

Health Ministry Announced on Wednesday That the Number of Deaths From the Coronavirus Pandemic in Iran Increased to **144,559** With **Four** More Iranians Killed by the Virus Over the Past 24 Hours

IRAN NEWS

President Ebrahim Raisi in Meeting With Belarusian Foreign Minister Stressed to the Visiting Belarusian FM to Speed Up the Implementation Of the Agreements Reached Between the Two Countries

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Iran Friend of Its Neighbors in Difficult Times



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Iran-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement To Be Implemented Soon



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Tehran Iran Decries UNSC Silence on Israeli Airstrikes on Syria

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations, Amir Saeed Iravani, has denounced the UN Security Council for its silence in the face of the repeated Israeli acts of military aggression against war-torn Syria.

Speaking at the UN Security Council briefing on the situation in Syria, Iravani slammed Israeli attacks against civilian population and basic infrastructure in Syria as a flagrant violation of international law and humanitarian rights, and argued that the Security Council's inaction has emboldened the Tel Aviv regime to broaden the scope of its aggression. **See Page 7**

Iran Sanctions Several EU Institutions, Individuals



IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - Iran has announced tit-for-tat sanctions against institutions and individuals in the European Union (EU) due to their deliberate actions in support

of terrorism and terrorist groups.

In a statement released on Wednesday, Iran's Foreign Ministry once again strongly rejected and condemned the EU's October 17 sanctions targeting Iranian individuals and entities over baseless accusations that constitute a clear example of interference in Iran's domestic affairs.

In response, it added, the ministry hereby announces sanctions against a number of individuals and entities within the EU due to their "deliberate actions in support of terrorism and terrorist groups, encouraging and inciting terrorism, violence, and hatred, which has caused riots, violence, terrorist acts, and human rights violations against the people of Iran."

The sanctioned entities include the so-called Friends of Free Iran, the International Committee in Search of Justice (ISJ), Stop the Bomb, Deutsche Welle Persian, RFI Persian, International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism, Karl Kolb Co., and Rhein Bayern Fahrzeugbau Co.

The blacklisted individuals are president of the International Committee in Search of Justice Aljo Vidal Quadras, co-chairs of the Friends of Free Iran Javier Zarzalejos and Milan Azver, members of the European Parliament Charlier Weimers, Jan Zahradil, Helmut Geuking and Hermann Tertsch, member of the National Assembly of France Meyer Habib, mayor of France's Villepinte Matine Valleton, mayor of Paris first district Jean-Francois Legaret, current and former editors-in-chief of Germany's Bild newspaper Johannes Boieand and Alexandra Wurzbach.

The blacklisted individuals are banned from receiving a visa or entering Iran, and the ownership of their properties and assets in Iran will be transferred to the Iranian government.

Earlier, Iran had imposed retaliatory sanctions against a number of British individuals and entities for supporting terrorism, inciting violence, and violating human rights.

In a statement last week, Iran's Foreign Ministry announced that the embargoes on the British individuals and entities were a "tit for tat" move against the sanctions that had been placed by some European countries on Iran.

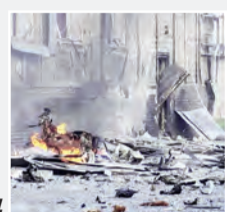
The statement named three entities and nine individuals that had been blacklisted under the Islamic Republic of Iran's sanctions regime. The entities included the National Cyber Security Center (NCSC) and Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) as well as Volant Media, Global Media, and DMA Media and anti-Iranian TV channels that they support namely, BBC Persian and the so-called Iran International.

The ministry underlined that the measures by the listed entities led to "riots, violence, and terrorist acts" against the Iranian nation.

The EU foreign ministers had decided a week earlier to levy sanctions against 11 Iranian individuals and four entities over the country's response to the foreign-backed riots that followed the death of a young Iranian woman in police custody.

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Zelensky Asks Donors For \$38b as Russia Shells Bakhmut



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Juventus Crash out of Champions League; Chelsea, PSG Through



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ViewPoint
By: Hamid Reza Naghashian

Drone, a Pretext for Exerting Pressure

In recent days Ukraine has started a verbal attack against the Islamic Republic of Iran, and its Western allies have used this baseless claims and remarks as a pretext to increase pressure on Tehran to force it to sign the JCPOA deal which has currently come to a standstill

Ukraine as well as Western media claimed that Tehran has supplied attacking drones to Russia and they claimed that this move is against the UN Resolution Resolution which it bars Iran from any arms deal with any country by 2023 and they urged the United Nations to take action. The United States and its European allies have in recent months accused Iran of providing Russia with drones to be used in the war in Ukraine.

The Islamic Republic of Iran reacting to this media hype and claims of Ukraine and its allies has repeatedly refused these claims and Tehran believes it is new game of the West for exerting pressure on it for forcing it to give concession by signing the JCPOA revival deal.

On Monday Iran warned the United Nations against implementing the West's "instructions" to conduct a so-called investigation in the context of Security Council Resolution 2231 to assess the type of unmanned aerial vehicles allegedly used in the current conflict in Ukraine.

The anti-Iran claims first emerged in July, with U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan alleging that Washington had received "information" indicating that the Islamic Republic was preparing to provide Russia with "up to several hundred drones, including weapons-capable UAVs on an expedited timeline" for use in the war in Ukraine.

Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations Amir Saeed Iravani on Monday sent a letter to the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, President of the Security Council Michel Xavier Biang and Facilitator for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015) Fergal Mythen regarding the allegations, saying the "resolution itself provides no legal basis for such an investigation."

"Iran cautions the Secretariat against conducting such an illegal investigation or engaging in any activity that advances and implements the Western States' 'instructions' and urges the secretary general to prevent the conduct of any such flawed tasks by the Secretariat [and] refrain from reporting on such irrelevant requests and unsubstantiated claims in his subsequent report on the implementation of Resolution 2231," Iravani said.

He categorically rejected all accusations against Iran contained in the letters sent by the E3 - France, Germany, and Britain - and Northern Ireland to the president of the Security Council as well as those raised by its certain members and non-members.

"It is ironic that these countries, particularly the three permanent members of the Security Council, accuse Iran of violating a specific paragraph of Security Council Resolution 2231, while they continue to be in flagrant violation of all their explicit legal obligations under that same resolution," he said.

He also pointed out that the United States' illegal withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), is in material breach of the peremptory norms of international law, the UN Charter and Security Council Resolution 2231.

Even Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian said his country is ready to discuss the Western countries' allegations about exporting drones to Russia in a joint session with Ukrainian officials. **See Page 7**

Dubai Expo Rally Ends With Naming the Best



Aron Groups was awarded the "fast-growing trader acquisition" award among the world's largest brokers.

Affix Dubai Expo was held on October 19-20 in the largest city of the United Arab Emirates. Every year, many brokers for months plan to attend the largest expo to challenge their capabilities by attending this financial event. Also, digital currency and forex activists were also present at this exhibition with the motivation of exchanging information and expanding their fields of activity. Expofix is the title chosen for this financial and fintech event, which aims to introduce the best brokers. This important event this year hosted 200 brokers and financial market companies, all of whom were pioneers in this field. But among them, there is a broker who was able to win the award for the fastest growth among the competitors. This broker has an Iranian founder, Dr. Farzad Vajihi nicknamed as "Master Aron", for this reason he attracted our attention, and he has been able to achieve significant fame among Iranian traders in a much shorter period of time than his competitors, relying on his skills, he has taken the Aaron Group to its current position in the world.

Palm Oil Prices Seen Ticking Up



MUMBAI (Dispatches) - Palm oil prices are likely to strengthen further as excessive rain in key producing countries curbs output, while demand increases for its use in food and biofuels, industry officials said.

Palm oil prices have climbed by around a fifth this month but are still trading far below an all-time high set in March. The expected spike in prices will add to the burden of consumers already hit by inflation triggered by the Russia-Ukraine war, but higher exports and lower production would help major palm oil producers Indonesia and Malaysia bring down inventories.

Traders said November shipments of crude palm oil to India, the world's biggest importer, are being offered at US\$976 per ton inclusive of cost, insurance and freight.

January deliveries are being quoted at US\$1,010 per ton, they said.

"But prices could move above US\$1,100 if Indonesia decides to restore export levies, which is very likely," said a Mumbai-based dealer with a global trading firm.

Indonesia's decision to suspend export levies in July because of a buildup of stocks pulled down palm oil prices from the March high of about US\$2,010 per ton.

Despite this month's rise in prices, palm oil trades at a discount of about \$400 per ton to rival soyoil, the highest in a decade, the traders said. Crude soyoil for November delivery in India is being quoted at \$1,405 per ton.

"The spread between palm oil and soyoil is massive and unsustainable," said Pradeep Chowdhry, managing director of Gemini Edibles and Fats India Pvt Ltd, a leading Indian importer.

"The way demand has been shifting towards palm oil from other edible oils, it's very likely that palm oil (prices) would move higher."

Typically, palm oil output starts tapering off from November in Indonesia and Malaysia, which account for more than 80 per cent of global production. But this year, the drop in output is expected to be sharper as a rare third consecutive La Nina weather pattern brings heavy rainfall across South-east Asia.

"We are facing heavy downpours for the past three days, there are minor floods here and there," said Fabian Lim, a plantation manager in Malaysia's biggest palm oil producing state of Sabah. "It is affecting my evacuation of crop."

Floods and heavy rain make it difficult for workers to harvest the palm oil crop and moving the fruit to factories for processing.

The discount to soyoil, as well as the suspension of the export levy, has speeded up exports of palm oil in Indonesia and stocks are falling at a faster pace than anticipated, said the Mumbai-based dealer.

Indonesia's palm oil stockpile fell to 4.04 million tons by the end of August, compared to 5.91 million tons a month earlier and 6.69 million tons at end-June, according to estimates by the Indonesian Palm Oil Association (GAPKI).

Demand for palm oil-based biodiesel is also seen rising, GAPKI data showed. In January-August, Indonesia exported 206,000 tons of biodiesel, surpassing the 167,000 tons the country exported in 2021.

Supplies of sunflower oil, an alternative to palm oil, from the Black Sea region have been volatile after the Russia-Ukraine war, traders said.

The Black Sea region accounts for 76 per cent of world sunflower oil exports and any disruption could result in more palm oil demand, said Sandeep Bajoria, chief executive of broker Sunvin Group.

Indonesia's decision to suspend export levies pulled down palm oil prices and the decline accelerated after sunflower oil shipments resumed from the Black Sea region under a UN-brokered deal in August. Bajoria said the supplies could be disrupted again as the war intensifies.

Toyota Scrambles For EV Reboot With Eye on Tesla



TOKYO (Dispatches) - Toyota is considering a reboot of its electric-car strategy to better compete in a booming market it has been slow to enter, and has halted some work on existing EV projects, four people with knowledge of the still-developing plans said.

The proposals under review, if adopted, would amount to a dramatic shift for Toyota and rewrite the \$38-billion EV rollout plan the Japanese automaker announced last year to better compete with the likes of Tesla.

A working group within Toyota has been charged with outlining plans by early next year for improvements to its existing EV platform or for a new architecture, the four individuals said.

In the meantime, Toyota has suspended work on some of the 30 EV projects announced in December, which according to the sources and a document reviewed by Reuters include the Toyota Compact Cruiser crossover and the battery-electric Crown.

Toyota said it was committed to carbon neutrality but declined to comment on specific initiatives.

"In order to achieve carbon neutrality, Toyota's own technology - as well as the work we are doing with a range of partners and suppliers - is essential," the company said in response to questions from Reuters.

The four sources declined to be identified because the plans have not been made public.

The revamp under consideration could slow the rollout of EVs already on the drawing board. But it would also give Toyota a chance to compete with a more efficient manufacturing process, as industry-wide EV sales run past Toyota's earlier projections.

In addition, it would address criticism by green investors and environmental groups who argue that Toyota, once a darling of environmentalists, has been too slow to embrace EVs.

As part of the review, Toyota is considering a successor to its EV-underpinning technology called e-TNGA, unveiled in 2019. That would allow Toyota to bring down costs, the people said.

The first EV based on e-TNGA — the bZ4X crossover — hit the market earlier this year although its launch was marred by a recall that forced Toyota to suspend production from June. Production resumed earlier this month.

The review was triggered in part by the realisation by some Toyota engineers and executives that Toyota was losing the factory cost war to Tesla on EVs, the sources said.

Toyota's planning had assumed demand for EVs would not take off for several decades, the four people said.

Toyota designed e-TNGA so that EVs could be produced on the same assembly line with gasoline cars and hybrids. That made sense based on the assumption Toyota would need to sell about 3.5 million EVs a year — roughly one-third of its current global volume — by 2030 to stay competitive, the sources said.

But sales of EVs are growing faster. Automakers globally now forecast plans for EVs to represent more than half of total vehicle production by 2030, part of a wave of industry-wide investment that now totals \$1.2 trillion.

The person leading Toyota's EV review is Shigeaki Terashi, former chief competitive officer, according to six people with knowledge of the work, including two people close to Toyota. Terashi did not respond to a request for comment.

Terashi's team has been designated a "BR" or "business revolution" group within Toyota, a term used for major changes including a revamp of its development and production processes two decades ago.

"What's driving Mr Terashi's effort is the EV's faster-than-anticipated takeoff and rapid-fire adoptions of cutting-edge innovations by Tesla and others," one of the people said.



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England Recall Roy For Australia ODI Series

LONDON (Dispatches) - Jason Roy has been given a chance to revive his England career after being included in the squad announced Tuesday for next month's one-day international series against Australia.
Opening batsman Roy was dropped from the England squad currently competing in the T20 World Cup in Australia and removed from the list of centrally contracted players following a run of low scores at both international and domestic level.

Pegula Claims Guadalajara Title

GUADALAJARA (Dispatches) - American Jessica Pegula captured her first WTA 1000 crown with a 6-2 6-3 win over Maria Sakkari in the Guadalajara Open final.
The third seed, who will be making her first appearance at the season-ending WTA Finals in Texas this month, beat four Grand Slam champions en route to the final, where she needed only 70 minutes to beat Sakkari. "All the people I beat, my draw to get here in my opinion was honestly the toughest out of everybody," said Pegula, who beat major winners Victoria Azarenka, Sloane Stephens, Bianca Andreescu and Elena Rybakina in the earlier rounds.

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SPORTS

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Juventus Crash out of Champions League; Chelsea, PSG Through

PARIS (Dispatches) - Juventus were knocked out of the Champions League in the group stage for the first time in nine years on Tuesday but Chelsea, Paris Saint-Germain, Benfica and Borussia Dortmund all secured qualification for the knockout stage with one group game to spare.
A 4-3 defeat away to Benfica in Portugal sealed the fate of a Juventus side who have been in decline in Europe for several seasons and have now lost four of their five matches in Group H. Having already won when the sides met in Italy, Benfica went ahead in Lisbon when Antonio Silva headed in an Enzo Fernandez cross.
Moise Kean quickly equalised for Juve with a goal that was confirmed following a VAR review, but Joao Mario restored Benfica's lead from the penalty spot and then set up Rafa Silva to make it 3-1 before half-time with a superb backheel flick.
The same player then got Benfica's fourth early in the second half, and a Juventus fightback that produced goals by Arkadiusz Milik and Weston McKennie came too late.
Juventus had been knocked out in the last 16 in each of the last three seasons but they have not been eliminated from the Champions League in the group stage since 2013/14.
Benfica are joined in qualifying from Group H by PSG, with the 2020 Champions League runners-up through after crushing Israel's Maccabi Haifa 7-2 at the Parc des Princes.
Lionel Messi and Kylian Mbappe both turned on the style, each scoring twice, while Neymar netted once and forced an own goal from Sean Goldberg.
Carlos Soler completed the scoring for PSG as they equalled their own record for goals scored in a single European game.
Abdoulaye Seck scored twice for Maccabi Haifa, and they could still finish third above Juventus.
Earlier, two-time Champions League winners Chelsea clinched their place in the last 16 as Group E winners, completing an impressive turnaround after they lost their first game to Dinamo Zagreb in September.



Victory extended Chelsea's unbeaten run under Potter to nine games.
AC Milan are best-placed to go through with Chelsea after the Serie A champions won 4-0 in Zagreb, with Matteo Gabbia heading in the opener and Rafael Leao doubling their lead before Olivier Giroud netted a penalty and a Robert Ljubicic own goal completed the scoring. Milan are now a point clear of Salzburg with the teams meeting at San Siro next week to decide which one progresses.
Dortmund are into the last 16 after getting the point they needed in a 0-0 draw at home to a Manchester City side who had already qualified.
City required just a point to secure top spot in Group G and they got it despite taking Erling Haaland off at half-time against his former club.
In fact, Pep Guardiola's side could have got all three points but Riyad Mahrez had a second-half penalty saved by Gregor Kobel.
Sevilla will therefore drop into the Europa League despite beating FC Copenhagen 3-0 earlier on Tuesday with second-half goals by Youssef En-Nesyri, Isco and Gonzalo Montiel.
David Khocholava was sent off at the end for Copenhagen, who have still not scored a goal in the group.
Meanwhile, RB Leipzig inflicted a first defeat of the season on reigning European champions Real Madrid as they took a big step towards joining the Spaniards in qualifying from Group F.
Josko Gvardiol and Christopher Nkunku scored to have Leipzig two goals ahead before Vinicius Junior pulled one back. Timo Werner got Leipzig's third with Rodrygo converting a late penalty for Real as it ended 3-2.
In Scotland, a stunning Mykhailo Mudryk goal gave Shakhtar Donetsk a 1-1 draw away to Celtic, for whom Giorgos Giakoumakis had opened the scoring.
While Celtic are out, Leipzig need just a draw at Shakhtar next week to advance.

Nadal To Return At Paris Masters

PARIS (Dispatches) - Rafa Nadal will return to competition at next week's Paris Masters before taking his place at the season-ending ATP Finals, coach Carlos Moya said.
Nadal has struggled with injuries this year, capturing his 14th French Open title while playing with pain-killing injections to deal with a chronic foot injury and pulling out of Wimbledon due to an abdominal problem.
Following his defeat to Frances Tiafoe at the U.S. Open in September he said he needed to "fix things" and was unsure about when he would play again.
The Spaniard, who has won a men's record 22 Grand Slam titles, partnered Roger Federer in a doubles match at the Laver Cup last month before pulling out of the tournament.
He also took time off for the birth of his first child with wife Mery Perello on Oct. 8.
Moya confirmed that Nadal would use the Masters 1000 event in Bercy, which the world number two has never won, as part of his preparations for the ATP's finale in Turin from Nov. 13-20.
"Before arriving in Turin, you have to play matches in Paris, which are similar," Moya told IB3 TV.
"Rafa is competitive wherever he is and we go with hope and illusion."

U.S. basketball Star's Drug Sentence Upheld in Russia

KRASNOGORSK (Dispatches) - A Russian court dismissed U.S. WNBA basketball star Brittney Griner's appeal against a nine-year sentence for possessing and smuggling vape cartridges containing cannabis oil.
Griner and her lawyers had asked for acquittal or at least a reduction in her sentence, which they said was disproportionate to the offence and at odds with Russian judicial practice.
After retiring for no more than 30 minutes to consider the appeal, the presiding judge said the original verdict was upheld "without changes" except for the counting of time served in pre-trial detention as part of the sentence.
Griner, a two-time Olympic gold medalist, was arrested on Feb. 17 at a Moscow airport, a week before Russia sent troops into Ukraine, and her case has inevitably been viewed in the context of the ensuing crisis in U.S.-Russian relations.
Washington was quick to respond to the verdict.
"We are aware of the news out of Russia that Brittney Griner will continue to be wrongfully detained under intolerable circumstances after having to undergo another sham judicial proceeding today," White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan said in a statement.
He said the United States would "continue to engage with Russia" to bring her home.
The state prosecutor had said Griner's Aug. 4 sentence of nine years in a penal colony was "fair", but Alexander Boykov, one of her lawyers, had told the three-judge panel sitting in Krasnogorsk, on the outskirts of Moscow:
"No judge, hand on heart, will honestly say that Griner's nine-year sentence is in line with Russian criminal law."
He listed a series of what he said were procedural flaws in Griner's conviction and requested an acquittal, but asked that "if the court wants to punish her, [it should] give her a new, 'fair' verdict and mitigate the punishment".
"The severity and cruelty of the sentence applied to Griner shocks people around the world," he said.

Schedule Ahead of World Cup Is Crazy

LONDON (Dispatches) - Chelsea defender Cesar Azpilicueta said the number of games being crammed into the schedule ahead of the World Cup next month is "crazy" and that player welfare is being jeopardized.
Azpilicueta's team mate N'Golo Kante has been ruled out of the World Cup after undergoing an operation on a hamstring injury, while Reece James is in a race to be fit for the tournament after injuring his knee.
Chelsea have three league fixtures, two Champions League games and a League Cup tie before the World Cup in Qatar begins on Nov. 20.

"It's difficult and it's sad because as players you want to go to the World Cup, but we have this schedule where we have to play for our club and do our best," Azpilicueta told reporters on Monday.
"We are fighting a lot for player welfare because the schedule is crazy. Sometimes we have to consider everything and I think we are in conversations with FIFA. It's difficult because I understand that the fans want to see football."
"We have five subs now, but we have in our team a couple of injuries that make it more difficult to rotate. We are playing every few days, but it's how it is and we have to step up."
Azpilicueta is expected to feature in Spain's squad for the World Cup, where they have been drawn into Group E alongside Germany, Costa Rica and Japan. They begin their group campaign on Nov. 23 against Costa Rica.

Qatar Faced Unprecedented Criticism Over Hosting World Cup

DOHA (Dispatches) - Qatar has faced unprecedented criticism since winning the bid to host the 2022 World Cup, some of which amounted to slander, its ruler, Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, said on Tuesday.
"We initially dealt with the matter in good faith," Sheikh Tamim said in a televised policy speech, adding that some of the early criticism was constructive.
But, he said, a campaign against Qatar expanded to "include fabrications and double standards that were so ferocious that it has unfortunately prompted many people to question the real reasons and motives behind the campaign".
Qatar, the first Middle Eastern country to host the World Cup, has come under intense international criticism for its treatment of foreign workers and restrictive social laws.
The emir was addressing a session of the Persian Gulf Arab state's advisory Shura Council as Doha gears up to host soccer's main global event, which kicks off on Nov. 20.
Qatar expects 1.2 million visitors during the tournament, creating an unprecedented logistical and policing challenge for the tiny Persian Gulf Arab state.
Sheikh Tamim said hosting the World Cup was "a great test for a country the size of Qatar".
"We accepted this challenge out of our faith in our potential, we the Qataris, to tackle the mission and make it a success," he said.
"It is a championship for all, and its success is success for all."
Doha has introduced reforms including rules to protect workers from heat and a monthly minimum wage of 1,000 riyals (\$275), and says it continues to develop its labor system.



Hazard Ready to Take Belgium All The Way in Qatar

BRUSSELS (Dispatches) - Belgium skipper Eden Hazard said his country need to win the World Cup in Qatar to justify the 'golden generation' tag they have carried for the past 10 years as they look to deliver the country's first major trophy.
The 31-year-old Real Madrid forward has captained Belgium since 2015 and will participate in his third World Cup, hoping to go further than their third place at Russia 2018.
"I have to set the bar high. I'm going to try to do better than in 2018. It'll be tough because that was already pretty good," Hazard told the FIFA website.
"I'm fortunate to be the captain of a great team and a big footballing nation, and so we owe it to ourselves to have high expectations."
A generation of top players representing some of Europe's biggest clubs like Hazard, goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois, Kevin De Bruyne and Romelu Lukaku have given hope to a nation of almost 12 million people that they can win a major trophy at last.
"There's always talk of the 'golden generation' but there's some truth to it. We've spent almost 10 years together. Now we've got young players starting to come through," Hazard said.
"Of course, we've got an incredible generation of players, but we still haven't won anything. If we really want to earn that 'golden generation' nickname, I think that's the one thing we still need to do."
"Our collective experience has definitely helped us in previous tournaments, so I hope that it will continue in the same vein for some time yet."
Belgium kick off their campaign against Canada on Nov 23 before facing Morocco four days later and Croatia on Dec. 1.

