-round tie in Ostrava.

The world number one was leading 7-5, 2-2 in a tight encounter when the Australian quit, shortly after clutching her knee in pain.

"It was a great match and it's unfortunate that something happened - I hope she's going to recover quickly," said Swiatek.

The Pole won her third Grand Slam title, and second of the year, at Flushing Meadows last month with a straight-sets victory over Tunisia's Ons Jabeur in the final.

"I've had a three-week break from playing matches, and after such an intense time it seems like a lot," she said.

"I felt like I need to get back to the rhythm, and it wasn't easy."

Swiatek edged a close first set with a break in the 12th game.

# Tiafoe Reaches Japan Open Quarters



TOKYO (Dispatches) - Frances Tiafoe came through a second set battle to reach the Japan Open quarter-finals, then said he wasn't bothered by rising expectations because "I wanna win for me".

The 24-year-old American, who has been in the spotlight since beating Rafael Nadal on the way to a first Grand Slam semi-final at the US Open last month, beat Spaniard Bernabe Zapata Miralles 6-1, 7-6 (9/7) in the second round in Tokyo.

The American breezed through the first set before Miralles fought back to take the second to a tie-break that saw some of the best rallies of the 1hr 32min encounter.

"Good match today, tough second set," said Tiafoe, who has won his last 13 tie-breaks. "Sometimes it tips well your way. I'm playing very aggressive, I'm serving well in the tie-breaks, always a couple of aces."

He will face Miomir Kecmanovic in the last eight, after the Serb beat Britain's Dan Evans 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7/4).

After stunning Nadal at Flushing Meadows, Tiafoe played a starring role at the Laver Cup in London where his Rest of the World Team beat Europe for the first time in the competition's history.

But the fourth-seeded player, currently world number 19, said he was comfortable with all the attention he is receiving.

"I don't really care about what other people think I should be doing because I've had recent success. "You know: 'Oh, is he going to be the next...?'," he said.

"I've been on tour for seven or eight years now, none of that really moves me. I wanna win for me, I'm not trying to achieve anybody else's goals."

Tiafoe said his solid run since the US Open had been "great", adding that "I'm confident, and I'm just enjoying life".

## Ukraine added to Spain, Portugal 2030 World Cup Bid



LYON (Dispatches) - Ukrainian football association (UAF) president Andriy Pavelko said European football was "united" after his country was added to Portugal and Spain's bid to host the 2030 World Cup.

The original proposal from Spain and Portugal was announced two years ago but has been given a political impetus by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"United as never before, the European football family, having condemned the crimes against the Ukrainian people, proved its commitment to the values that underlie our organization," Pavelko told reporters.

"I thank you and all the friendly national associations for the help on behalf of thousands of little players -- girls and boys from Mariupol, Kharkiv, Kherson, Irpin, Bucha and many other cities that were subjected to barbaric military aggression."

On Wednesday, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed into legislation his annexation of four Ukrainian territories -- including Lugansk -- as the EU agreed a new round of sanctions against Moscow in response.

"Now they can continue to play football in European clubs and have made new friends all over Europe. "The war will end, and we will organise World Cup 2030 matches together with Spain and Portugal at the highest level."

War-torn Ukraine applied for European Union membership just five days after Russia's February 24 invasion and the bloc accepted the candidacy in June.

## Niemann Defends Reputation After Cheating Claims



LONDON (Dispatches) - American international grandmaster Hans Niemann said he "won't back down," after the chess platform chess.com reported he has "probably cheated more than 100 times" in online games.

Norwegian world champion Magnus Carlsen last week accused 19-year-old Niemann of cheating. "Overall, we have found that Hans (Niemann) has likely cheated in more than 100 online chess games, including several prize money events," the world's leading online chess platform wrote in a Tuesday evening report that ran 20 pages, with 50 additional appendices.

Chess.com banned Niemann on September 5, shortly after the first accusations were made, but the platform is defending itself against suggestions that it is under pressure from Carlsen, whose Play Magnus company it is in the process of buying.

After a victory in the US Chess Championship Wednesday, Niemann said the game he had just won "spoke for itself and showed the chess player that I am".

He added, "It also showed that I'm not going to back down and I'm going to play my best chess here regardless of the pressure that I'm under," but declined to comment further.

Chess.com says it is "extremely confident" in its means of detecting cheating, which includes using grandmasters -- the highest rank of chess players -- as well as an analysis of moves made by computer programs.

The suspicions of the platform go beyond the framework of the internet. It also devotes part of its report to Niemann's spectacular and rapid progress on the chessboard.