

Over 500 Members of the Islamic Public Law Association of Iran (IPLAI) Have Issued a Statement to Lawyers Around the World About the Current Conditions in Palestine While Condemning the Crimes of the Zionist Regime in the Gaza Strip

# IRAN NEWS

Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian in a Message Urged the United Nations Security Council to Act Immediately to Disarm the Apartheid Israeli Regime Whose Minister Has Called for Using Nukes in Gaza

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### BRICS Urged for Intervention to Stop Israel's War Crimes in Gaza



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran has urged the BRICS group of nations to intervene in an active, constructive and responsible manner to stop the Israeli regime's war crimes against Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip. Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian made the demand in separate letters addressed on Sunday to his counterparts in the five member states of the BRICS, including Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. In those letters, the Iranian top diplomat expressed "deep concern and sorrow" over the Israeli regime's atrocities against the people of Gaza. Amir-Abdollahian called on BRICS member states to intervene "in an active, constructive and responsible manner" to stop Israel's onslaught against and war crimes in Gaza and "hold the occupying aggressors to account." The unprecedented Israeli bombardment of Gaza began on October 7, when the Palestinian territory's resistance groups launched Operation Al-Aqsa Storm in the occupied territories in response to the regime's intensified crimes against Palestinians. Amir-Abdollahian mentioned usurpation of Palestinians' lands, massacres of the original inhabitants of Palestine, destruction of Palestinians' homes and farms, attacks on health centers, apprehension and torture of Palestinian men, women, and even children, and insulting the Palestinian nation's dignity as examples of Israel's war crimes against the oppressed people of Palestine. The Iranian foreign minister demanded that the BRICS immediately place the critical situation in Gaza on its agenda to help make up for some of the most important problems of the current global system. He also asked the BRICS and other global mechanisms, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Eurasian Economic Union, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), to take steps to realize a justice-based global system by paving the way for the oppressed people to reclaim their rights from the oppressors.

### What's Going on in Gaza Cause of Shame for All of Us



TEHRAN (PressTV) - President Ebrahim Raisi's wife, Jamileh Alamolhoda, has vehemently condemned Israel's crimes against Palestinian women and children in the besieged Gaza Strip, describing them as a cause of shame for the entire world. Alamolhoda made the comment in a letter to French President Emmanuel Macron's wife, Brigitte Marie-Claude Macron, on Sunday. "As humans, we must be ashamed of what is going on in these bitter days in a small and beautiful part of our common planet Earth," Alamolhoda said in her letter. "As a powerful and influential lady in Europe, which you consider the cradle of civilization, you are expected to take befitting measures to provide help to Gaza's oppressed women and defenseless children," the letter added. "In reality, the world is utterly astonished by all this ruthlessness of the people in power!" Alamolhoda noted in the letter before slamming the Western powers' ongoing military support for the Israeli regime.

### U.S. Directly Involved in Masterminding Gaza War



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei says the United States is directly involved in masterminding the Israeli war on Gaza, stressing that the Tel Aviv regime is the real loser of the aggression against the besieged strip. He made the remarks in a meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani in Tehran on Monday. Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi was also present at the meeting. The Leader expressed confidence that the Americans are definitely complicit in the Israeli regime's crimes in Gaza. "Since the very first days of the Zionist regime's attacks, all the evidence and indications show the direct involvement of the Americans in running the war," he said. As the war goes on, Ayatollah Khamenei added, the reasons behind the US's direct role in leading Israel's crimes would become more explicit. The Leader stated that the Israeli regime cannot continue the war if the US does not provide it with military and political aid. Despite the massacre of Palestinians in Gaza, the Israeli regime is the "main loser" of the ongoing war because it has failed to restore its lost reputation and would be unable to gain it in the future, he asserted. Ayatollah Khamenei also hailed the "good and strong" stance of the Iraqi government in supporting the Palestinian people in Gaza and urged the Muslim world to exert political pressure on the US and Israel to end the killing of the civilians in the besieged strip. As an important country in the region, Iraq can play a special role in this regard and form a new front in the Arab and Muslim world, he said. According to Ayatollah Khamenei, Iran and Iraq can have an effective role in this regard by improving bilateral cooperation. Elsewhere in his remarks, the Leader hailed the progress made in the economic and security cooperation between Tehran and Baghdad and advised both sides to continue the progress with the same pace. The Iraqi prime minister, for his part, said Hamas' Operation Al-Aqsa Storm was a heroic operation that brought happiness to all the free people of the world. Sudani lamented Israel's brutal attacks in Gaza which he described as a "collective revenge" against the people of the small area. The Iraqi government has made great political efforts to put an end to Israel's crimes in Gaza and send food and medicine to its people, he said. Sudani also expressed Iraq's firm determination to improve relations with Iran and implement bilateral agreements.

### U.S. Misusing Its Veto Power in UNSC

TEHRAN (IRNA) - It is unfortunate that the United States has taken the UN Security Council and global peace hostage by misusing its power, Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman said. Speaking in his regular press conference on Monday, Nasser Kanaani said that different brutal acts taken by the Zionists against the Palestinian people cannot be counted, and this new genocide is taking place daily in front of the whole world and with the support of several Western regimes, especially the United States. It is regretted that the United States has taken the UNSC and the global peace hostage by misusing its power, he added. The threat of using an atomic bomb against the people of Gaza, considering the barbaric behavior of the Zionists, must be taken seriously by the international community, he said adding that this threat will weaken the system of banning weapons of mass destruction. This threat shows the Zionist regime's desperation towards the Palestinian resistance, and it also shows that the Zionist regime has no limits to its war crimes, he noted. Iran will definitely consult with the United Nations and its secretary general, and we should consider this issue as a serious threat to international peace, Kanaani said. Elsewhere in his remarks, Kanaani said that negotiations to lift anti-Iran sanctions are still underway, and Tehran is taking advantage of the opportunities of such meetings to raise the issue. Speaking about the visit of the US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to the region to make accusations against Iran, the spokesman said that the US effort to baselessly accuse Iran has been made in line with diverting public opinion. "We believe that the U.S. is not a solution but one side of war," Kanaani added. As the spokesman stressed, the Islamic Republic of Iran has never told anyone what to do or what not to do, and this is confirmed by the Palestinian Resistance movement, Hamas, and others. He went on to say that the recent operation against the Zionist regime was staged under a completely Palestinian-made decision, and such accusations will not relieve the White House from its responsibility for the crimes in Gaza. The root of anti-U.S. measures in the region is the U.S. policies and behavior towards the regional nations, he

underlined. The United States, on one hand, cannot send a message that it is not after the expansion of war, and on the other hand, it could not let the Zionist regime continue its war crimes, the spokesman said. So, it is natural that the Resistance fronts were angry about the US and the regime's behavior. Establishing stability and security in Afghanistan and solving the problems of the country is important for Iran, Kanaani said. Iran's interaction with Afghanistan is ongoing in economic and political fields, he added. We have the issue of immigrants and border security on the agenda of both sides and we have good cooperation with each other, he noted. The two neighboring countries' fate cannot be separated from each other and we should try and have better cooperation and contribute to the better political and economic conditions of the two countries, Kanaani said. Negotiations with the Afghan delegation were mostly focused on economic issues. Economic relations between Iran and Afghanistan are long-standing, he said. Iran has always been the first trading partner of Afghanistan and the economic officials' mutual visits are in line with strengthening these relations, Kanaani stated. In his remarks, the spokesman said Iran transferred the demands for release of prisoners to the Hamas head of political bureau Ismail Haniyeh who has recently held meetings with top Iranian officials. Iran did so as a negotiating country which has received demands from some countries whose nationals were present in the occupied lands, Kanaani said while referring to Qatar as a country which has delivered such demands, too. Hamas is ready to help transport the prisoners, and the consultations about how to do it are underway, Kanaani noted.

### Israeli Threat to Nuke Gaza Shows Its Real Defeat



IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian says an Israeli minister's threat to use atomic bombs against the Gaza Strip indicates that the regime has suffered a "real defeat" at the hands of the resistance front. In an X post on Monday, Amir-Abdollahian called for the nuclear disarmament of the "brutal, apartheid and barbaric" regime after Israel's so-called heritage minister Amichai Eliyahu said that dropping a nuclear weapon on Gaza was "one of the possibilities" in the ongoing war on the besieged enclave. "The comments by the Israeli regime's minister about using an atomic bomb show the regime's real defeat in the face of the resistance," the top Iranian diplomat said. "The United Nations Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency must take immediate and uninterrupted action to disarm this barbaric and apartheid regime. Tomorrow is late. The White House bears full responsibility for this genocide." On Sunday, Foreign Minister Amir-Abdollahian held phone conversation with his Indian counterpart, Subrahmanya Jaishankar, about the situation in the region and the crimes committed by Israeli forces against civilians in the occupied Palestinian territories. The Iranian foreign minister asked India to introduce initiatives aimed at establishing a ceasefire in Gaza and sending humanitarian aid to its defenseless people, as well as preventing the forced displacement of the Palestinians and the occupation troops' acts of genocide and war crimes. "The Zionist regime's continued attacks will complicate the situation in the region and open new fronts by the resistance forces, escalating and spreading regional tensions," he warned. Jaishankar, for his part, said that his country closely monitors the situation in the region and believes in joint actions and efforts to improve humanitarian conditions in Gaza. New Delhi, Jaishankar noted, stands ready to play a role within the framework of the initiatives put forward by the Islamic Republic in a bid to end the military operation in Gaza and avert the escalation of the crisis.

### Iran, Russia Finalizing Technical Details of Rasht-Astara Railway Project



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Kheirollah Khademi, the managing director of Iran's Construction and Development of Transportation Infrastructures Company (CDTIC), has said 70 percent of the technical issues regarding the Rasht-Astara railway project have been discussed and finalized with Russia, and the rest will also be finalized soon. "An agreement has been signed with Russia so that this country will provide us with a government loan for the construction and completion of the Rasht-Astara railway; this agreement includes the general and private terms of the contract, the employer's requirements, the funding methods, and the project implementation schedule," Khademi said. The official also announced the signing of the executive blue prints of the railway and added: "After many technical and specialized meetings by the experts of the two countries, the railway's blue print was prepared with special amendments to increase the speed and capacity of the route." Iran and Russia, both under harsh Western sanctions, on May 17 inked an agreement on the long-stalled construction of a railway connecting the northern Iranian cities of Rasht and Astara. The railway is key to the International North-South Transit Corridor (INSTC). Spanning 162 km (100.6 miles), the railway is a crucial element of the INSTC. The corridor integrates road, rail, and sea transportation, facilitating the movement of goods between Russia and India via Iran. Through a video link, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin addressed the ceremony in Tehran where the two countries' transport ministers signed the agreement. Raisi thanked Putin and the Russian government for their involvement in the initiative and referred to it as an "important strategic step" in bilateral cooperation that will benefit all countries involved in the INSTC. Putin, for his part, called the occasion a "landmark moment for the entire global transport infrastructure." According to this agreement, the Russian Federation will invest 1.6 billion euros in this railway route. The deal came a day after the former Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Payman-Pak announced that Russia's second-biggest bank, VTB, had opened a representative office in Tehran. Payman-Pak said that the office, which marks the first "direct presence" of a Russian bank in Iran, will be used for foreign currency transfers. State-owned VTB was sanctioned by the EU, UK, and the U.S. following the conflict between Russia and Ukraine in Feb. 2022. The railway deal has been hailed by state officials and media in Iran as part of a significant future source of income. Raisi's Deputy Chief of Staff for Political Affairs Mohammad Jamshidi has predicted that the earnings from the INSTC would be able to rival Iran's oil revenue. In this vein, the ISNA news agency on May 17 estimated annual revenue of \$20 billion from the Corridor.

# IRAN NEWS



## FM Advisor Meets UN Secretary General in Yemen Issues

TEHRAN (IRANPress) - A senior advisor to the Iranian foreign minister held a meeting with UN Special Envoy for Yemen the latest political and humanitarian situation in Yemen. The senior advisor to the Iranian foreign minister, Ali Asghar Khaji held a meeting with the UN Special Envoy for Yemen, Hans Grundberg emphasized the need to resolve the crisis in Yemen through peaceful and political methods. While pointing out the regional and global importance of the developments in Gaza, Khaji emphasized the need for an immediate ceasefire, lifting the siege and the delivery of humanitarian aid. Khaji said: "The US has asked us to remain restrained in several messages, while they are not self-controlled and in addition to financial, military, and political support, they have practically taken over the management of the killing of the defenseless people of Palestine."

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

## Iran, China Sign Petrochem Cooperation Agreement



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iran and China inked an agreement on petrochemical cooperation on Sunday. Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC) signed the agreement on the sidelines of the 6th China International Import Expo (CIIE). Iran holds a pavilion at the mentioned exhibition which is being held during November 5-10 at China's National Convention and Exhibition Center. More than 50 Iranian companies and 250 Iranian business persons are taking part in this international exhibition. As reported, Iran's First Vice President, Mohammad Mokhber, who has led the Iranian delegation attending this international event, delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of the exhibition on Sunday. Addressing the event, Mokhber pointed to geographical advantages, natural resources and reserves, young manpower, climatic diversity, and technological achievements as Iran's five special capacities, and invited all countries to invest in Iran. The CIIE, which is held annually, is a great platform to connect exporters with potential buyers and investors all around the world.



## Iran Ready for Cooperation With Cuba in Energy Sector

TEHRAN (Shana) - First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber voiced Iran's readiness to cooperate with Cuba in the energy sector. The official, who held talks with Cuban Prime Minister Manuel Marrero Cruz on the sidelines of the Sixth China International Import Expo (CIIE) the Hongqiao International Economic Forum in Shanghai, added Tehran is ready to help Havana renovate its refineries. Iran is manufacturing equipment needed in the oil, gas, and petrochemical industries, power plants, and refineries, said Mokhber, adding different types of catalysts are also produced in the country. He called for activating the joint commission and outlining a roadmap for expanding bilateral economic relations. Iran and Cuba have a common enemy [the U.S.], which has done unfair acts against both nations, said Mokhber, adding it is not reasonable that the two countries conduct their trade in the currency [the dollar] of the hostile country. The engagement of the private sector is the most important step the two countries need to take for promoting bilateral economic cooperation, noted the first vice president, calling for using a barter system and increasing banking and monetary cooperation in their local currencies. Iran is holding a pavilion at the Sixth China International Import Expo, which opened at Shanghai's National Convention and Exhibition Center today and will run through November 10.



## Iran, Iraq Call for Gaza Ceasefire

TEHRAN (PressTV) - President Ebrahim Raisi says the Israeli regime, heavily backed by the United States and certain European countries, is committing heinous crimes against humanity and genocide in Palestine, particularly against children. Raisi made the remarks at a joint press conference with visiting Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani in Tehran on Monday. "We believe that the [Israeli] bombardments [against Gaza] must be stopped as soon as possible and a ceasefire must be established," he said. He emphasized the need to send aid to the "oppressed" yet "powerful" people of Gaza as soon as possible. The president further said Iran cooperates with and supports any measure by the Muslim, regional and international countries aimed at deterring the Israeli regime and the US from massacring the innocent people of Gaza. Raisi noted that Tehran and Baghdad have a common stance on the Palestinian issue. The Iranian president rejected as "sheer lie" the US claims about sending aid to Gaza and announcing a ceasefire in the war-stricken strip, saying such claims do not match the Americans' actions. "Unfortunately, the U.S. provides arms, intelligence and financial aid to the Zionist regime to brutally kill the Palestinian people and it actually encourages the [Israeli] regime," he said. The Iranian president noted that the U.S. vetoed a draft resolution presented by Brazil to the United Nations Security Council on the establishment of humanitarian pauses in the war on the blockaded Palestinian territory. This would in fact pave the way for the Israeli regime to carry out more acts of murder, he added. The Iranian president emphasized that the US and other countries that support Israel are complicit in all the regime's crimes. Raisi said the battle of the resistance front against Israel and the defeat it has inflicted on the

regime have crumbled the Israeli regime. Raisi pointed to U.S. efforts to help Israel survive, asserting that all the countries in the world believe that the Palestinian people have achieved a victory against the Tel Aviv regime. All countries reiterate that the killing of the Palestinian civilians in Gaza and destroying their homes are not a victory for the Israeli regime, the Iranian president said, adding, "The disgraceful defeat of the Zionist regime cannot be compensated for by crimes against humanity and genocide." He said Muslim nations and those regional and global countries that believe in God cannot justify their silence vis-à-vis the ongoing crimes against the Palestinian people. Raisi expressed hope that Tehran and Baghdad would be able to further close their stance on the measures required to deter the Zionist regime from committing its crimes. Sudani, for his part, said Operation Al-Aqsa Storm was the outcome of Israel's years of criminal policies against the oppressed people of Palestine which included the killing of civilians, forced displacement, illegal settlement and the desecration of al-Aqsa Mosque. The Israeli regime has held the Gazan people inside a prison for many years while the international community has failed to implement its commitments and obligations in practice regarding the crisis in Gaza, the prime minister added. He emphasized that those who seek to prevent the war spillover must push the Israeli regime to stop its crime and organized genocide of Palestinians in Gaza. Sudani said the sides that are carrying out acts of aggression against the people of Gaza must prevent a wider war in the region. The premier added that Iran and Iraq seek to adopt a close stance on ways to exert pressure on influential countries to stop the bombing of Gaza and the killing of the Palestinian people as soon as possible.



## Gov't Pursues Removal of Hindrances to Iran-China Cooperation

BEIJING (IRNA) - Vice-President Mohammad Mokhber has said that the Iranian government is after removing the obstacles to cooperation between the Iranian and Chinese companies. The Iranian government also pursues providing necessary grounds for stable relations to benefit both countries, Mokhber said during his speech to the 2023 Iran-China High Level Business Forum held in the Chinese port city of Shanghai on Monday local times. Referring to the historic visit of the Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi to China in February, Mokhber said it resulted in opening a new chapter in the growing relations between the two countries. As he underlined, the determination of the two countries' leaders to deepen relations has made "us to take our all-out effort" to achieve the end. Pointing to Iran's number-one position in the

world regarding its oil and gas reserves, the vice president said the country enjoys a unique geographical and strategic situation. The Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to export fisheries and agricultural products to China, Mokhber said calling for further active role of the two countries' private sectors in these fields. Elsewhere in his remarks, the vice president said Iran expects China to encourage its big oil companies for making investment in the joint projects with the Islamic Republic. He further expressed the readiness of the big Iranian companies to export their knowledge-based products to China. Mokhber has arrived in Shanghai early on Sunday to attend the 6th China International Import Expo which had been slated for November 5. The vice-president has delivered speech to the Expo the same day.

## Iran's Cereal Production Exceeds 21m Tons in Current Crop Year



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Cereal production in Iran reached 21.2 million tons in the current crop year, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s latest Crop Prospects and Food Situation report. Based on the said report, the Islamic Republic's cereal production in the current crop year has increased by two percent compared to the previous year when the output was 20.6 million tons. FAO has placed Iran in fourth place among the Asian nations in terms of the volume of cereal production. According to the organization, Iran's wheat production, which stood at 13 million tons in the 2022 crop year, has increased by 500,000 tons to reach 13.5 million tons in the current year. Rice production also reached 3.5 million tons in the current year, without any changes compared to the previous crop year. FAO has put Iran's total cereal stocks at 12.1 million tons in the current year, registering a 100,000-ton increase compared to the previous year. With this volume of stocks, Iran has ranked fourth in the world. China has been ranked first with 399 million tons of cereal stocks. India with 64 million tons and Turkey with 12.7 million tons have taken the second and third places respectively. Back in May, FAO released a report in which Iran was ranked 43rd in the world in terms of food imports despite being the 17th most populous country in the world. The UN entity's statistics show that industrialized countries were the largest importers of food products in the world. According to the organization, Iran currently stands among the world's top producers of agricultural products.

## WHO, WB, Iran's Health Ministry Provide Imaging Services at Public Hospitals



TEHRAN (IP) - The World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the World Bank and the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, is spearheading a transformative initiative to enhance healthcare access in the Islamic Republic of Iran by deploying cutting-edge medical imaging equipment to 65 public hospitals spanning 31 provinces across the country. As part of this endeavor, 42 magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines, 15 computed tomography (CT) scanners, and 14 angiography systems are being supplied to public hospitals, serving as a major milestone in the ongoing battle against COVID-19. This initiative is designed to strengthen the nation's health infrastructure and cater to the surging demand for diagnostic and therapeutic services. WHO, in collaboration with the Economic Coordination Center of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, has successfully delivered 27 MRI machines to designated facilities as of 31 October 2023. An additional 814 devices will be distributed to 165 laboratories nationwide, reflecting the Organization's commitment to bolstering healthcare capabilities across the country. Notably, WHO is meticulously monitoring the installation, training, and handover processes to ensure they adhere to the highest standards. To date, the handover process of 9 MRI machines has been completed, and they are now poised to serve patients, with 5 more devices in the process of training and handover. Furthermore, the project includes the delivery of advanced CT scanners. Two 256-slice CT scanners have been delivered to hospitals in Tehran and Mashhad. One of these machines has already been handed over and is ready for immediate use. Additionally, ten 128-slice CT scanners have been imported to the country, with 6 of them successfully installed, trained, and handed over to recipient hospitals. Four more devices are currently in the training process. The initiative also addresses the urgent need for angiography machines. By the end of October 2023, 6 angiography devices have been imported and are currently in the process of delivery to recipient hospitals, further expanding the diagnostic capabilities of the healthcare system. The selection of the equipment was based on a comprehensive assessment, taking into account the increased demand for diagnostic devices during the COVID-19 pandemic, the depreciation of existing equipment, and the complexities associated with COVID-19-related diseases. The chosen hospitals are primarily situated in urban areas, strategically positioned to serve a broad network of patients within a nationwide healthcare referral system. The distribution of medical equipment to designated hospitals was prioritized based on post-COVID-19 epidemic needs, with a focus on underprivileged provinces, as well as the availability of specialized staff and expertise to operate the sophisticated equipment. This groundbreaking initiative underscores the commitment of WHO, in collaboration with the World Bank and the Iranian government, to fortify the health infrastructure and ensure that all citizens have access to advanced diagnostic and therapeutic services. It represents a significant step forward in the ongoing battle against COVID-19 and in preparing for future health challenges.

Bahrain cuts off economic ties with Israel, recalls ambassador: Parliament

Tehran, IRNA - The Bahraini parliament has announced the termination of the Arab country's economic relations with Tel Aviv due to the Zionist regime's ongoing bombardment of the Gaza Strip and killing of innocent Palestinians.



EU Weighs Advancing Ukraine's Membership Bid



BRUSSELS (Dispatches) - The European Union executive is expected to recommend taking Ukraine one step closer to becoming a member of the bloc this week, according to EU officials, a coveted prize for Kyiv as weariness creeps in nearly two years after Russia's invasion.



Pressure Mounts on Israel Over Civilian Casualties

GAZA (Dispatches) - Having rebuffed calls for a ceasefire, Israel was set to come under sustained pressure on Monday to avoid civilian casualties during its assault on Gaza, while a U.S. diplomatic blitz in the region sought to reduce risks of the conflict escalating.

without indicating whether such pauses would continue. Conrucus said there was access to water and humanitarian goods in the south of Gaza, but Hamas was impeding convoys by firing on them.

Saudi Arabia, Russia to Continue Additional Voluntary Oil Cuts



DUBAI (Dispatches) - Top oil exporters Saudi Arabia and Russia confirmed they would continue with their additional voluntary oil output cuts until the end of the year as concerns over demand and economic growth continue to weigh on crude markets.



Zelensky Not Ready for Talks With Moscow Unless Troops Withdraw

KYIV (Dispatches) - Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said he was "not ready" for talks with Russia unless its invading troops withdraw, as Kyiv investigated a deadly strike on its soldiers.



China's First Deficit in Foreign Investment Signals West's De-Risking Pressure

SHANGHAI (Dispatches) - China recorded its first-ever quarterly deficit in foreign direct investment (FDI), according to balance of payments data, underscoring Beijing's challenge in wooing overseas companies in the wake of a "de-risking" move by Western governments.

Pro-European Backers Confident in Moldova Poll

CHISINAU (Dispatches) - Backers of Moldovan President Maia Sandu's drive to join the European mainstream expressed confidence as counting was underway in local elections after a campaign in which she accused Moscow of meddling in the poll.

candidate Lilian Carp, but could fall short of the 50% needed for outright victory. Ceban, who used to hold a pro-Russian position, set up a pro-European party in 2022, though PAS still regards him as a potential Moscow ally.

Responding to Sandu's comments last week, Russia's foreign ministry called the Moldovan president a "disgrace" and said she was trying to distract attention from her government's failings.



## Verstappen Wins Again as Alonso Snatches Third on the Line



SAO PAULO (Dispatches) - Max Verstappen secured his 17th win in a record-breaking season on Sunday, resisting early pressure from Lando Norris to triumph in an accident and incident-hit Sao Paulo Grand Prix. Red Bull's three-time world champion came home 8.277 seconds ahead of McLaren's Norris on a sunlit afternoon at a packed Interlagos circuit. Behind them, Fernando Alonso snatched third for Aston Martin by just 0.053 seconds from Sergio Perez in the second Red Bull. Alonso and Perez provided a thrilling finale as they battled through the final laps before the Spaniard regained the podium position and held the Mexican at bay as they roared across the line. Lance Stroll finished fifth in the second Aston Martin ahead of Carlos Sainz of Ferrari, whose team-mate Charles Leclerc crashed out on the formation lap, and Pierre Gasly of Alpine. Seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton finished eighth for Mercedes after a race-long survival battle against degrading tyres ahead of Alpha Tauri's Yuki Tsunoda and Esteban Ocon in the second Alpine. For Verstappen, it was his 52nd career win, lifting him one clear of four-time champion Alain Prost on the list of all-time winners. "It was really good," said Verstappen. "A well-executed race by the team, perfect pit-stops and well done I think. I had two good starts which was very important and then managed the tyres." For Norris it was a seventh podium this year and 13th of his career, the most by any driver without recording a victory. "I couldn't have done any better," Norris said. "P2 is as good as it gets nowadays. So, I'm happy with that. Max always had an answer." Alonso held off Perez after the two swapped places twice in the closing laps. "It was like 30 laps of pressure from Checo! When he passed me two laps from the end, I thought a podium was not possible and it was gone, but I got it back," said the Spaniard. After the

extreme weather of Friday and Saturday, the race began in moderate conditions with a track temperature of 46 degrees and the air at 23 as Verstappen took the lead from his 11th pole of the year. By then, the luckless Leclerc was already out. He lost hydraulics on the formation lap, smacking into the barriers and damaging his front wing. "Why am I so unlucky?" he asked. Without a front-row rival, Verstappen powered away but a collision involving Williams' Alex Albon and Kevin Magnussen of Haas brought a red flag. Both drivers escaped injury. Replays suggested Albon hit both Haas cars, of Nico Hulkenberg and Magnussen, who in turn hit the rear wing of Oscar Piastri's McLaren. In the chaos, a tyre snapped off Hulkenberg's Haas and bounced onto Daniel Ricciardo's Alpha Tauri. After a 30-minute delay, the race restarted with Piastri and Ricciardo setting off from the pit-lane following repairs. Verstappen streaked clear again. Norris resisted a Hamilton attack and Alonso used slipstream to profit and pass the Mercedes man who fell to fourth ahead of team-mate Russell. Following team advice, Hamilton was preserving his tyres — to avoid a repeat of Saturday's sprint race debacle. He could not hold off Perez on lap 19 and then pitted, swapping his softs for mediums. The leading duo pitted together on lap 27 and rejoined with Verstappen 4.7 seconds clear of Norris and Alonso, who also pitted, third. By mid-distance, it was clear Mercedes were struggling and Sainz swept past both for sixth, as Verstappen built his lead. Russell began the second round of stops when he pitted again for used softs, on lap 46 and Hamilton on lap 47, before Russell retired with engine heating problems. Verstappen waited until lap 57, gifting the lead to Norris until he too pitted on lap 60, leaving Alonso to deliver the final thrills.

## Djokovic Wins Record-Extending Paris Title



PARIS (Dispatches) - World number one Novak Djokovic cruised to a record-extending seventh Paris Masters title and became the first player to claim 40 Masters ATP 1000 titles when the top-seeded Serbian thumped Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov 6-4 6-3 in the final. Djokovic's sixth trophy this season helped him to extend his lead over the second-ranked Carlos Alcaraz in the race to the year-end number one spot and the 24-times Grand Slam champion will head to the ATP Finals primed to seal the deal. "It's incredible to be able to win after quite challenging circumstances for me this week," Djokovic said. "Coming back from the brink of losing three matches in a row on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. I was close to losing those matches and somehow managed to find an extra gear when it was needed. Today, we both were quite tight at the beginning, and I could see that he was running out of gas a little bit." "Myself as well but I managed to find an extra shot over the net. The match was closer than the scoreline indicates but another amazing win for me. I'm very proud of this one." In a clash featuring the two oldest players in the world's top 20, the 36-year-old Djokovic drew first blood, breaking the 17th-ranked Dimitrov for a 4-3 lead in the opening set, and he closed it out comfortably in 51 minutes. The unseeded Dimitrov's only victory over Djokovic in 12 previous meetings came a decade ago and although the 32-year-old put up more of a fight in the second set, he could not prevent Djokovic from taking his 40th Masters crown. It put him four Masters titles ahead of his nearest rival Rafa Nadal. Djokovic is three wins away from 100 Open Era titles, with only Jimmy Connors (109) and Roger Federer (103) above him. Victory was sealed when Dimitrov sent a backhand wide, extended Djokovic's winning run to 18 matches since his defeat by Alcaraz in the Wimbledon title clash in July, leaving him red hot for the season-ending ATP Finals starting on Nov. 12. Dimitrov sobbed into his towel after missing the opportunity to claim his first title in six years. "I've been in these situations before many times... losing finals," said Djokovic, who stopped his on-court interview to give Dimitrov a hug. "I've been blessed to of course win more finals than I've lost. I really hope he'll continue to play at a high level. He's been playing some of his best tennis this week and I wish him all the best. I hope he can win big events."

## Eagles Hold off Dallas; Chiefs, Ravens Grab NFL Wins

LOS ANGELES (Dispatches) - Jalen Hurts threw for two touchdowns and ran for another to lead Philadelphia's dramatic 28-23 NFL victory over Dallas on Sunday while Kansas City and Baltimore notched impressive triumphs. Hurts completed 17-of-23 passes for 207 yards and two touchdowns and ran 10 times for 36 yards and a touchdown while the Eagles defenders denied Cowboys star Dak Prescott in the dying seconds for the victory. "How about that defense? They played a hell of a game," Hurts said. "Had some adversity but the way they showed up for us in the end... we found a way to win. That's all that matters." Hurts was limping after being sacked by Micah Parsons late in the second quarter, but he answered any worries about a left knee injury by driving the Eagles for two scores in the third quarter, his touchdown throws of 29 yards to DeVonta Smith and four yards to A.J. Brown. "For this team, for this city, I'll do anything," Hurts said. "I'm just happy we were able to get a win. That's all that matters in the end." Prescott, who threw for 374 yards and three touchdowns, threw a seven-yard touchdown pass to Jalen Tolbert in the fourth quarter but stepped out of bounds on a two-point conversion run to create the final margin. Prescott drove Dallas 11 yards seeking a go-ahead touchdown in the last seconds but a sack, incompletion and penalty set up a last-play throw to CeeDee Lamb short of the end zone to give the Eagles a victory that improved their NFL-best mark to 8-1. "We just want to continue to build momentum, continue to clean things up, continue to press forward -- continue to grow into the team we know we can be," Hurts said. In Frankfurt, Germany, Patrick Mahomes threw for two touchdowns as the Kansas City Chiefs bounced back to beat the Miami Dolphins 21-14. The Chiefs, who suffered a shock



loss at Denver last week, raced ahead 21-0 before holding off a late Miami fightback. Patrick Mahomes had given the Chiefs the lead after finding Rashee Rice for an 11-yard touchdown completion in the first quarter. Mahomes then hit Jerick McKinnon for a touchdown in the second quarter to cap a 13-play, 95-yard drive that gave the Chiefs a 14-0 lead. Kansas City's ferocious defense set up a touchdown in the closing seconds of the half, forcing a fumble from former Chiefs receiver Tyreek Hill of Miami before recovering the ball at the 37-yard line. Chiefs safety Mike Edwards flipped a lateral pass to Bryan Cook, who sprinted 59 yards down the sideline into the end zone to make it 21-0. Touchdowns from Cedrick Wilson Jr. and Raheem Mostert in the third quarter lifted the Dolphins within the final margin but Miami turned the ball over on downs when quarterback Tua Tagovailoa fumbled a wayward snap. Mahomes, who went 20-for-30 for 185 yards, saluted the Chiefs' defense. The AFC West division-leading Chiefs improved to 7-2 while Miami slid to 6-3. Red-hot Baltimore steamrollered visiting Seattle 37-3, improving to 7-2 as Ravens rusher Gus Edwards ran for two touchdowns. At Houston, Texas 22-year-old rookie quarterback C.J. Stroud threw for five touchdowns and 470 yards and led a 75-yard game-winning touchdown drive to clinch a 39-37 victory over Tampa Bay. In Atlanta, meanwhile, Minnesota's revival continued as the Vikings took a dramatic 31-28 triumph over the Falcons. The Vikings, without injured starting quarterback Kirk Cousins, sealed their fourth straight win with just 20 seconds remaining when stand-in signal-caller Joshua Dobbs connected with Brandon Powell.

## Kohli Shins as India Crush South Africa



KOLKATA (Dispatches) - Virat Kohli marked his 35th birthday with his second century of the World Cup and Ravindra Jadeja claimed five wickets as India thumped South Africa by 243 runs in a contest featuring the top two teams in the tournament at the Eden Gardens on Sunday. South Africa's chase of 327 began shakily as they lost half their side cheaply for 40 runs inside 14 overs as Jadeja (5-33) and Mohammed Shami (2-18) wreaked havoc before the Proteas fell to only their second defeat, dismissed for 83 in 27.1 overs. Jadeja was the pick of the bowlers, shattering the stumps of three batsmen, and Mohammed Siraj (1-11) and Kuldeep Yadav (2-7) all played their part to hand South Africa their heaviest World Cup defeat. Kohli's unbeaten 101 contained 10 fours and left him level with Indian great Sachin Tendulkar on 49 one-day international hundreds as he continued his superb form by taking his tally past 500 runs in the tournament. "It was a big game. We were playing probably the toughest team in the tournament. They've played some amazing cricket so there was this motivation of wanting to do well for the team," said man-of-the-match Kohli. "Because it happened to be my birthday, it becomes a bit more special. People made it a bit more special for me. I had this sense that it's going to be something more today rather than just one more game in the World Cup. I did wake up with that excitement." Kohli dropped anchor in a third-wicket stand of 134 with Shreyas Iyer, who hit 77 with seven fours and two sixes, before making his ton in the 49th over as India finished with 326-5 on a slow Kolkata wicket with late hitting by Jadeja (29 not out). Both teams have qualified for the semi-finals and Sunday's game was touted as a dress rehearsal for the title clash later this month and it was India who took control early and set up their eighth successive victory. They will now finish top of the standings. "If we look at how we played in the last three games, we played better in terms of adapting to the situation," India skipper Rohit Sharma said. "We were put under pressure against England. In the last game as well, we lost a wicket in the first over but got to a good score and the seamers came to the party. Today wasn't an easy pitch, you needed someone like Kohli, who batted to the situation. Not to forget Shreyas." They elected to bat first after winning the toss and took advantage of some wayward pace bowling by Marco Jansen to make a blazing start but Rohit fell for a 24-ball 40 as he looked to launch first-change Kagiso Rabada over mid-off. After reaching 91-1 in the powerplay, the hosts lost opener Shubman Gill (23) to an unplayable delivery from Keshav Maharaj in the 11th over as South Africa brought the run-rate under control with spin.

## Durant Leads Suns to NBA Win

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - Kevin Durant scored 41 points to lead the Phoenix Suns over Detroit and former Suns coach Monty Williams on Sunday while Britain's O.G. Anunoby sparked Toronto's stunning NBA rally at San Antonio. Toronto made a 22-point fightback to beat the Spurs 123-116 in overtime while the Cleveland Cavaliers sparked as well, snapping a 12-game regular-season losing streak to Golden State dating to Christmas 2016. Durant added five assists, four rebounds, three blocked shots and a steal to power the Suns past the host Pistons 120-106. "He was terrific, scored the ball every way you can, really wants it," Suns coach Frank Vogel said. "Just a really terrific performance. He's really good at basketball and he showed it tonight." The Suns outscored Detroit in every quarter as Eric Gordon contributed 21 points and eight assists for Phoenix, which snapped a three-game losing skid. "We're excited because we finally got a win," Durant said. Cade Cunningham led Detroit with 26 points in the first regular-season matchup between the Suns and their former coach Williams. After Williams was fired as the Suns' coach following a second-round playoff exit last season, Detroit signed him to a six-year deal worth \$78.5 million. The Suns were without Bradley Beal, sidelined by back spasms,



and Devin Booker, out with a calf strain. At Cleveland, Donovan Mitchell scored 31 points and Darius Garland added 24 to power the Cavaliers over Golden State 115-104. "The biggest thing for us is that we put together a full game," Mitchell said. "We fought hard. That's a tough team. They have a lot of guys who have won championship rings and we're trying to get to that level. We've got to continue this momentum." Evan Mobley added a game-high 16 rebounds for the Cavs. "He was dominant," Mitchell said. Stephen Curry

led the Warriors with 28 points, hitting 7-of-11 shots from 3-point range, while Draymond Green added 18 points for Golden State, which saw a five-game win streak ended. At San Antonio, 26-year-old English forward Anunoby scored 24 points for the Raptors, hitting a career-best seven 3-pointers to spark a shocking comeback over star French rookie Victor Wembanyama's Spurs. Scottie Barnes sparked for Toronto with a game-high 30 points, 11 rebounds, six assists, three steals and three blocked shots. Anunoby sank the tying basket off a rebound with one second remaining to send the game into overtime at 110-110. His 3-pointer in the extra session game Toronto a 118-112 edge. German guard Dennis Schroder added 24 points for the Raptors. Keldon Johnson led San Antonio with 26 points while Zach Collins added 21 points and 11 rebounds and Wembanyama contributed 20 points, nine rebounds, five blocked shots and four assists for the Spurs. At Dallas, Slovenian guard Luka Doncic had 23 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists to spark the Dallas Mavericks over Charlotte 124-118. Kyrie Irving had 18 points and 10 assists for the Mavs, 5-1 overall and 3-0 at home, while Grant Williams scored 18 points and Dereck Lively added 15 points and 14 rebounds. LaMelo Ball led the Hornets with a triple double of 30 points, 13 assists and 10 rebounds.