

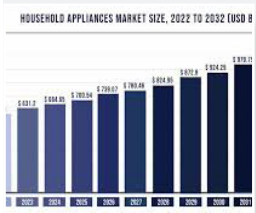
Responding to Claims That Tehran Will Soon Deliver Hundreds of the Fath-360 Close-Range Ballistic Missiles to Russia, Iran's Permanent Mission to the UN Says Iran Refrains From Transferring Any Weapons to Russia

# IRAN NEWS

IRGC Navy Released New Footage Showing Surveillance of U.S. and Allied Navy Vessels in the Persian Gulf as the Images Feature a San Antonio-class Amphibious Transport Dock of the US Navy, a Wasp-Class Amphibious Assault Ship of the US Navy, and the Spanish Helicopter Carrier Juan Carlos I

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DOMESTIC



## 9% Increase in Home Appliance Production

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INTERNATIONAL

## U.S. to Lift Ban on Offensive Weapons Sales to Saudi Arabia

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## Tehran Has No Goal to Accelerate Cyber Activities to Influence U.S. Elections



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iran's permanent mission to the United Nations says the country has no goal or interest in "cyber activities" to influence the 2024 US presidential election.

"Iran does not have any goal or a plan for a cyber attack and it does not interfere in the US elections which is an internal issue of this country," the mission said on Friday.

It vehemently rejected a report released on Friday claiming that Microsoft has identified a series of actions by Iranian cyber actors aimed at influencing the upcoming US election. These include email phishing attacks, fake news sites, and impersonating activists.

"Iran has been a victim of various cyber offensive operations against the country's infrastructures, public service centers and industries," the mission said.

It emphasized that Iran's cyber power is defensive and proportionate to the threats posed against the country.

Late in July, Iran's mission to the UN dismissed allegations that Tehran intended to disrupt the election and negatively affect it in favor of Donald Trump, the Republican Party candidate.

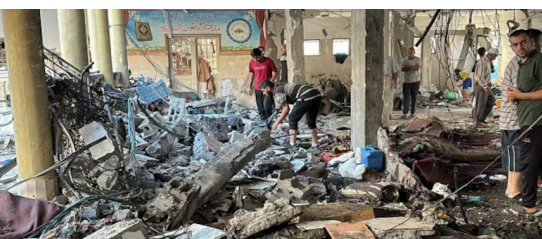
The mission described a major part of such accusations as psychological operations to give false momentum to election campaigns.

Under the facile pretext of preventing Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, the US and Mossad have been carrying out a campaign of sabotage and cyber attacks on Iran's civilian nuclear program for quite some time.

One of the most well known cyber attacks utilized the notoriously malicious Stuxnet worm. In 2011, Tehran announced that an investigation had concluded that both the United States and Israel were behind the Stuxnet attack.

Israeli sabotage attempts against Iran's nuclear program have miserably failed despite the regime's assassinations of Iranian nuclear scientists through unrelenting US support.

## Over 100 Palestinians Killed in Israeli Airstrikes on School in Gaza



GAZA (Dispatches) - More than 100 Palestinians have been killed following Israeli airstrikes on a school sheltering displaced people in the east of the Gaza Strip, as the occupying regime presses ahead with its months-long aggression on the besieged territory.

Palestine's official Wafa news agency said over 100 citizens were killed and dozens injured on Saturday morning after the Israeli occupation forces bombed the al-Tabi'in school in the al-Daraj neighborhood east of Gaza City.

Citing local sources, the agency said the occupation warplanes bombed the school while citizens were performing the dawn prayer.

"The Israeli strikes targeted the displaced people while performing Fajr (dawn) prayers, the matter led to a rapid increase in the number of casualties," the government media office in Gaza said in a statement.

The media office stressed that the Israeli attack comes within the "framework of the crime of genocide and ethnic cleansing against our Palestinian people in a clear manner."

The statement added that "due to the horror of the massacre and the large number of martyrs, the medical crews, civil defense, relief and emergency teams have not been able to retrieve the bodies of all the martyrs so far."

The media office censured the Israeli massacre in the strongest terms, calling on the world to condemn it and hold the occupying regime and the US administration fully responsible for the deadly bombing.

It also renewed its call for the international community and UN organizations to pressure Tel Aviv to stop the crime of genocide and ethnic cleansing against Palestinian civilians and displaced persons in the Gaza Strip, and "stop the flow of blood."

The Israeli occupation army confirmed the attack in a statement and claimed that the school "served as a hideout for Hamas commanders." Backed by the US and its Western allies, the Israeli regime launched an all-out invasion of Gaza after it was caught off-guard by Operation al-Aqsa Storm inside the occupied territories in October last year.

Nearly 40,000 Palestinians have since been killed, most of them women and children, and upwards of 91,000 others injured in the merciless Israeli aggression.



## Iran's Crushing Revenge, Heroic Resistance to Expedite Israel's Annihilation

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Commander of the Quds Force of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) says Iran's harsh punishment of the Israeli regime for the assassination of Hamas's political leader, Ismail Haniyeh, and anti-occupation struggle by the regional resistance front will speed up the Israeli regime's elimination.

Brigadier General Esmail Qa'ani made the remarks in a letter addressed to Yahya Sinwar, the new Political Bureau chief of the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas on Friday.

Sinwar was appointed on Tuesday following the assassination of Haniyeh, which took place in the Iranian capital Tehran late last month.

Qa'ani pointed to a promise that was given by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei to deliver a "harsh response" to the Israeli regime and avenge the blood of the resistance leader.

"As it was stated by Leader of the Islamic Revolution, we consider it to be our duty to avenge his (Haniyeh's) blood following this poignant incident [that took place] in the Islamic Republic," the commander said.

"There is no doubt that the blood of this noble martyr (Haniyeh) will have an impact on severe punishment of the Zionist regime at the hands of the Islamic Republic," he said.

Addressing Sinwar, the commander added, "The heroic struggle of your brothers in the Islamic resistance will intensify the effect of this punishment and lead to the elimination of this ominous phenomenon as soon as possible."

Hamas and other resistance groups from Lebanon, Yemen, and Iraq have vowed to exact revenge on the regime over the atrocity.

The commander identified Haniyeh as one of the resistance's "valiant leaders" and a "valuable and self-composed character," who served as a "unifying" factor across the Muslim world.

Qa'ani congratulated Sinwar for his appointment to the position, describing him as a long-serving and honorable figure in light of his leadership prowess and anti-occupation struggle.

Meanwhile the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Major General Hossein Salami emphasized the importance of engaging enemies from "zero distance to great depths"

during a ceremony for the IRGC's naval force, underscoring Iran's maritime defense strategy.

In a recent ceremony marking the addition of 2,654 missile, electronic warfare, and drone systems to the IRGC's naval force, General Salami, highlighted the importance of maintaining the capability to engage with enemies across varying distances, particularly at sea.

"We have defined engagement from zero distance to great depths, meaning we must have the capability to engage with the enemy at the lines and points of contact. The sea lacks a fixed battle line," Salami stated.

He explained that the process of bolstering Iran's defensive capabilities is rooted in a strategic vision inspired by divine revelation and the guidance of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei. This approach, Salami noted, is essential for ensuring Iran's strength and survival in a global system dominated by imperial powers.

Salami further emphasized the necessity for nations to choose between strength and submission. "It is up to the nations to choose whether to become strong and live freely and independently, liberating themselves from the dominance of global hegemonic powers, or to choose the path of compromise, submission, and subservience."

Highlighting Iran's strategic position and its role in global affairs, Salami described the sea as a critical arena for defending the nation's interests. He stressed the need for Iran to close the path of domination for its enemies and, if necessary, impose its will upon them.

"The sea is a vast expanse where all military powers are present without boundaries, and it is the meeting point of all powers," he said. Salami underscored the importance of naval warfare, noting that Iran must be capable of engaging the enemy in the depths of the seas and oceans to prevent conflicts at its national borders.

He emphasized the complexity of naval warfare, which requires a harmonious combination of human resources, technology, and strategic acumen. Salami also highlighted the growing role of artificial intelligence in naval operations, particularly in precision targeting and minimizing human casualties.

## IRGC Navy Says New AI-Based Equipment Enhances Precision in Pinpoint Operations

TEHRAN - The commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy has hailed the enhanced level of precision and surgical strike capabilities that have been incorporated into the force's new equipment.

Rear Admiral Alireza Tangsiri made the remarks during a ceremony held in the southwestern port city of Bandar Abbas on Friday to mark arming the force with as many as 2,654 new missile systems, drones, and other pieces of equipment.

"We paid special attention to innovation and technical originality in the equipment and capabilities that we operationalized today," he said.

"We have witnessed enhancement of precision, target [acquisition], and surgical strike [capabilities] in these pieces of equipment and systems," the commander said.

Tangsiri noted that the new hardware boasted smart features and that its manufacturing process had benefited from huge application of the artificial intelligence technology.

The new additions to the naval force include radar-evading cruise missiles that feature high-explosive warheads and are capable of causing severe damage and sinking destroyers.

They also feature various types of long-range and medium-range missiles, combat and reconnaissance unmanned aerial vehicles featuring electronic warfare capabilities, including a newly-inaugurated silent drone, as well as electronic warfare systems.

"Improvement in confidence in deployment of these pieces of equipment in the field of electronic warfare has increased their capability," the



commander stated.

Iran has been relying on domestic endeavors and know-how amid sanctions to make significant advances in enhancing the self-sufficiency of its Armed Forces.

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy received new domestically-made equipment, including cruise missiles equipped with highly explosive warheads capable of evading current

missile systems.

The naval force took delivery of 2,640 missile systems, drones, and other equipment in a Friday ceremony attended by IRGC chief commander Major General Hossein Salami.

Among the deliveries are new radar-evading cruise missiles that feature high-explosive warheads, capable of causing severe damage and sinking destroyers.

The addition also includes various types of long-range and medium-range missiles, combat and reconnaissance drones, unmanned aerial vehicles featuring electronic warfare (EW) capabilities, as well as electronic warfare systems.

Only 210 homegrown systems out of a total of 2,654 were put on display on Friday as other strategic weapons systems could not be showcased for security considerations, Tasnim News Agency reported, adding that these systems represent some of the navy's most advanced anti-surface and sub-surface weapons.

## Iran's Right to Legitimate Defense Has Nothing to Do With Gaza Ceasefire



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has denied reports it is entering into the car manufacturing business in Iran.

Major General Hossein Salami said that the IRGC has developed technologies that could assist the Iranian industries, including the country's automotive sector, but it is fundamentally opposed to having a direct role in those businesses.

"The car sector in the country has its custodian and we will never try to replace other institutions," said Salami in an interview with the state TV's news agency.

Responding to a question about reports that an IRGC subsidiary is manufacturing automatic transmissions, he said that IRGC's policy is to transfer technologies that could play an effective role in manufacturing parts and components needed in various industries in Iran.

The commander said, however, that technology advancements accomplished in the IRGC are mainly intended to boost the military and defensive capabilities of the force.

"We have to create our military and defense power so that the (Iranian) car manufacturer can produce modern and advanced cars for the people that could replace the foreign-made cars," he said.

Since the end of the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran in the late 1980s, the IRGC has set up companies to help with reconstruction efforts in the country and to provide resources for its economic development.

The force now controls powerful technology companies that have played a key role in Iran's efforts to reduce or end reliance on foreign suppliers, especially in the past years as the country has been grappling with a raft of unilateral sanctions imposed by the United States.

The elite military force has denied reports published in the foreign media in recent years which have accused it of having a direct involvement in major economic projects in Iran.

## Hezbollah Says Scored Direct Hit on Israeli Troopers in Dovev Barracks



BEIRUT (Dispatches) - Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement has carried out yet another retaliatory strike against the Israeli forces deployed in the northern part of the occupied Palestinian territories.

The group announced in a statement released via the Telegram messaging app on Friday.

Hezbollah said it staged the operation against the troops stationed at "Dovev Barracks" earlier in the day "with appropriate weapons, hitting them directly."

The Israeli regime has been conducting near-daily attacks against the southern parts of the country since October 7, when it launched a genocidal war on Gaza.

Hezbollah has been responding with strikes aimed both at retaliating against the regime and supporting the war-hit Gazans.

The statement likewise underlined that the latest operation was carried out "in support of our steadfast Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and in support of their brave and honorable resistance and in response to the Israeli enemy's attacks on the steadfast southern [Lebanese] villages and on safe homes."

The regime, which waged wars against Lebanon in 2000 and 2006, has, meanwhile, been repeatedly threatening to expand its attacks into another wholesale military onslaught against the country.

Hezbollah has vowed to defend the Lebanese soil with all its resources.

It has also pledged to avenge the blood of Fuad Shukur, one of the group's senior commanders, and Ismail Haniyeh, political leader of the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas, who were killed in separate assassination operations conducted by Tel Aviv in Beirut and the Iranian capital Tehran.



# IRAN NEWS



## Velayati Congratulates Sinwar on His New Post as Hamas Chief

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Advisor to Iran's Supreme Leader for International Affairs Ali Akbar Velayati has congratulated Yahya Sinwar on his appointment as the head of the political bureau of the Islamic resistance movement, Hamas.

In his congratulatory message to Sinwar on Friday, Velayati stated that Sinwar's election demonstrated Hamas leaders' continued commitment to stand up, fight, and resist the criminal Zionist regime and to liberate Al-Quds even more resolutely than before.

He also honored the memory of the martyr Ismail Haniyeh, who devoted his life to jihad for the sake of God, the realization of the aspirations of the oppressed people of Palestine, and the struggle against the Zionist regime.

Undoubtedly, resistance is the only path to victory, he said, adding that this has been proven to the world by the fighters of the Resistance Front and the courageous people of Palestine and Gaza.

## Daily Consumption of 112m Liters of Gasoline in the Country



TEHRAN - Naser Ashouri Qaleh Roufkhani touched upon the current production and consumption of gasoline. He stated that currently, the country produces 98 to 104 million liters of gasoline per day while consuming 112 million liters, with the difference being imported.

He pointed out that the consumption has increased by around 40% over the past 3 to 4 years, emphasizing the need to control consumption through methods such as price adjustments.

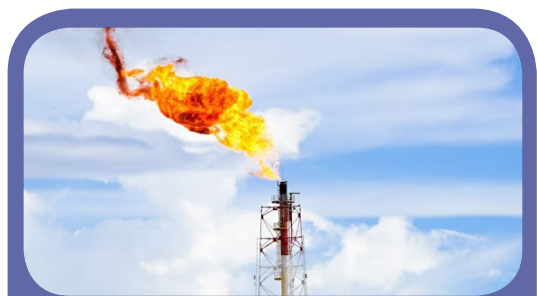
The Secretary of the Oil Refining Industry Association addressed the idea of using methanol to produce gasoline, clarifying that the primary raw materials for gasoline production are oil and gas condensates, and that the country produces high-quality gasoline.

He stressed that no low-quality gasoline is being produced and added that there are no plans to use methanol in gasoline production, and he is unaware of any government plans in this area.

Regarding gasoline exports, Ashouri mentioned that there is currently no gasoline export, although plans to export gasoline and related products are in place. However, the government has not yet granted permission for such exports.

He also stated that there is an intention to export surplus gasoline and diesel, and the private sector has a better capability to enter the export market. Still, permission has not yet been granted.

The Secretary of the National Refining Industry Association emphasized that, given the current increase in gasoline and diesel consumption and domestic needs, exporting these products might not be feasible at the moment. However, there is sufficient capacity and inventory to export jet fuel, and with proper marketing, jet fuel could be sent to target countries.



## New Era in Gas Transition Begins

TEHRAN - Secretary General of the Federation of Oil Exports Erfan Afazeli in an interview discussed the global focus on LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) exports and Iran's position in this sector. He noted that oil demand is expected to peak in 2030, after which the demand will shift towards natural gas and then renewable energy.

Afazeli highlighted that by 2030, natural gas demand is projected to reach 4.7 trillion cubic meters. The two most suitable methods for transporting large volumes of natural gas are pipelines and LNG, with LNG being superior due to its ability to reach remote areas.

The Secretary General of the Federation of Oil Exports stated that LNG exports globalize natural gas. According to the latest BP report from 2021, LNG and liquid gas exports have surpassed pipeline exports.

He further mentioned that in 2023, there was a 2.1% increase in global LNG exchange, reaching 401 million tons. This marked an 8.4 million ton increase from 2022, connecting 20 exporting markets to 51 importing markets, with around 180 companies worldwide participating in this process.

Afazeli pointed out that in 2023, the top LNG exporters were the U.S. (84.5 million tons), Australia (79.6 million tons), Qatar (78.2 million tons), and Russia (39.4 million tons). The largest LNG importers were the European Union (121 million tons), China (71.2 million tons), and Japan (66.1 million tons).

The growth in LNG exports in 2023 was mainly influenced by increases from the U.S. (nearly 9 million tons), Algeria (2.8 million tons), and Mozambique (2.6 million tons). It is anticipated that this capacity will reach 700 million tons within the next 5-6 years. Additionally, 16 terminals were added to the global import terminals in 2023, with 48 LNG transport vessels in operation worldwide.

He added that Iran's share of global gas exports is about 1%, which is a cause for reflection. Currently, the majority of Iran's gas exports are to Turkey and Iraq. The neighboring and regional markets are of particular importance to Iran. However, the pipeline to Pakistan has stalled for various reasons, and Pakistan has turned to LNG imports. There were also plans for the pipeline to extend to India to meet part of its needs, but this did not materialize. The Ministry of Oil decided to replace this pipeline with one to Oman. The proposed pipeline, spanning 1,300 kilometers with a capacity of 25 million cubic meters, required an investment of \$1-1.5 billion, but this project was also not implemented due to insufficient funding.

## HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES MARKET SIZE, 2022 TO 2032 (USD BILLION)



**9% Increase in Home Appliance Production**

TEHRAN - The Deputy of General Industries at the Ministry of Industry, Mines, and Trade announced a 9% increase in the production of home appliances and an 11% increase in exports in the first four months of this year compared to the same period last year.

Mohammad Mehdi Baradaran, speaking on the sidelines of the 24th International Home Appliance Industry Exhibition of Iran (Homex 1403), added that the development of the home appliance industry has been progressing both qualitatively and quantitatively, as well as in the depth of localization.

He further stated that we are currently witnessing significant transformations in the production of large products, small appliances, heating and cooling appliances, gas-powered products, and in the parts sector.

Baradaran mentioned that at the 24th International Home Appliance Industry Exhibition of Iran, products developed with the help of knowledge-based companies, particularly those aimed at "reducing energy consumption"—especially in heaters and air conditioners—are among our priorities.

He also highlighted that the production of 250,000 low-energy air conditioners has had a significant impact on reducing electricity consumption. He emphasized the need for continued development and growth in the production of these items with the support of the Ministry of Petroleum and the Ministry of Energy, which are committed to aiding the Ministry of Industry, Mines, and Trade in reducing energy consumption.

Baradaran noted that the upward trend in the home appliance industry continues strongly, with approximately 14 million units produced in 2020, around 16 million in 2021, approximately 16.5 million in 2022, and over 17.5 million units in 2023.

The Deputy Minister of Industry added that the goal for 2024 is to produce over 20 million units of home appliances. He also mentioned that customer satisfaction in the home appliance industry has improved due to the competitive and active nature of the private sector in this field. They have been able to extend the warranty period of products from 18 to 24 months to enhance customer satisfaction.

Baradaran stated that they have managed to increase the localization depth in various product groups to around 70%.

In addition to quantitative and qualitative growth, new production lines for products that were in demand but not previously manufactured in the country have seen an exponential growth of more than 25% in some product categories compared to previous years, and this trend continues.

Regarding the competitiveness of domestic home appliances with foreign products, Baradaran said that the competitiveness becomes evident when the public shows interest. The significant volume of home appliances being produced and favored by domestic manufacturers, leading to increased exports to the regional market, is a sign of this competitiveness.

He added that manufacturers have concerns regarding banking facilities, timely currency provision, and the supply of modern machinery, which need to be addressed with the cooperation of other agencies. If these issues, including resolving foreign exchange obligations, are addressed, we will witness further leaps in production and exports.

The 24th Home Appliance Exhibition (Homex) began in Tehran on Friday with the participation of top manufacturers and 30 trade delegations from various countries.

The Home Appliance Industry Exhibition, with the slogan "For the People and for Iran," is held at the Tehran International Exhibition Center across 13 halls, covering an area of 22,500 square meters, with the presence of industry professionals and manufacturers.

This exhibition aims to showcase domestic capabilities in the production of home appliances, diversify products, utilize the capacity of knowledge-based companies in production, and strengthen relationships with neighboring and target countries for export and foreign exchange earnings.

Unveiling innovative products and services in the home appliance industry is one of the most important aspects of this exhibition, where 13 production units will present their achievements.

The participation of 30 trade delegations from various countries to foster commercial and economic relations is another highlight of this exhibition.

The 24th Home Appliance Exhibition is open daily from 8 AM to 3 PM and will continue until August 12th.

## 16th Int'l Financial Industry Exhibition Begins

TEHRAN - The 16th International Financial Industry Exhibition of Iran (Stock Exchange, Banking, and Insurance) kicked off on Friday with the presence of officials and economic activists.

The 16th International Financial Industry Exhibition of Iran (Stock Exchange, Banking, and Insurance), recognized as the largest and most established event in the financial, investment, and financial technology sectors of the country over the past two decades, began today, August 9th.

In recent years, this international exhibition has become one of the most important and well-attended economic events in the West Asia region. In its 16th edition, it plays a significant role in enhancing the knowledge and awareness of participants and visitors through specialized workshops, seminars, and sessions.

The primary objectives of this exhibition, which is held to showcase capabilities, achievements, and synergies among domestic and international financial institutions, include presenting the latest achievements and capabilities of the country in the financial industry, familiarizing Iranian companies and organizations with the latest global technologies related to the exhibition, attracting domestic and foreign investment, promoting a culture of interaction through direct communication and building public trust, gathering idle liquidity in society and directing it towards constructive paths through bank savings.

Other objectives of this exhibition include encouraging investment in the stock exchange, building trust in insurance and the security it provides, promoting commercial exchanges and technology among participants and visitors, educating in the creation and development of financial communication channels between banks and domestic investment organizations with foreign parties, improving the quality of banking, insurance, and stock exchange activities concerning the delivery of services to the audience, and promoting employment through the development of industries and services.

Additionally, familiarizing decision-making and decision-shaping managers of the country in both the public and private sectors with the capabilities and achievements of stakeholders, transferring up-to-date information and technologies through various scientific and commercial workshops and conferences



related to the exhibition's themes, and developing industries and services related to the exhibition in areas such as mechanization and the use of IT technologies are also among the exhibition's goals.

Moreover, public and private banks, credit institutions, credit cooperatives, exchanges, leasing companies, microfinance institutions, related services and startups; stock market pillars, associations, brokers, investment companies, investment funds, consulting and investment firms, portfolio

management companies, financial information companies, holding companies, rating agencies, trusted auditors, related services and startups; insurance companies, insurance brokers, loss assessors, related services and startups; IT service companies, educational institutions, universities, associations, technical and engineering services and equipment, stock publishers, news agencies, and stock exchange portals, public institutions, governmental institutions, regulatory bodies, and other financial institutions are among the participants in the 16th International Financial Industry Exhibition of Iran.

Additionally, the exhibition aims to develop cooperation with commercial partners and provide a platform through the implementation of guidelines from the country's professors and decision-makers by forming a policy council, showcasing the capabilities, achievements, and capacities of Iran's financial industry both domestically and internationally in line with recent changes, creating suitable conditions for active participation and expanding commercial interactions, presenting the hidden potentials of financial markets to the public to explain appropriate investment methods and protecting capital in the business and economic environment, creating a suitable space for dialogue, interaction, and cooperation among enthusiasts, students, experts, specialists, veterans, and activists in domestic and international financial markets, and providing a suitable cultural and specialized environment for the educational community of the country to benefit from financial markets.

The 16th edition of the International Financial Industry Exhibition of Iran will host audiences, experts, and enthusiasts in the fields of stock exchange, banking, insurance, and other economic sectors from August 9 to August 12, from 8 AM to 3 PM, at the permanent exhibition center in Tehran.

## BRICS Welcomes Iran's Proposal for Financial Exchanges



TEHRAN - The Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Russian Federation announced that the members of the BRICS group have welcomed Iran's proposal to design financial exchange mechanisms that would make member countries independent of Western systems.

In an interview with an IRNA, Kazem Jalali explained the reasoning behind this proposal: "Currently, the number of countries under sanctions worldwide is increasing, and Western powers, particularly the United States, are attempting to misuse sanctions as a weapon."

He emphasized that the worst kind of sanctions are those in the banking and financial sectors, and therefore, sanctioned countries must be prepared to counteract this Western approach. The Iranian ambassador noted that many international financial and banking mechanisms are concentrated in the West. For example, when discussing the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), its main headquarters are in France and the United States; the same goes for other mechanisms in the financial and banking sectors.

Jalali stated that BRICS member countries could enhance their mutual cooperation by designing new financial and banking mechanisms for their exchanges. He added that when this proposal was presented to Russian officials (as Russia holds the rotating BRICS presidency in 2024) and other member countries, they welcomed Iran's idea of designing new financial mechanisms within this group.

The Iranian diplomat said that the new BRICS financial mechanisms could include linking the messaging systems of member countries and could even address issues such as anti-money laundering within the member states, effectively localizing these mechanisms. He clarified that this does not mean nationalizing these mechanisms, but rather that independent and influential countries in the global economy should create new mechanisms and organizations.

Jalali continued, stating that one of the mechanisms under review in BRICS is the connection of messaging systems, which has been well received and is being pursued vigorously.

The Iranian ambassador in Moscow mentioned that given that most global financial transactions are conducted in dollars, followed by euros and yuans, there is a strong determination among BRICS member countries to move toward de-dollarization. He recalled that the Islamic Republic of Iran had previously pursued the idea of using national currencies and finding alternatives to the dollar, a concept that Russian President Vladimir Putin has also raised several times.

Jalali noted that the idea of BRICS having its own separate currency is now being studied and reviewed. He added that given the significant influence of BRICS member countries on the global economy, any decision regarding a BRICS currency could play an important role in the de-dollarization process.

## Increase in Iranian Carpet Exports to Brazil Through Joint Film Productions



TEHRAN - Fakhruddin Amiri, the head of the Iran-Brazil Chamber of Commerce, discussed the impact of producing cultural television and cinematic products on the development of Iran's trade.

He explained that in recent years, the production of several joint comedy films between Iran and Brazil has led to an increase in the export of Iranian handwoven carpets to Brazil. This phenomenon is not unique to Iran and Brazil; India and Brazil also produced a documentary about their respective countries, which created an opportunity for mutual awareness of each other's goods, subsequently boosting exports.

Amiri added that artists from both countries participate in these joint film productions, which are screened in both countries. In Iran's case, this has the unique advantage of not only showcasing Iranian goods but also presenting a different image of Iran to Brazilian audiences. He noted that Brazilians have little knowledge of modern Iranian society and sometimes even fail to distinguish between Iran and Iraq, despite traveling to Turkey and the UAE. However, Iran is not on their list of tourist destinations.

Amiri continued by mentioning that the Iran-Brazil Chamber of Commerce has been negotiating with some Brazilian television networks to produce a documentary about Iran. This documentary would highlight Iran's tourism potential and products with export potential to Brazil. However, details such as the budget and necessary permits for the project have not yet been finalized.



## U.S. Releases \$3.5b to Israel to Spend on U.S. Weapons

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - Washington will provide Israel \$3.5 billion to spend on U.S. weapons and military equipment, the State Department said on Friday, with the release of the money coming months after the U.S. Congress appropriated it during Israel's war in Gaza.

A State Department spokesperson said on Friday that the department notified Congress on Thursday that the government intended to release the billions of dollars worth of foreign military financing to Israel. CNN reported earlier on the release of this amount which comes from a \$14 billion supplemental funding bill for Israel passed by the Congress in April.

Tensions in the Middle East have been mounting and many fear a widening of Israel's war in Gaza that has already killed tens of thousands and caused a humanitarian crisis.

There has been an increased risk of escalation into a broader Middle East war after recent killings of Palestinian Islamist group Hamas' leader Ismail Haniyeh in Iran and of Hezbollah military commander Fuad Shukur in Beirut drew threats of retaliation against Israel.

The latest bloodshed in the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian conflict was triggered on Oct. 7 when Hamas attacked Israel, killing 1,200 and taking about 250 hostages, according to Israeli tallies.



## Bangladesh's Hasina Did Not Resign Before Fleeing



NEW DELHI (Reuters) - Long-time Bangladeshi leader Sheikh Hasina had not resigned as prime minister before fleeing this week to India as anti-government protesters marched on her official residence, her son and adviser told Reuters early on Saturday.

Hasina has been sheltering in New Delhi since Monday following an uprising that killed about 300 people, many of them students, ending her uninterrupted rule of 15 years in the country of 170 million people.

"My mother never officially resigned. She didn't get the time," Hasina's son Sajeeb Wazed told Reuters from Washington.

"She had planned to make a statement and submit her resignation. But then the protesters started marching on the prime minister's residence. And there was no time. My mother wasn't even packed. As far as the constitution goes, she is still the prime minister of Bangladesh."

He said though the president had dissolved parliament after consulting with military chiefs and opposition politicians, the formation of a caretaker government without the prime minister actually formally resigning "can be challenged in court".

Wazed also said Hasina's Awami League party would contest the next election, which he said must be held within three months.

"I'm confident the Awami League will come to power. If not, we will be the opposition. Either way is fine," he said.

He said he was encouraged by a recent statement from Khaleda Zia, chief of the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and a Hasina foe, that there should be no revenge or vengeance after Hasina fled.

## U.S. to Lift Ban on Offensive Weapons Sales to Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - The Biden administration has decided to lift a ban on U.S. sales of offensive weapons to Saudi Arabia, the State Department said on Friday, reversing a three-year-old policy to pressure the kingdom to wind down the Yemen war.

The State Department was lifting its suspension on certain transfers of air-to-ground munitions to Saudi Arabia, a senior department official confirmed. "We will consider new transfers on a typical case-by-case basis consistent with the Conventional Arms Transfer Policy," the official said.

Reuters was first to report the decision earlier, citing five sources.

The administration briefed Congress this week on its decision to lift the ban, a congressional aide said. One source said sales could resume as early as next week. The U.S. government was moving ahead on Friday afternoon with notifications about a sale, a person briefed on the matter said.

"The Saudis have met their end of the deal, and we are prepared to meet ours," a senior Biden administration official said.

Under U.S. law, major international weapons deals must be reviewed by members of Congress before they are made final. Democratic and Republican lawmakers have questioned the provision of offensive weapons to Saudi Arabia in recent years, citing issues including the toll on civilians of its campaign in Yemen and a range of human rights concerns.

But that opposition has softened amid turmoil in the Middle East following Hamas' deadly Oct. 7 attack on Israel and because of changes in the conduct of the campaign in Yemen.

Since March 2022 - when the Saudis and Houthis entered into a U.N.-led truce - there have not been any Saudi airstrikes in Yemen and cross-border fire from Yemen into the kingdom has largely stopped, the administration official said.

"We also note the positive steps that the Saudi Ministry of Defense have taken over the past three years to substantially improve their civilian harm mitigation processes, in part thanks to the work of U.S. trainers and advisors," the State Department official said.

Yemen's war is seen as one of several proxy battles between Iran and Saudi Arabia. The Houthis ousted a Saudi-backed government from Sanaa in late 2014 and have been at war against a Saudi-led military alliance since 2015, a conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands of people and left 80% of Yemen's population dependent on humanitarian aid.

Biden adopted the tougher stance on weapons sales to Saudi Arabia in 2021, citing the kingdom's campaign against the Houthis in Yemen, which has inflicted heavy civilian casualties.

Ties between the kingdom and the United States have warmed since then, as Washington has worked more closely with Riyadh in the aftermath of Hamas' Oct. 7 attack to devise a plan for post-war Gaza.

The Biden administration also has been negotiating a defense pact and an agreement for civil nuclear cooperation with Riyadh as part of a broad deal that envisions Saudi Arabia normalizing ties with Israel, although that remains an elusive goal.

The decision comes as the threat level in the region has been heightened since late last month, with Iran and Lebanon's powerful Hezbollah group vowing to retaliate against Israel after Hamas' political chief Ismail Haniyeh was killed in Tehran.

The Houthis have emerged as a strong supporter of the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas in its war against Israel. Earlier this year, they attacked commercial ships that they said are linked to Israel or bound for Israeli ports.

## Plane Carrying 61 Crashes in Brazil's Sao Paulo State

SAO PAULO (Dispatches) - A regional turboprop plane fell into what aviation experts called a flat spin before crashing in a residential neighborhood near Sao Paulo in Brazil on Friday, killing all 61 people on board.

Regional carrier Voepass said the plane, bound for Sao Paulo's international airport, took off from Cascavel, in the state of Parana, and crashed at around 1:30 p.m. (1630 GMT) in the town of Vinhedo, some 80 km (50 miles) northwest of Sao Paulo.

Video shared on social media showed the ATR-72 aircraft spinning out of control as it plunged down behind a cluster of trees near houses, followed by a large plume of black smoke.

Nearby resident Daniel de Lima said he heard a loud noise before looking outside his condominium in Vinhedo and seeing the plane in a horizontal spiral.

"It was rotating, but it wasn't moving forward," he told Reuters. "Soon after it fell out of the sky and exploded."

City officials at Valinhos, near Vinhedo, said a home in the local condominium complex had been damaged after the plane crashed into its backyard. None of the residents were hurt.

"I almost believe the pilot tried to avoid a nearby neighborhood, which is densely populated," de Lima said.

The plane's unusual final circling motion before hitting the ground triggered widespread curiosity among aviation experts, leading some to speculate that ice had built up on the plane or it had experienced engine failure, but investigators said it was too early to determine the cause of the crash.

"Today ice was predicted (at the altitudes the plane was flying at), but within the acceptable range," Voepass Chief Operations Officer Marcel Moura told a press conference.

"But the plane is sensitive to ice, that could be a starting point," Moura said, adding the plane's



de-icing system, along with all other systems, had been deemed operational before takeoff.

Brazilian aviation engineer and crash investigator Celso Faria de Souza told Reuters that a buildup of ice could have caused the plane to stall and spiral in the way that it did.

An ATR-72 crashed in 1994 in Indiana, killing 68, after the plane was unable to bank due to ice accretion. Another ATR-72 stalled out in 2016 in Norway after ice built up on the plane, but the pilot was able to regain control of the aircraft.

An ATR-27 also crashed in Nepal in 2023, with the final report attributing pilot error.

The head of Brazilian aviation accident investigation center Cenipa said the plane's so-called "black box" containing voice recordings and flight data had been

recovered from the site.

U.S. aviation safety expert Anthony Brickhouse said investigators would look at things like weather and whether the engines and controls were functioning properly ahead of the crash.

"From what I've seen, it was definitely what we would call loss of control," he said.

Flightradar data showed significant gyrations in speed before the crash, U.S. aviation safety consultant and former commercial pilot John Cox said, cautioning that he would want to verify the data but that something "really significant" happened to cause the plane to spin when it came down.

"It appears that there may have been some catastrophic event before that loss of control," he said. Cenipa head Marcelo Moreno told a press conference that initial reports indicated the aircraft had not reached out to traffic control to report an emergency.

Voepass, Brazil's fourth-largest airline by market share, had originally reported 62 people aboard the aircraft. Local outlet Globo News interviewed two men who said they had missed the flight.

In total, the plane was carrying 57 passengers and four crew, Voepass said. All were carrying Brazilian-issued documents, the carrier reported.

## Catalan Separatist Leader Says He Is Back in Belgium

BARCELONA (Dispatches) - Catalan separatist leader Carles Puigdemont said on Friday he was back in Belgium after dodging arrest during a brief return to Spain and never had the intention of surrendering himself.

"I'm in Waterloo after extremely difficult days," he wrote on X. Puigdemont has lived in self-imposed exile since leading a failed bid for Catalonia's secession in 2017.

Puigdemont briefly returned to Spain after seven years of self-imposed exile, defying an arrest warrant to address a rally of supporters on Thursday, then escaped in scenes worthy of a crime caper film, angering opposition politicians and the judiciary.

Eduard Sallent, commissioner of Catalan regional police Mossos d'Esquadra said his officers had waited until after the rally to avoid a public confrontation.

But on ending his speech, Puigdemont went backstage and slipped behind a tent where he put on a baseball cap and jumped into a car parked nearby, the police chief said.

Officers raced towards the vehicle but a group of around 50 people, all wearing straw hats, "made a wall" to block them, the chief said. Police were two metres (6-1/2 feet) away when the car sped off, he said.

"It was an operation that failed in its objective of arresting Puigdemont, which can be defined as a mistake, but we weren't made to look like fools. The Mossos did what they were asked to do," he said.

Sallent earlier cast doubt on accounts that Puigdemont had left Spain and said the hunt for the Catalan leader continued.

## Ukraine Volunteers Evacuate Residents Near Russia's Embattled Kursk Region

SUMY REGION (Dispatches) - Ukrainian volunteers evacuated dozens of residents, and their pets, from northern Sumy region in anticipation of more Russian attacks in response to Ukraine's cross-border military incursion into the Kursk region.

The residents trundled toward the pick-up point, their overflowing carrier bags loaded onto carts, as Russian forces intensified aerial guided bomb attacks.

Svitlana Linova, pushing her bicycle with her cat Murchik in its carrier, was in no doubt it was time to go.

"There was such heavy shelling yesterday from the other side of the border," she said. "The lamp and ceiling started to fall."

She said she had untied her neighbors' dogs and let them go free when it became apparent they would not be returning anytime soon.

Sumy Governor Volodymyr Artiukh ordered 28 villages evacuated from a 10-km (six-mile) zone hugging the border. National police said on Friday that 20,000 would have to leave.

Evacuee Serhiy Kozak said residents of the eight houses making up his village of Basivka had seen enough of war, launched when the Kremlin sent tens of thousands of troops into Ukraine in February 2022.

"Some houses have been hit twice, others three times," he said. "There was another hit around this in the morning and I jumped out. And just before four, another hit. Panes of glass shattered. What else is there to say?"

Kozak said the latest attacks involved planes flying in over the border from Kursk region. "They dropped a load of ammunition at Basivka, diverted and left. The same with helicopters, they fly over the border and start shelling."

The evacuees, many relying on canes for support, were helped into mini-vans by volunteers in bullet proof vests and taken to reception centres outside the danger zone. Pets were hoisted in alongside them, one dog stuffed into a small carrier bag.

Ukrainian officials have remained largely silent about the incursion into Kursk region, but unofficial reports from both sides note that four days into the operation they are advancing.

Volunteer Vlad Polyansky from the group SOS East, said 24 people were picked up and transported throughout the day on Friday.

"With the operation going on in Kursk region, hardly anyone would think that Moscow is going to like this," he said. "We expect the shelling of border areas to get worse."







## Spain Beat France in Classic Final to Win Olympic Men's Football Gold

PARIS (Dispatches) - Substitute Sergio Camello struck twice in extra time to settle a remarkable Olympic men's football final on Friday as Spain beat France 5-3 to take gold after Thierry Henry's hosts had earlier staged a dramatic comeback.

It had looked as though Spain were going to run away with victory at the Parc des Princes when they recovered from conceding an early goal to lead 3-1 by half-time.

Enzo Millot put France in front, but a Fermin Lopez brace and an Alex Baena free-kick turned the final completely on its head.

However, France staged a memorable comeback with Maghnes Akliouche pulling a goal back before Jean-Philippe Mateta converted a stoppage-time penalty awarded following a VAR review.

That took the final into extra time, where Rayo Vallecano forward Camello emerged as the hero by giving Spain the lead again in the 100th minute of an absorbing game, and then running away to seal their victory at the death.

"Coaches don't go up onto the podium. That is for the players. They did this. They fought like a family," Spain coach Santi Denia told radio station Cadena Cope.

"Luckily we have got the gold that Spain had been looking so hard for."

Silver medallists in Tokyo three years ago, it is the second time Spain have won Olympic men's football gold after their victory in Barcelona in 1992 with a squad featuring Pep Guardiola and Luis Enrique.

France had hoped for a second gold of their own, 40 years after winning in Los Angeles, but instead have to settle for silver.

"It didn't finish the way we wanted it to but it was still really an extraordinary evening," said Henry.

"It's been a great run and we leave with a medal, so these will be great memories."

The victory completes a glorious summer on the pitch for Spain's men after their triumph at the Euros in Germany last month. They also recently won the Under-19 Euros by beating France in the final.

However, Henry's team leave with their heads held high at the end of a classic match, the

scenario of which recalled memories of the 2022 World Cup final which France lost on penalties to Argentina after a similar comeback attempt.

France went ahead after just 11 minutes thanks to Millot, who collected a Baena clearance just inside the box wide on the right and tried a first-time shot that caught out goalkeeper Arnaud Tenas.

However, Spain were quickly level thanks to Lopez, who finished from a Baena assist at the end of a 26-pass move.

Spain then went ahead on 25 minutes when a Juan Miranda cross was not dealt with by the French defense and Lopez converted the rebound after Guillaume Restes had saved from Abel Ruiz.

It was a sixth goal at the Olympics for Barcelona midfielder Lopez, who has had an outstanding tournament.

The game had barely restarted when Miranda was fouled just outside the box and Villarreal midfielder Baena scored from the resulting free-kick.

France had to chase the game but Mateta was denied by a superb Tenas save in first-half stoppage time, and Manu Kone headed against the bar just before the hour.

Tenas, of Paris Saint-Germain, distinguished himself again by tipping a Kone shot around the post, before France scored a second goal on 79 minutes when Akliouche finished a Michael Olise free-kick.

That set the scene for what felt like inevitable last-minute penalty drama, with the referee initially giving nothing when Benat Turrientes wrestled Arnaud Kalimuendo to the ground.

He changed his mind after a VAR review, and Mateta converted the spot-kick to equalise in the 93rd minute.

There was still time for Turrientes to hit the bar before the game moved into extra time, in which Spain went back in front, this time for good.

Adrian Bernabe released Camello and he beat Restes with a clipped finish to make it 4-3, before later running clear to score his team's fifth.

## Nasar Wins Olympic Weightlifting Gold With New World Record



PARIS (Dispatches) - Bulgarian Karlos Nasar became the lightest man to lift 400 kilogrammes in competition as he shattered the men's 89kg weightlifting world record at the Olympics on Friday.

"The Olympic Games are like going into space for me and I feel like I'm on Mars," said the 20-year-old Nasar.

In the women's 71kg competition, 21-year-old American Olivia Reeves lifted a total 262kg to win by 5kg. Colombian Mari Sanchez took second with her last lift, edging past Ecuadorian Angie Palacios by 1kg.

Nasar was tied for first after lifting 180kg in the opening snatch round. The 20-year-old then delayed his entry in the clean and jerk until most of his rivals had used their three attempts at lower weights.

With his first lift he flipped 213 kilogrammes over his head to secure the gold.

That left him two attempts to total 400kg and he opted to aim high.

Nasar seemed barely troubled. Pausing an extra beat with the bar on his chest, he grinned, before hoisting a world record 224kg over his head for a total of 404kg, another record.

Nasar has reportedly lifted even greater weights in training.

"I have visualised the win many times and I succeeded each time," he said.

When asked if he was playing to the camera, Nasar grinned.

"Sometimes the emotions that I show, I cannot control," he said. "Sometimes I don't even remember what happened on the stage."

## Djokovic Withdraws From Cincinnati Open

LONDON (Dispatches) - Defending champion Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from next week's Cincinnati Open on the heels of his triumph in the singles event at the Paris Olympics, organizers said.

The announcement of the Serbian's decision to skip the U.S. Open tune-up event comes four days after he beat Carlos Alcaraz in Paris to become only the fifth player to win all four singles Grand Slams and the Olympic title during their careers.

"We certainly understand that it is a quick turnaround from his Olympic triumph to come to Cincinnati," Tournament Director Bob Moran said in a news release. "His title run here last year was so memorable. We are eager to see him on court again soon."

Djokovic's withdrawal moves Frenchman Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard into the draw.

Last year in Cincinnati, which was Djokovic's first event on U.S. soil in two years because of COVID-19 restrictions, the Serbian beat Alcaraz in the final before going to the U.S. Open where he won the most recent of his 24 Grand Slam titles.

Meanwhile Rafael Nadal has decided not to participate in the U.S. Open due to concerns about his fitness, the Spaniard said while adding his next event will be the Laver Cup in late September.

For Nadal, who won the most recent of his four U.S. Open titles in 2019, this marks the second consecutive year he has sat out the year's

final Grand Slam.

"Writing today to let you guys know that I have decided not to compete at this year's US Open a place where I have amazing memories," the 38-year-old Nadal said in a post on X.

"I will miss those electric and special night sessions in NYC at Ashe, but I don't think I would be able to give my 100% this time."

Nadal added that his next event will be the Sept. 20-22 Laver Cup in Berlin.

The 22-times Grand Slam winner competed at the Paris Olympics where he lost to eventual champion Novak Djokovic in the second round of the singles competition and reached the quarter-finals of the doubles with Carlos Alcaraz.

"Rafa is a tremendous champion and he will be missed during the 2024 US Open by the fans and all those associated with the tournament," U.S. Open Tournament Director Stacey Allaster said in a statement.

"We wish him all the best and look forward to having him back at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center."

The 38-year-old former world number one has fallen to 159th in the rankings after struggling for two years with injuries and against Djokovic at the Olympics suffered one of his worst losses in a 6-1 6-4 defeat.



Nadal sat out the Australian Open in January after suffering a small muscle tear during his comeback from a long injury layoff and in May crashed to his earliest French Open exit when he lost in the first round.

The Spaniard skipped Wimbledon to prepare for the Paris Olympics where the tennis event was played on the clay courts at Roland Garros where he celebrated 14 French Open titles.

## Rain Wrecks Full Day's ATP Play in Montreal



MONTREAL (Dispatches) - The ATP Montreal Masters was hit by a total washout on Friday as the after-effects of a tropical storm were felt in Canada.

Officials were hoping against the odds that play might just get underway at an event which only ends on Monday due to Olympic scheduling.

But matters were not helped by steady rains from tropical storm Debby that arrived from the United States.

Organisers pulled the plug in early afternoon, leaving three leftover second-round matches as well as the entire third round still to play.

Forecasts suggested that the worst of the weather would be done by Saturday morning.

Off court, top-seed Jannik Sinner was relieved of one obligation when his British doubles partner, Jack Draper, withdrew from doubles on Friday morning, freeing the Italian to concentrate on defending his Canada singles title.

The world number one is competing for the first time since losing a Wimbledon quarter-final a month ago while feeling poorly.

Sinner later had to withdraw from the Paris Olympics with tonsillitis and is still regaining top form.

"After Miami (which he won in April), it's the first time back on hardcourt and the first match is always very difficult and tough," Sinner said.

"I was fortunate to play a couple of matches in doubles to get this match feeling back. I don't watch about (if) I lost or won.

"I'm thinking about myself, about my game, what I have to improve, what I have to do to get better. That's the most important thing at the moment for me."

The 22-year-old and his team have a simple plan for the rest of the event and into Cincinnati next week.

"I want to play as many matches as possible here in the US swing now -- but to do that I have to improve my serve a little bit.

"In the beginning (of the week), I was not in perfect shape, physically and tennis-wise. I hadn't touched a racquet for quite a long time.

"You can feel good in practice sessions, but at the end of the day what matters is how you play on the match days."

When he resumes play at the weekend, Sinner will bid for the quarter-finals against Canadian-Chilean Alejandro Tabilo.

## China's Ma Writes Name in History Books

PARIS (Dispatches) - Ma Long stood on top of the podium, the gold medal shining around his neck as the crowd erupted in applause. No stranger to the gold, he still paused to take a hard look.

On Friday Ma, one of the true greats of the game, wrote his name into the history books by becoming China's most decorated Olympian with six golds in all, dating back to the London 2012 Games.

Alongside teammates Fan Zhendong and Wang Chuqin, Ma and his team overcame Sweden, marking a perfect ending to his own illustrious Olympic journey.

"This is my last Olympics and the experience is perfect. I feel very proud and lucky," said Ma, who said he'll be busy trading pins with other countries' teams in the few days left at the Olympics.

Ma said he's glad to get the "perfect ending" in his last Olympics after he and his teammates Fan Zhendong and Wang Chuqin beat Sweden on Friday.

Growing up in northeastern China, Ma, now married with a child, has had an unusually long career representing his country, which dominates the sport of table tennis like no other, in three consecutive Olympics.

Ma didn't want to highlight his personal accomplishments, however, instead attributing his success to strong team support in China.

Speaking after securing the gold, Ma paid tribute to Timo Boll, the four-time Olympic medalist who bid his farewell

to international competition in Paris earlier this week after his team, Germany, was eliminated.

"I was also very moved at that moment. Boll's retirement marks the end of a career that has undoubtedly influenced many athletes, including myself. He has earned a lot of respect. This is what makes great athletes special — they provide unforgettable experiences for ordinary people."

The only time he might sound less humble was when he was asked about Sweden's prospects in the upcoming 2028 LA Games.

"From the Swedish team's performance this time, you

can see that they still have a strong impact and desire for the championship. I look forward to them delivering an even better performance. But I still believe that the Chinese team remains the strongest."

At 35, Ma says he has no plans yet to retire completely. He hopes he can continue to inspire others with his storied career.

"They can continue to feel the charm that competitive sports bring, whether it's the willingness to give everything for their dreams or the experiences each athlete goes through," said Ma.

