

Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian and His Qatari Counterpart Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani Discussed Mutual Interests, the Ongoing Conflict in Gaza, and the Latest Developments in Palestine

IRAN NEWS

Iranian Minister of Justice Amin Hossein Rahimi Says That the Fake Israeli Regime Has Violated All International Laws and Human Rights Regulations and Does Not Live Up to Any Humanitarian Rules

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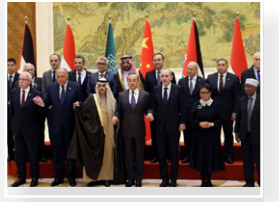
Easy Money Transfer Between Tehran, Brasilia Possible With BRICS Membership

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Palestinian Resistance Shattered Israel's Delusion of Grandeur



IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - A senior commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) says the United States was forced to run Israel after the occupying regime was defanged at the hands of the Gaza-based Palestinian resistance fighters in their October 7 operation. Deputy Commander of the IRGC's Quds Force Brigadier General Mohammad Reza Fallahzadeh said that Hamas fighters hit the Zionist regime "like lightning" in Operation Al-Aqsa Storm and "humiliated" it after attacking steel forts, concrete walls, and multi-meter-high fences. "The Palestinian resistance forces shattered the Zionist enemy's grandeur and disrupted and destroyed its intellectual dome in the field of management, thus the US was forced to take over the regime's management," Fallahzadeh said. He further noted that the Palestinian resistance managed to demolish Israel's intelligence system, defeat its military, and damage its security. The IRGC commander also emphasized that the Zionist regime has "achieved nothing" in its heavy aggression, bombings, artillery fire, and direct attacks by tanks and personnel carriers against the besieged Gaza Strip. The occupying regime is massacring Palestinian people out of "weakness and desperation," he said. "The enemy fights with the innocent, oppressed people of Gaza and does not dare battle with resistance groups," Fallahzadeh asserted. "Hamas is indelible and the truth is victorious. It is the falsehood that will be destroyed." He also said that over the past 75 years, the Zionists have committed crimes in the occupied territories, displaced 7 million defenseless Palestinians, and massacred more than 150,000 people. Israel waged the brutal war on Gaza on October 7 after Hamas launched Operation Al-Aqsa Storm in the occupied territories.

Iran Slams IAEA for Leaking Information on Its Uranium Stockpile



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
وزارت امور خارجه

TEHRAN - Iran does not consider the International Atomic Energy Agency's information about Iran's enriched uranium stockpile that appeared in the media, to be constructive, spokesman for the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Nasser Kanaani said at the press conference in Tehran. Iran has criticized the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for 'leaking information' about its 60 percent enriched uranium stockpile, as Kanaani said at a recent press conference. Media reports cited the IAEA as saying that Iran's 60 percent enriched uranium reserves had increased from 6.7 kg to 128 kg. Kanaani said that such allegations against Iran's peaceful nuclear program were made based on ulterior motives. He stressed that Iran's peaceful nuclear activities were based on cooperation with the IAEA and within the framework of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. He added that this cooperation was continuing. He also said that Iran's peaceful nuclear activities are based on cooperation with the IAEA under the supervision of this organization. In response to the question, Kanaani said: "Iran's activities are within the framework of the NPT agreement, and the country's technical and specialized cooperation continues within its frameworks." Kanaani emphasized that such reports are made with other motivations and Iran does not consider these claims as technical and constructive. He continued: "International assemblies, the United Nations, the Security Council, and the International Atomic Energy Agency are responsible for the illegal nuclear capabilities of the Zionist regime, which is not under the supervision of any organizations." The Iranian senior diplomat said the Israeli regime has shown that it does not follow any red line. The threat of the Israeli regime's minister to use an atomic bomb against the people of Gaza left no doubt that this regime has this kind of weapons and does not place any restrictions on the use of prohibited weapons. Kanaani pointed out: "The necessary documentation has been made that this regime has used all kinds of prohibited weapons, including phosphorous and incendiary bombs, in recent days." He added: "We hope that the UN Security Council and related organizations will pay attention to the issue. The IAEA should also pay attention to its duties regarding the prohibited weapons and out-of-control activities of this regime. Kanaani also said on Monday that the Iranian nation thanks to understanding the aggressive nature of the Zionist regime is going to push for an Israeli goods ban making sure that no such goods would enter the Iranian markets. "Basically, the entry of any goods produced by Zionist companies or Zionist-affiliated companies is prohibited according to the laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran, certainly, Iranians avoid these products," he added. He further explained: However, because some companies use unprincipled methods to sell goods anonymously, or companies that might have Zionist shares are not known anywhere and enter the Iranian markets, according to the law, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs along with others organizations will investigate such goods and companies whose goods are likely to be in the market. Kanaani elsewhere noted: "We checked these goods in the past and now we are also checking the list of companies whose goods are or can be imported into Iran". He finally said that the reason why the list has not been published yet is because it is under investigation and if necessary, the list of these companies will be published. Kanaani, responded to a question about the statements of the representative of the U.S. Congress regarding Iran's money in Qatar's banks, as well as the request of the U.S. President to his Chinese counterpart. He said: "Many members of the U.S. Congress have shown for many years that they protect the interests of the Zionist regime more than representing the United States and have sacrificed the interests of the Americans to Israel. We do not care about such statements." Also, in reaction to U.S. President asking the Chinese President to prevent the spread of war in West Asia by Iran, Kanaani said: "I do not know what the U.S. President asked the Chinese President, but if we assume that happened, American government, instead of asking others, should fulfill its responsibility regarding international peace and security and refrain from standing by the Zionist regime and supporting it for the continuation of war crimes and making the American people victims of the regime's illegitimate interests." Kanaani once again reiterated that unlike the United States, which commands its allies, Iran does not have any proxy forces in the West Asian region. He dismissed anti-Iran claims about attacking American positions in the Kurdistan Region. "The Resistance groups in the region are not under the command of Iran, but they represent their nations and governments," Kanaani said. "Resistance groups in Iraq, Syria, and the region make decisions based on the interests of their nations," he said, adding that unlike the United States, which commands its allies, Iran does not have forces under its command or agency.

Iranian Medics Call on UN Chief to Prevent Israeli Crimes



TEHRAN (MNA) - The president of Iran's Academy of Medical Sciences has called on the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to either take effective measures to stop Israeli crimes in the Gaza Strip or resign. In a letter on Sunday, Seyed Alireza Marandi told Guterres it's unfortunate that Israel is committing such "unique historical crimes" in your tenure and the UN has done nothing to prevent it. "These dark days will be recorded in history. The least you can do is to stand among the oppressed and helpless people of Gaza and on behalf of the international community order international aid to be sent to Gaza," Marandi wrote. "At this critical historical moment, every fearless and effective action you take to prevent the crimes of the Zionist apartheid regime will be recorded in the minds of the people of the world and in history. Another course of action is for you to resign as the Secretary-General so that at least you will not be complicit in the continuation of these crimes," he added. Marandi further noted that during the past 40 days, the countries of the world have witnessed "the great crime" of the Israeli regime, which may be unprecedented in history. He went on to say that "the unique nature of this disaster" is that defenseless children, women and men are completely surrounded in their own land and are bombarded with all kinds of bombs and weapons of mass destruction in front of the eyes of billions of people around the world. Residential buildings, hospitals, schools and refugee camps in Gaza have been destroyed by bombs, he said, adding that doctors and medical staff also do not have a safe place to treat the injured. All this has happened while access to water, electricity, food and medicine has been cut off by the "criminal" Israeli regime in the besieged enclave, Marandi stated. Israel waged the war on Gaza on October 7 after the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas carried out the surprise Operation Al-Aqsa Storm into the occupied territories in response to the occupying regime's intensified crimes against the Palestinian people. According to the Gaza-based health ministry, at least 12,300 Palestinians have been killed in the strikes, most of them women and children, and injured around 30,000 others. Tel Aviv has also imposed a "complete siege" on Gaza, cutting off fuel, electricity, food and water to the more than two million Palestinians living there. The Israeli military is continuing its deadly bombing campaign against Gaza despite widespread international condemnation.

MTN Faces Lawsuit Over Alleged Terrorism Facilitation in Iran, Afghanistan



NEW YORK (Dispatches) - South African telecom giant MTN Group is facing a legal battle in the United States over allegations that it facilitated terrorism in Iran and Afghanistan. The lawsuit claims the company's actions during the years 2011 to 2016 led to numerous American casualties. The proceedings have been set in motion at the Eastern District Court of New York, where a legal calendar has been established to address the claims. According to the schedule, initial disclosures are due on February 29, 2024, with discovery requests to follow by March 15. Plaintiff attorneys are gearing up for these critical phases of the litigation process. The allegations against MTN include engaging with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and supporting Taliban operations in Afghanistan, which purportedly resulted in thousands of injuries or deaths among American personnel. These serious accusations bring into question the telecom's operations during a five-year period. As part of a larger operational consolidation strategy and commitment to responsible business practices, MTN is also moving forward with plans to exit the Afghan market by the end of this year. The company is currently working through regulatory approvals after receiving a binding offer for its Afghan entity valued at \$25 million, reported in June of last year. This withdrawal is part of MTN's broader strategy that also includes leaving Iran and reassessing its presence in other West African markets, such as Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, and Liberia. The outcome of this legal challenge could have significant financial implications for MTN, with potential substantial monetary losses if the court rules against them. As the legal process unfolds, MTN continues its efforts to streamline operations and focus on markets aligned with its long-term strategic objectives. In the midst of these legal proceedings, MTN Group (MTN) continues to show promising financial performance. According to real-time data from InvestingPro, the telecom giant boasts high earnings quality, with its free cash flow exceeding net income. Further, revenue growth has been accelerating, indicating a robust financial health despite the ongoing legal challenges.

Al-Aqsa Storm Israel's Greatest Disgrace

TEHRAN (PressTV) - The appalling crimes committed by Israel in the Gaza Strip are a prelude to the regime's collapse, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad resistance movement's envoy to Tehran has said, stressing that "the Zionists" well know that they are approaching the end of their life. Addressing a meeting with families of martyrs in Tehran on Sunday, Nasser Abu Sharif said the ongoing military operation by the Palestinian resistance groups against Israel - named Operation Al-Aqsa Storm - brought the greatest disgrace upon the Israeli regime. As "the Zionists" have asserted, he said, the operation has also inflicted the heaviest blow in different fields, particularly the economic sector, to the flimsy power of the Zionist regime. He said Israel is now under heavy

internal and foreign pressures while the resistance fighters have exerted enormous pressure on the regime. Abu Sharif expressed confidence that the international community and humanitarian circles would bring the Israeli rulers to justice given numerous developments in the face of Israel's crimes across the globe. God willing, the resistance front will achieve the final victory against Israel and will liberate al-Quds, he said. Since October 7, Israel has killed at least 13,000 Palestinians, including more than 5,500 children and 3,500 women, in its relentless bombardment of the Gaza Strip. The regime was caught off-guard on October 7 by Operation Al-Aqsa Storm launched by the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas into the occupied territories.



Yemen Not Afraid of Zionist Enemy's Reaction



SANAA (Dispatches) - Yemen does not fear the Zionist enemy's reaction to the seizure of an Israeli ship, a member of the political bureau of the Ansarullah movement in Yemen emphasized. According to Yemeni media outlets, Spokesman for the Ansarullah movement Mohammed al-Bukhaiti said on Monday: We are not scared of the Zionist enemy, but if we refuse to support Gaza, we must be afraid of the almighty God's penalty. As to Yemeni fighters' unrelenting support for Palestinian resistance, the official noted that there are two options, either the aggression by the Israeli regime's army against the Gaza Strip comes to an end, or the war will spill over, because we do not allow them to massacre our brothers in Gaza. On Monday, the Yemeni Navy and Coastal Defence Forces seized an Israeli vessel in the Red Sea and transferred it to the shores of the Hudaydah Port in the Arab country. The Armed Forces of Yemen issued a statement regarding the details of the seizure of the Israeli ship in the Red Sea, underlining that all ships belonging to the regime as well as those in connection with Tel Aviv are considered legitimate targets for the Armed Forces of Yemen. Yemen's Armed Forces on Sunday seized an Israeli ship and detained dozens of its crew members in the Red Sea following warnings by the Yemeni Ansarullah resistance movement that the popular force will target any Israeli ship crossing the country's territorial waters. Lebanon's Arabic-language al-Mayadeen television news network reported on Sunday that the Yemeni naval forces "succeeded in detaining an Israeli ship in the depths of the Red Sea." Fifty-two people who were on board the ship were arrested, the report said. The news network said the ship's crew and those on board are currently under investigation and their nationalities are being verified by the relevant Yemeni agencies. Israeli media confirmed the regime's ownership of the confiscated ship. The vessel goes by the name of 'Galaxy Leader.' The media said its entire crew members had been detained by Yemen's naval forces in the south of the Red Sea. Brigadier General Yahya Saree, the spokesman for the Yemeni Armed Forces, announced earlier in the day that the military units would target all ships owned or operated by Israeli companies or carrying the Israeli flag. Yemen's move, he said, is in support of Palestinians amid Israel's savage onslaught on the besieged Gaza Strip. Saree also called on all countries to withdraw their citizens working as crews on any such vessels.

IRAN NEWS



Days of Culture of Turkmenistan to Be Held in Iran

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Days of Culture of Turkmenistan will be held in Isfahan, central Iran, within days. The event will be held with the participation of 40 artists and the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance on November 23-26. Isfahan Hall of Art is to host the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, his Turkmen counterpart, and the governor of Isfahan. In addition to the performance of traditional music groups of Turkmenistan, there will be an exhibition of handicrafts, artistic and visual works, traditional costumes, Turkmenistan Film Week, and a photo gallery in the Sa'adi historical complex. The literary meeting of Magtymguly Pyragy, one of the common celebrities of the two countries, will be held in the presence of poets and writers from Iran and Turkmenistan at Isfahan University.

U.S. Intensifying Israel's War on Gaza



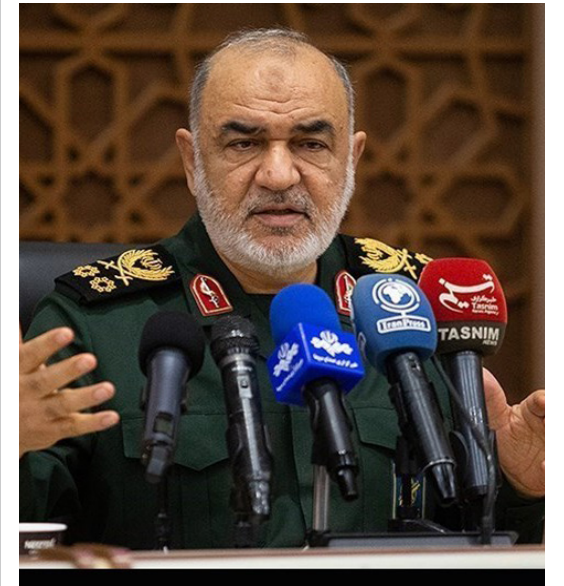
TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian says the United States is intensifying the Israeli regime's war on Gaza. In a phone conversation on Sunday, Amir-Abdollahian and his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov discussed the latest developments in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. "The U.S. claims it seeks to stop [Israel's] war but it is adding to the intensity and scope of the American-Zionist war in practice," the top Iranian diplomat said. The Iranian minister said the massacre of thousands of civilians, including women and children, and the killing of dozens of prisoners in Gaza were the result of Israel's "blind" bombings and the continuation of the regime's attacks. Amir-Abdollahian stressed the importance of preventing ethnic cleansing and the forced displacement of people in Gaza and the West Bank. He called on Russia to play a more active role in improving peace and security in the region. The Iranian foreign minister emphasized that the resistance front will undoubtedly determine the final outcome. The Russian foreign minister, for his part, expressed regret over Israel's opposition to stop its atrocities in Gaza. Lavrov urged the continuation of consultations to put an end to the war and release prisoners.



TEHRAN - Iran's membership in the BRICS group of emerging economies can facilitate the financial exchanges between Tehran and Brasilia, according to the chairman of the Iran-Brazil Joint Chamber of Commerce. Speaking in his meeting with the new ambassador of Brazil to Iran on Monday, Fakhreddin Amerian called for strengthening the bilateral trade cooperation between Tehran and Brasilia. Currently, money transfer between Iranian and Brazilian traders is a pressing problem resolving which should be taken into consideration, he said. "Under the current circumstances, Iran's membership in BRICS can settle the problem and setting up a joint monetary fund between banks of the two countries can remove problems facing the import and export activities of the country to a great extent." The Brazilian Embassy

can play a leading role in this regard, Amerian added. The ambassador of Brazil to Iran, for his part, pointed to the longstanding history of trade relations between Tehran and Brasilia and stated that developing and promoting the level of trade and economic interactions with Iran is the main program followed up at the embassy. Eduardo Ricardo Gradilone Neto said that strategic interaction with the Iran-Brazil Joint Chamber of Commerce can remove many of the problems on the way of bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Iran and Brazil have established trade relations mainly in the agricultural sector, he said, putting the trade volume exchanged between the two countries in 2022 at above \$6 billion. He went on to say that Iran and Brazil have the potentials to further boost bilateral trade.

Zionist Army Suffering Daily Losses



TEHRAN (Tasnim) - The Israeli regime's military is sustaining big damages as it loses at least 15 tanks each day, Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Major General Hossein Salami said. Addressing a conference on Monday, the IRGC commander said the Zionist regime is desperately attempting to achieve a fake victory against Gaza by killing children and infants and bombing civilians. However, the Zionist forces have exposed themselves to Palestinian offenses inside Gaza, he added. Major General Salami said the Israeli forces have come within reach of the Palestinian fighters, as the Zionist army is losing at least 15 tanks and several personnel carriers and forces every day. The Zionist regime has failed when it comes to morality, has become isolated politically, and has acted stupidly in tactical terms, the commander added, saying Israel has lost to its own mistakes and to the faith and resistance of the Palestinian people. The world is changing as Islam is spreading, he stated, expressing confidence that Palestinians will emerge victorious in the battle against the Zionist regime. More than 13,000 people have been killed in Gaza since Israeli bombardment began on October 7.

Participating in Rebuilding Afghanistan to Guarantee Iran Economic Benefits

TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Pointing to the improved conditions for the presence of Iranian traders in Afghanistan's market after the expulsion of forces from this country, an economic activist said that Iran can help in rebuilding Afghanistan and gain benefit from its lucrative market. Chairman of the Iran-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce Mahmoud Siadat referred to the recent visit of an Afghan trade and economic delegation to Iran and stated that constructive talks were held between Iranian and Afghan officials during the visit. He went on to say that the Afghan government is keen to enhance its relations with Iran in all fields, especially in the field of trade and economy. The economic activists of the country should take advantage of this opportunity created for the expansion of investment and economic activities, he said. The Afghan

government intends to shift the transit of its goods from Karachi in Pakistan to Iran's Chabahar Port and the ground has been provided for the country to expand its trade cooperation with Afghanistan, Siadat emphasized. Elsewhere in his remarks, he pointed to the export of non-oil products to neighboring Afghanistan and stated that Iran exported about \$1 billion worth of products to Afghanistan in the first seven months of the current year (March 21 to October 22, 2023), showing a four percent hike compared to the same period of last year. He called on responsible officials and organizations including the Export Guarantee Fund of Iran (EGFI) and banks to throw their weight behind the private sector of the country to remove trade barriers facing economic activists seeking to expand their trade ties with Afghanistan.



Iran, Turkmenistan Start Drafting Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Document

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - The head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) has announced the beginning of drafting a comprehensive economic cooperation document between the Islamic Republic and Turkmenistan. Referring to the holding of the 17th Iran-Turkmenistan Joint Economic Committee meeting in Ashgabat and the visit of the Iranian delegation to Turkmenistan, Mehdi Zeyghami said: "This trip was very fruitful because the minister of foreign affairs of Turkmenistan and the Iranian head of the joint committee are working to create a comprehensive economic and trade document between the two countries." According to Zeyghami, the Islamic Republic is going to dispatch a commercial attaché to Turkmenistan over the next four months to pursue the drafting of the mentioned document. Saying that last year \$500 million of trade exchange was done between Iran and Turkmenistan, the official noted: "This year we will witness the same amount of trade between the two countries, and according to the agreements made, there is a possibility of significant growth in trade exchange." He further referred to Turkmenistan's interest in participating in Iran's specialized exhibitions, saying: "The two countries have good interactions in the field of construction materials and technical and engineering services, but there is no extensive interaction in other specialized fields such as industrial machinery, knowledge-based industries, and medical equipment, and the visit of Turkmen companies to Iranian exhibitions will create the opportunity for such interactions."

Turkey Vows to Protect Iran's Water Share of Aras River



TEHRAN (MNA) - Turkey has pledged to respect Iran's water shares of the Aras River, according to Iranian Deputy Minister of Energy Mohammad Javanbakht. Javanbakht, who led the Iranian delegation to the second Iran-Turkey Cooperation Committee meeting which convened on Sunday, said that Ankara has ensured Iran that dam-making on the Aras River will create no limitations for Iranian water resources. Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the meeting, the Iranian deputy minister said that the Turkish officials stressed that these dams are mainly aimed at electricity generation. The Turkish officials have stressed that it will be possible for Iran to use its shares of the river during drought, the Javanbakht said.

Trump Vows New Migrant Crackdown in Visit to Mexico Border

EDINBURG (Dispatches) - Donald Trump took his presidential campaign down to the border with Mexico on Sunday, doubling down on the hardline immigration rhetoric that was a hallmark of his first White House term. The Republican leader asserted that border security had evaporated under President Joe Biden, with "gangs of thugs" pouring into the U.S. "We're going to take over that border and we're going to make it the most secure border in our history," Trump said. He was speaking to a supportive group of border guards and Texas Governor Greg Abbott, a like-minded Republican who has endorsed Trump's 2024 campaign. In recent weeks, the former president has ramped up his campaign rhetoric to extreme levels, warning that undocumented migrants are "poisoning the blood of our country" and denouncing his political opponents as "vermin."



Philippines President Says Myanmar a Difficult Problem for ASEAN



MANILA (Dispatches) - The conflict in military-ruled Myanmar has been a difficult issue for the Southeast Asian bloc ASEAN to address, with little progress made towards a resolution and intensifying fighting, Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos said. Speaking at a forum in Hawaii streamed live in the Philippines on Monday, Marcos said there was commitment from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), but the issue was complex, including the humanitarian impact. The United Nations says more than a million people have been displaced since Myanmar's military staged a coup in 2021, upending a decade of tentative democracy and plunging the country into conflict and economic ruin. "There is a great deal of impetus for ASEAN to solve this problem. But it is a very, very difficult problem," Marcos said. The junta's post-coup crackdown on opponents gave rise to a resistance movement that has been growing in strength. ASEAN has barred the top generals from attending its meeting until they commit to the bloc's two-year-old peace roadmap. The Philippines will chair ASEAN in 2026 after it replaced Myanmar as host that year. Tens of thousands more people have been displaced since last month as the military battles a coordinated offensive by an alliance of three ethnic-minority groups and pro-democracy fighters. Marcos, citing analyses of the recent escalation, said the junta had already lost support from its own military. He said the humanitarian cost of conflict had "grown exponentially" in recent years, with the Philippines also impacted with its citizens among victims of human trafficking there.



Arab and Muslim Ministers Urge End to Gaza War

BEIJING (Dispatches) - Arab and Muslim ministers called on Monday for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, as their delegation visited Beijing on the first leg of a tour to push for an end to hostilities and to allow humanitarian aid into the devastated Palestinian enclave. The delegation, which is set to meet officials representing each of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, is also piling pressure on the West to reject Israel's justification of its actions against Palestinians as self-defense. The officials holding meetings with China's top diplomat Wang Yi on Monday are from Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt, Indonesia, Palestine and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, among others. "We are here to send a clear signal: that is we must immediately stop the fighting and the killings, we must immediately deliver humanitarian supplies to Gaza," said Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud. The extraordinary joint Islamic-Arab summit in Riyadh this month also urged the International Criminal Court to investigate "war crimes and crimes against humanity that Israel is committing" in the Palestinian territories. Saudi Arabia has sought to press the United States and Israel for an end to hostilities in Gaza, and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the kingdom's de facto ruler, gathered Arab and Muslim leaders to reinforce that message. About 240 hostages were taken during Hamas's deadly cross-border rampage into Israel on Oct. 7, which prompted Israel to invade the Gaza Strip with the intention of eradicating

the Islamist militant group. Gaza's Hamas-run government said at least 13,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli bombardments since then, including at least 5,500 children. China's Wang said Beijing was a "good friend and brother of Arab and Muslim countries," adding it has "always firmly supported the just cause of the Palestinian people to restore their legitimate national rights and interests." Since the start of hostilities, China's foreign ministry has repeatedly stopped short of condemning Hamas, instead calling for de-escalation and for Israel and Palestine to pursue a "two-state solution" for an independent Palestine. Since the end of China's nearly three years of COVID lockdowns, Xi has launched a diplomatic push aimed at countering the United States and its allies, who he says seek to contain and suppress his country. Beijing has deepened alliances with non-Western led multilateral groups such as the BRICS bloc of nations while strengthening ties with countries in the Middle East and the Global South. On Monday, Wang added China will work to "quell the fighting in Gaza as soon as possible, alleviate the humanitarian crisis and promote an early, comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Palestinian issue." China's special envoy on the Middle East, Zhai Jun, has engaged officials from Israel and the Palestinian Authority - which governs in the occupied West Bank - as well as the Arab League and EU in the last year to discuss a two-state solution and recognition for Palestine at the United Nations.

Oil Extends Gains as OPEC+ to Mull Deeper Cuts



SINGAPORE (Dispatches) - Oil futures nudged higher, extending gains on expectations of OPEC+ deepening supply cuts to shore up prices, which have fallen for four weeks on easing concern of Middle East supply disruption amid the Israel-Hamas conflict. Brent crude futures climbed 57 cents, or 0.7%, to \$81.18 a barrel while U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude was at \$76.40 a barrel, up 51 cents or 0.7%. The front-month December contract expires later on Monday while the more active January futures gained 55 cents, or 0.7%, at \$76.59 a barrel. Both contracts settled 4% higher on Friday after three OPEC+ sources told Reuters that the producer group, made up of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and their allies including Russia, is set to consider whether to make additional oil supply cuts when it meets on Nov. 26. Oil prices have dropped by almost 20% since late September while prompt inter-month spreads for Brent and WTI slipped into contango last week. Prompt prices are lower than those in future months in a contango market, signalling sufficient supply. "Our statistical model of OPEC decisions suggests that deeper cuts should not be ruled out given the fall in speculative positioning and in timespreads, and higher-than-expected inventories," Goldman Sachs analysts said in a note. The bank's baseline forecast is that the existing group production cuts stay fully in place in 2024, and that the unilateral cut of 1 million barrels per day by Saudi Arabia will be extended through the second quarter of next year, and reversed only gradually from July. IG analyst Tony Sycamore said WTI prices may rise toward \$80 a barrel on the back of the possibility that OPEC+ does announce deeper cuts at their upcoming meeting although a drop below \$72 will encourage the Biden administration to refill the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve. "All of which suggest that a rebound in prices is likely in the first half of this week," he added. Investors are also eyeing disruption in Russian crude oil trade after Washington imposed sanctions on three ships that have sent Sokol crude to India. On Friday, Moscow lifted a ban on gasoline exports which could add to global supplies of the motor fuel. This comes after Russia scrapped most restrictions on exports of diesel last month. In the Middle East, U.S. and Israeli officials said a deal to free some of the hostages held in the besieged Gaza enclave was edging closer despite fierce fighting. U.S. energy firms last week also added oil and gas rigs for the first time in three weeks, said energy services firm Baker Hughes on Friday, with the oil and gas rig count serving as an early indicator of future output.



Argentine Libertarian Milei Pledges New Political Era After Election Win

BUENOS AIRES (Dispatches) - Argentina elected right-wing libertarian Javier Milei as its new president on Sunday, rolling the dice on an outsider with radical views to fix an economy battered by triple-digit inflation, a looming recession and rising poverty. Milei, who rode a wave of voter anger with the political mainstream, won by a wider-than-expected margin. He landed some 56% of the vote versus just over 44% for his rival, Peronist Economy Minister Sergio Massa, who conceded. "The model of decadence has come to an end, there's no going back," Milei said in a defiant speech after the result, while also acknowledging the challenges that face him. "We have monumental problems ahead: inflation, lack of work, and poverty," he said. "The situation is critical and there is no place for tepid half-measures." In downtown Buenos Aires hundreds of Milei supporters honked horns and chanted his popular refrain against the political elite - "out with all of them" - as rock music played from speakers. Some people set off fireworks as excitement spread. "We came to celebrate this historic triumph," said Efrain Viveros, a 21-year-old student from the province of Salta. "I'm honestly ecstatic. Milei represents change, for the better. With Massa we'd have had no future, our future has returned." Milei is pledging economic shock therapy. His plans include shutting the central bank, ditching the peso, and slashing spending, potentially painful reforms that resonated with voters angry at the economic malaise. "Milei is the new thing, he's a bit of an unknown and it is a little scary, but it's time to turn over a new page," said 31-year-old restaurant worker Cristian as he voted on Sunday. Milei's challenges are enormous. He will have to deal with the empty coffers of the government and central bank, a creaking \$44 billion debt program with the International Monetary Fund, inflation nearing 150% and a dizzying array of capital controls. Some Argentines had characterized the vote as a choice of the "lesser evil": fear

of Milei's painful economic medicine versus anger at Massa and his Peronist party for an economic crisis that has left Argentina deeply in debt and unable to tap global credit markets. Milei has been particularly popular among the young, who have grown up seeing their country lurch from one crisis to another. "Perhaps not everything Milei says I agree with or can identify with but he is our future," said Irene Sosa, a 20-year-old student celebrating outside his election bunker. "Milei represents a future for young people like me, Massa was everything that is wrong with our country." Milei's win shakes up Argentina's political landscape and economic roadmap, and could impact trade in grains, lithium and hydrocarbons. Milei has criticized China and Brazil, saying he won't deal with "communists" and favors stronger U.S. ties. Despite that, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva wished Milei luck and success after the result was announced, adding that it was important democracy was respected. Former U.S. President Donald Trump congratulated Milei and said the libertarian would make Argentina great again. Leftist Colombian President Gustavo Petro, meanwhile, said it was a "sad day" for the region. The victory of Milei, a 53-year-old economist and former TV pundit, has broken the hegemony of the two leading political forces on the left and right - the Peronists that have dominated Argentine politics since the 1940s and its main opposition, the Together for Change conservative bloc. "The election marks a profound rupture in the system of political representation in Argentina," said Julio Burdman, director of the consultancy Observatorio Electoral, ahead of the vote. The campaign of Massa, 51, an experienced political wheeler-dealer, had sought to appeal to voter fears about Milei's volatile character and plans to cut back the size of the state. "Milei's policies scare me," teacher Susana Martinez, 42, said on Sunday after she voted for Massa.



World's Richest 1% Emit as Much Carbon as Bottom Two-Thirds

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - The richest one percent of the global population are responsible for the same amount of carbon emissions as the world's poorest two-thirds, or five billion people, according to an analysis published Sunday by the nonprofit Oxfam International. While fighting the climate crisis is a shared challenge, not everyone is equally responsible and government policies must be tailored accordingly, Max Lawson, who co-authored the report, told AFP. "The richer you are, the easier it is to cut both your personal and your investment emissions," he said. "You don't need that third car, or that fourth holiday, or you don't need to be invested in the cement industry." "Climate Equality: A Planet for the 99%", was based on research compiled by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and it examined the consumption emissions associated with different income groups up to the year 2019. It was published as world leaders prepare to meet for climate talks at the COP28 summit in Dubai later this month. Fears are growing that limiting long-term warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius could soon be impossible to achieve. Among the key findings of this study are that the richest one percent globally - 77 million people - were responsible for 16 percent of global emissions related to their consumption. That is the same share as the bottom 66 percent of the global population by income, or 5.11 billion people. The income threshold for being among the global top one percent was adjusted by country using purchasing power parity - for example in the United States the threshold would be \$140,000, whereas the Kenyan equivalent would be about \$40,000. Within country analyses also painted very stark pictures. For example, in France, the richest one percent emit as much carbon in one year as the poorest 50 percent in 10 years. Excluding the carbon associated with his investments, Bernard Arnault, the billionaire founder of Louis Vuitton and richest man in France, has a footprint 1,270 times greater than that of the average Frenchman. The key message, according to Lawson, was that policy actions must be progressive. "We think that unless governments enact climate policy that is progressive, where you see the people who emit the most being asked to take the biggest sacrifices, then we're never going to get good politics around this," he said. These measures could include, for example, a tax on flying more than ten times a year, or a tax on non-green investments that is much higher than the tax on green investments. While the current report focused on carbon linked only to individual consumption, "the personal consumption of the super-rich is dwarfed by emissions resulting from their investments in companies," the report found. Nor are the wealthy invested in polluting industries at a similar ratio to any given investor - billionaires are twice as likely to be invested in polluting industries than the average for the Standard & Poor 500, previous Oxfam research has shown.

Zelenskiy Calls for Rapid Operations Changes for Soldiers, Sacks Commander

KYIV (Dispatches) - Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy demanded rapid changes in the operations of Ukraine's military and announced the dismissal of the commander of the military's medical forces. Zelenskiy's move was announced as he met Defence Minister Rustem Umerov, and coincided with debate over the conduct of the 20-month-old war against Russia, with questions over how quickly a counteroffensive in the east and south is proceeding. "In today's meeting with Defence Minister Umerov, priorities were set," Zelenskiy said in his nightly video address. "There is little time left to wait for results. Quick action is needed for forthcoming changes." Zelenskiy said he had replaced Major-General Tetiana Ostaschenko as commander of the Armed Forces Medical Forces. "The task is clear, as has been repeatedly stressed in society, particularly among combat medics, we need a fundamentally new level of medical support for our soldiers," he said. This, he said, included a range of issues - better tourniquets, digitalization and better communication. Umerov acknowledged the change on the Telegram

messaging app and set as top priorities digitalisation, "tactical medicine" and rotation of servicemen. Ukraine's military reports on what it describes as advances in recapturing occupied areas in the east and south and last week acknowledged that troops had taken control of areas on the eastern bank of the Dnipro River in southern Kherson region. Ukrainian commander in chief General Valery Zaluzhnyi, in an essay published this month, said the war was entering a new stage of attrition and Ukraine needed more sophisticated technology to counter the Russian military. While repeatedly saying advances will take time, Zelenskiy has denied the war is headed into a stalemate and has called on Kyiv's Western partners, mainly the United States, to maintain levels of military support. Ostaschenko was replaced by Major-General Anatoliy Kazmirchuk, head of a military clinic in Kyiv. Her dismissal came a week after a Ukrainian news outlet suggested her removal, as well as that of others, was imminent following consultations with paramedics and other officials responsible for providing support to the military.





Record-Breaker Djokovic Claims Seventh ATP Finals Crown

TURIN (Dispatches) - Novak Djokovic claimed yet another record with his seventh ATP Finals title, sweeping aside local hero Jannik Sinner 6-3, 6-3 in Turin and leaving tennis fans wondering when he will relinquish his tennis dominance. Djokovic came into the Finals at the end of an age-defying year which has brought three Grand Slams, taking his total to an all-time best of 24, and a 40th Masters 1000 title. He will clock a 40th week at world number one after crowning an incredible season -- in which he also reached the Wimbledon final -- by moving clear of retired great Roger Federer in victories at the season-ending tournament. The 36-year-old took his record-breaking crown by beating in straights sets the game's best two young players in Sinner and vanquished semi-finalist Carlos Alcaraz, showing that he still has plenty to give with the Paris Olympics around the corner and a gold medal the only major title missing from his list of honours. "Very special, one of the best seasons I've had in my life, no doubt. To crown it with a win against a home town hero in Jannik, who has played amazing tennis all week, is phenomenal," said Djokovic. "I'm very proud of the performances of the last two days against Alcaraz and Sinner, who are probably the two best players in the world, next to me and Medvedev at the moment. The way they have been playing I had to step it up." Sinner was bidding to become the first ever Italian to win the Finals and looked like the right man to do it after his impressive group stage win over Djokovic. But the 22-year-old, like Alcaraz in Saturday's semi, simply could not handle Djokovic, a man on a mission who hit his best form at exactly the right time in the tournament. It is a testament however to how far Sinner, a four-time winner this year, has come in the past year that he had Djokovic's tournament fate in his hands at the end

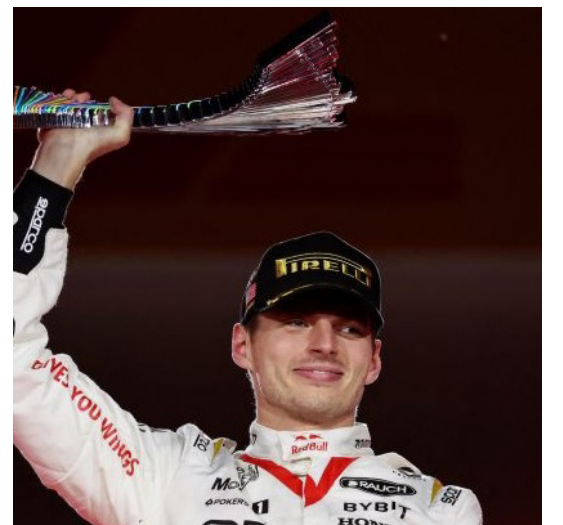
of the group stage, when defeat by Holger Rune would have sent the Serb home early. Sinner saved Djokovic's skin and in the end paid for it in the final, but the quality of his performances at the Pala Alpitour has been a cause for much optimism in Italy and suggests that he should be a Grand Slam contender next season. "We've seen today that there's still plenty to work on... but we can look at the positives from this season," said Sinner. "When I started this season I was one type of player, now I'm another. Let's see how we go next season." Djokovic took control early in the match, breaking Sinner at the first opportunity in game four and then comfortably serving out the opening set. Such was his dominance that Djokovic silenced a partisan crowd which has been rambunctious for all of Sinner's matches, and he immediately broke serve again at the start of the second set. He reeled off 14 straight points from the start of the final game of the first set into the third game of the second, which was eventually won by Sinner to just hold his serve. Sinner looked like he was going to be walked over but he showed huge heart and brought the crowd to its feet when he held his serve in game seven, a 15-minute mini-epic in which Djokovic had two break points, to stay at 4-3. However in the end he couldn't stay with Djokovic and surrendered the match in disappointing fashion with a double fault. Earlier, Rajeev Ram and Joe Salisbury retained their doubles title as they cruised to a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Marcel Granollers and Horacio Zeballos. The US Open champions kept hold of their crown with a near-perfect campaign in Turin, going unbeaten in their five matches. American Ram and Briton Salisbury took their winning streak at the season-ending tournament to 10 matches after also sweeping to last year's title undefeated.

Murray Withdraws From Britain's Davis Cup Squad With Injury



LONDON (Dispatches) - Former world number one Andy Murray has withdrawn from Britain's Davis Cup squad ahead of the finals next week due to a shoulder injury, the Briton said, effectively ending his season. Murray guided Britain to the finals after missing his grandmother's funeral to help his team beat Switzerland in September. Britain play Serbia in the quarter-finals in Malaga. "I've picked up a minor shoulder injury, which means I won't be able to take part in the Davis Cup," Murray said in a statement. "I'm gutted not to be a part of the squad, but my focus is now on rehab and getting ready for the new season." Murray, 36, split with long-time coach Ivan Lendl for a third time earlier this month.

Verstappen Changes Tune After Winning the F1 Las Vegas GP



LAS VEGAS (Dispatches) - Red Bull's Max Verstappen sang "Viva Las Vegas" after racing to a record-extending 18th victory of the season and joining Sebastian Vettel in third place on Formula One's all-time winners' list. The triumph on a spectacular Saturday night in Sin City was the 53rd of the triple champion's career, and sixth in a row, and came after a five-second penalty for forcing Ferrari's Charles Leclerc off track at the start and then a collision with Mercedes' George Russell. Leclerc finished second after starting in pole position, losing and regaining the lead and then losing it again before passing Sergio Perez on the final lap to deny Red Bull a seventh one-two of the season. The win was Red Bull's 20th in 21 races, another record for a single season, and delivered the racing that had risked being swamped in a wave of hype as Vegas hosted a Grand Prix for the first time since the 1980s. It also completed a sweep of three US wins in 2023 for their 26-year-old Dutch driver, who was also dominant in Miami and Austin. Verstappen -- who had been the Las Vegas Grand Prix's biggest critic before the race -- had to admit that it was a success. "It was a tough one," said Verstappen, whose race suit paid homage to the signature jumpsuit of the late "King of Rock and Roll", Elvis Presley. "I tried to go for it at the start, I think we both braked quite late, and then I just ran out of grip, and we ended up a bit wide, so the stewards gave me a penalty for that. "That put us a little bit on the back foot, and I had to pass quite a few cars... It was definitely a lot of fun." Red Bull played the timeless Elvis song over the team radio after pop star Justin Bieber waved the chequered flag, and Verstappen showed he is a far better driver than singer by joining in. Leclerc, whose team are the only ones to beat Red Bull this season, showed all his fighting spirit after the initial setback. "I wanted that win so bad, but what a race," he gasped over the radio after finishing 2.070 seconds behind Verstappen. It was the second race in a row that Perez had lost out on the last lap, with the Mexican passed by Aston Martin's Fernando Alonso at the line in Brazil.

Head Breaks India Hearts as Australia Win Sixth World Cup Title

AHMEDABAD (Dispatches) - Travis Head hit a sparkling 137 to power Australia to a record-extending sixth World Cup title in a convincing six-wicket win over India on Sunday with captain Pat Cummins describing victory as "the pinnacle of cricket". Chasing a tricky 241 for victory in the final, Australia slipped to 47-3 before left-handed opener Head hit his second century of the tournament to steer the team home with seven overs to spare. Head's knock, and his marathon stand of 192 with Marnus Labuschagne, unbeaten on 58, ended India's dominant run of 10 unbeaten matches at the event. "That's huge, that's the pinnacle in cricket, winning a World Cup, especially here in India. These are the moments you remember for the rest of your life," said Cummins. Head fell after his 120-ball knock laced with 15 fours and four sixes before Glenn Maxwell hit the winning runs to trigger wild celebrations in the Aussie camp. "Just thrilled to be a part of it," said man-of-the-match Head who only joined up with the squad following a period of rehabilitation after he broke his hand in South Africa on the eve of the tournament. "It's a lot better than seeing the World Cup on the couch at home (nursing his hand injury). I was a little bit nervous but Marnus played exceptionally well and soaked up all the pressure. India's chances of ending a global trophy drought since their 2013 Champions Trophy win went up in smoke once Head got going with Labuschagne. Head's century was the seventh in a World Cup final and third by an Australian after Ricky Ponting (140 not out v India in 2003) and Adam Gilchrist (149 v Sri Lanka in 2007). "The result hasn't gone our way and we know that we were not good enough on the day. But I'm proud of the team," said India captain Rohit Sharma. "With 240 on the board, we wanted early wickets but credit to Travis Head and Marnus. They put us completely out of the game and I thought the wicket got better to bat on under the lights." The bowlers set up victory for an Australian side that bounced back after two losses -- including a six-wicket defeat to India in pool play -- to win nine in a row as Mitchell Starc (3-55) and Pat Cummins (2-34) helped bowl out India for 240. India hit back when Mohammed Shami shared the new ball with Jasprit Bumrah and struck on his second delivery to get David Warner caught behind for seven. But it was Bumrah's double strike in quick succession that raised the roof as he had Mitchell Marsh caught behind

for 15 and Steve Smith lbw for four. Head stood firm with Labuschagne to thwart the Indian attack despite Rohit rotating his bowlers in a desperate hunt for a breakthrough. Head hit a match-winning century against New Zealand in the team's sixth league game and after a few low scores made an attacking 62 in the nervy three-wicket semi-final win over South Africa in Kolkata. He proved to be India's nemesis a second time this year after his 163 proved decisive in Australia's World Test Championship triumph at The Oval in June. Head reached his 100 in 95 balls and raised his bat to an applauding Australian dressing room.



Portugal Notch 10th Straight Win, Serbia Qualify for Euro 2024

PARIS (Dispatches) - Portugal finished their Euro 2024 qualifying campaign with a 100-percent record by beating Iceland 2-0 on Sunday, after Serbia booked their place at next year's finals in Germany and Romelu Lukaku scored four goals for Belgium. Bruno Fernandes and Ricardo Horta netted the goals for Roberto Martinez's Portugal, with Cristiano Ronaldo not on the scoresheet, to end with 10 wins from 10 matches in Group J. The 2016 winners will be among the favorites for the title in what could be the 38-year-old Ronaldo's last major tournament. Slovakia finished eight points behind Portugal in the second qualifying place after a 2-1 win over Bosnia and Herzegovina in Zenica. Luxembourg, who will head into the play-offs, were a further five points adrift after closing out an impressive group-stage showing with a 1-0 success in Leichtenstein. Earlier Sunday, Serbia qualified for the first time as an independent nation, after four previous failures to get to the main event, with a 2-2 draw against Bulgaria. The Serbs finish second in Group G behind Hungary who snuffed out any hopes Montenegro had of progressing by beating them 3-1 in Budapest. "The players showed a mentality of not giving up, believing in themselves," said Serbia coach Dragan Stojkovic. "It's a big day for Serbian football. Serbia is finally at the European Championship. I congratulate my boys, who fought until the end and believed. We are happy and satisfied." Centre-back Milos Veljkovic put Serbia ahead in the 17th minute before substitute Georgi Rusev levelled for Bulgaria in the 59th. Ten minutes later Kiril Despodov put the visitors ahead but Srđan Babic equalised eight minutes from time to ensure Serbia would become the 17th team to qualify for Euro 2024. Montenegro needed Serbia to lose to have any hope of taking their place in Germany but also needed to win against the Hungarians who have eased impressively through qualifying. Slobodan Rubezic put Montenegro ahead on 36 minutes but Hungary hit back in the second half with two goals in three minutes from Liverpool midfielder Dominik Szoboszlai before Zoltan Nagy rounded off the win in added time. Roma striker Lukaku extended his record tally of international goals for Belgium to 83, with all of his goals coming in a remarkable first half in Brussels. He opened the scoring in the 17th minute by converting a Jeremy Doku cross, before Eddy Israfilov was shown a second yellow card seven minutes later to leave the Azeris with a mountain to climb. Lukaku fired home shortly afterwards and then headed in Wout Faes' delivery to complete a hat-trick. He rounded off his scoring spree of four goals in 20 minutes before being replaced by Lois Openda at half-time. The Belgians took their foot



off the gas in the second period but Leandro Trossard added a fifth in the 90th minute from another Doku assist. Belgium finished top of Group F, one point clear of Austria, with both having wrapped up qualification with matches to spare. Sweden ended a miserable campaign, in which they failed to qualify for a European Championship for the first time since 1996, with a 2-0 win over Estonia in the other game in the group. Barcelona star Gavi limped off with a nasty knee injury in Spain's 3-1 victory against Georgia which secured top spot in Group A above Scotland. The 19-year-old was tackled

from behind in the first half, buckling the knee that had his weight on it, before leaving the pitch in tears. "This is a very tough and very difficult moment," said Spain coach Luis de la Fuente. "For the (Spanish football) federation, for me, for his friends. But above all for him and for his club. We're destroyed. Football is a risk sport and this is the ugly part of our sport." Goals from Robin Le Normand and Ferran Torres and a Luka Lochoshvili own goal helped Spain past a spirited Georgia, who drew level at 1-1 early on through Napoli star Khvicha Kvaratskhelia.