

Iran Has Launched 10 Homegrown Coastguard and Guide Vessels During a Visit by President Masoud Pezeshkian to the Persian Gulf Port city of Bushehr

IRAN NEWS

Foreign Ministry Released a Fact Sheet Featuring the U.S. Long List of Historically Hostile Actions Towards the Islamic Republic, Denouncing Washington's Hypocritical Approach Towards the country

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Tehran Rejects Baseless U.S. Claim of Arming, Funding Yemeni Forces



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TEHRAN - Iran's Permanent Mission to the UN has categorically dismissed as "baseless" the United States' accusations about the provision of arms and money to the Yemeni resistance forces, saying the Islamic Republic has always supported peace and stability in the Arabian Peninsula country.

In a letter sent to the UN chief and the president of the Security Council on Thursday, the mission emphasized that Washington cannot hide its complicity in Israel's crimes by pinning the blame on Iran for regional tensions.

"Unlike the United States that provides weapons and extensive financial support to the Israeli regime to continue its aggression against the oppressed people of the region, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been and will keep adhering to the fundamental principles of the international law, the United Nations Charter, and Security Council resolutions," it added.

Tehran has adopted a "unified and stable" position on the Yemen crisis and believes that the conflict must be resolved via a "comprehensive political process" that guarantees the country's independence, national sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity.

The US, UK, and Israel have launched attacks across Yemen over the past months in violation of the country's sovereignty and international law.

The illegal attacks came in response to Yemen's campaign to show solidarity with the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip amid a genocidal Israeli war.

The Iranian mission said, "Since the beginning of the Yemen crisis, the Islamic Republic of Iran has called for an immediate end to aggression, a ceasefire, the start of meaningful dialogue between Yemeni parties, and the peaceful settlement of the conflict with no foreign interference."

The future of Yemen must be determined by its own people, it noted, stressing that lasting peace is only possible there "through diplomacy, respect for national sovereignty, and adherence to international law, not through military interventions or false accusations."

Speaking at a Security Council briefing on Yemen, US Deputy Representative to the UN Dorothy Shea alleged that Iran's material and financial support had enabled Yemen's Ansarullah resistance fighters to launch "numerous attacks on civilian infrastructure" and fire at American warships.

Trump Talks Offer Part of Maximum Pressure



TEHRAN (PressTV) - A senior advisor to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei says the US contradictory approach towards Iran is part of Washington's so-called maximum pressure policy and fails to reflect its genuine readiness to hold talks with Tehran.

Ali Shamkhani said the U.S. proposes holding dialogue with Iran but at the same time it intensifies sanctions against the country.

Negotiation should be carried out at the proper time from a position of strength and with the aim of securing national interests, not as a solution to internal problems, he added.

He emphasized that negotiations would be meaningful only if both sides demonstrate the necessary will and capacity to reach a lasting agreement, but "experience proves that the U.S. has not remained committed to its obligations."

The senior official once again reaffirmed Iran's commitment to the talks to revive the 2015 nuclear agreement, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), despite the U.S.' unilateral withdrawal.

Shamkhani said Iran has not abandoned negotiations; rather, it is the United States and Europe that failed to live up to their commitments and must remove the sanctions imposed on the country.

He criticized the U.S. policies and its "unreliable" proposal for negotiation, adding that talks hinge on adoption of a logical and respectful approach on the part of the European signatories to the JCPOA.

Pezeshkian Warns Enemies of Hitting Iran's Nuclear Centers

TEHRAN - President Masoud Pezeshkian says if the enemies strike Iran's nuclear facilities, the country's youth will be ready to simply rebuild.

"They threaten us by hitting our nuclear centers. But you cannot destroy the brains of our children," Pezeshkian said Thursday during a speech in Bushehr, home to one of Iran's biggest nuclear plants.

"If you hit 100 nuclear centers, our children will build a thousand other ones," he said, addressing Iran's enemies.

U.S. President Donald Trump raised on Monday the possibility of Israel hitting Iran in an interview with Fox News saying he would prefer to make a deal with Iran.

On Thursday, Iran's Air Force chief Gen. Hamid Vahedi said, "We tell all countries, friends and foes alike, that our country's doctrine is defensive, but we will respond with force against any enemy attack."

Pezeshkian visited the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant, which is located in southern Iran, authorizing operations at Units 2 and 3 of the facility, the Islamic Republic's sole nuclear power plant.

He toured various sections of the first Unit of the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant, including its control room and turbine, where plant managers and experts briefed him on the details of the plant's operations, electricity production, and power transmission to the grid.

He also visited the construction sites of Units 2 and 3 of the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant and, at the end of the tour, ordered the installation of the first key equipment component for Unit 2's reactor building to enhance safety standards, along with the excavation of pump house buildings for both units.

The first phase of the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant, currently operating at a capacity of 1,015 megawatts, has generated 72 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity over 11 years since its commissioning. This has prevented the consumption of 114 million barrels of crude oil, saving over \$8 billion in fossil fuel costs.

Besides recovering an investment equivalent to four times the plant's construction cost,



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its operation has also facilitated the training of specialized personnel and the expansion of clean and sustainable energy production.

Units 2 and 3 of the power plant each have a nominal production capacity of 1,057 megawatts.

According to Mohammad Eslami, head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), the facility has, over the recent years, made significant advances, leading to the generation of as much as 7.4 billion kilowatts of nuclear electricity.

Meanwhile later Pezeshkian warned that enemies are desperately seeking to subjugate the Iranian people through sanctions and threats but all in vain.

"The enemies want us to be humiliated before them with sanctions and threats but we will not be subjugated and we will solve our problems by relying on the people," Pezeshkian said in a meeting with intellectuals and elites of the southern province of Bushehr.

He slammed the United States' contradictory approach to Iran, saying US President Donald Trump claims that he wants to negotiate with Iran but at the same time imposes the toughest sanctions against Tehran.

"We do not want anyone to sanction us," Pezeshkian said, adding, however, "It is not that if the US imposes sanctions on us, we cannot do anything. We will run the country by reliance on domestic capabilities."

He reiterated Iran's policy to interact with all countries in a spirit of peace and fraternity, emphasizing, "We strive to establish cordial and friendly relations with our neighbors."

Pezeshkian expressed Iran's keenness to negotiate and criticized Washington's claims about its willingness to hold talks with Tehran while restricting the access of Iranian people to essentials, including medicine.

The president added that solidarity, interaction and planning play a key role in settling domestic problems.



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citing UN reports that an estimated 42,500 individuals with suspected ties to the Daesh Takfiri terrorist group - which was vanquished by Syria and its allies, including Iran and Russia, in 2017 - remained in detention camps in northeastern Syria.

The official called for a structured and accountable process for repatriating these individuals to their home countries and holding them legally accountable.

"Iran remains firmly committed to combating terrorism and is prepared to cooperate with legitimate international partners to address this critical challenge."

Iravani also lambasted the Israeli regime's ongoing violations of the Syrian sovereignty, denouncing Tel Aviv for systematically targeting the country's military and research infrastructure with US backing.

"Israel continues to be a serious threat to Syria, repeatedly violating its sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said. "Despite numerous Security Council resolutions, the regime refuses to withdraw from the occupied Golan Heights and instead expands its occupation."

Iravani, therefore, urged the Security Council to take decisive action against the Israeli aggression and to hold the regime accountable for its attacks on the Syrian territory.

Reaffirming Iran's stance on Syria's future, Iravani stressed that only the Syrian people had to determine their country's path, free from external interference.

He reiterated the Islamic Republic's support for formation of an inclusive government in Syria based on national dialog and proportional representation, with UN Resolution 2254 - which called for a ceasefire and political settlement in Syria in 2015 - providing the necessary framework for constitutional reform.

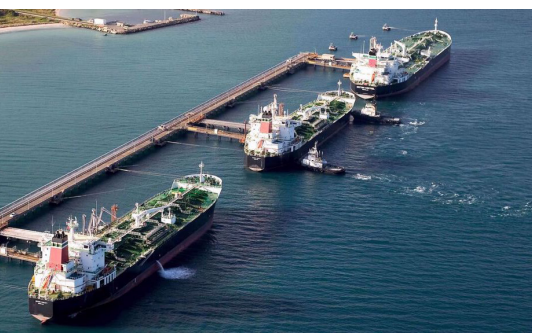
"The future of Syria must be determined solely by its people," he asserted. "Iran fully supports the formation of a government through free elections, ensuring a fair process that reflects the will of all Syrians."

In conclusion, the Iranian ambassador reaffirmed the country's role as a constructive partner in efforts to achieve lasting peace in Syria.

He expressed full support for the UN Special Envoy Geir Pedersen's efforts and called for a greater international commitment to Syria's reconstruction and stabilization.

Iran remains dedicated to working in coordination with the United Nations and regional partners to achieve lasting peace and stability in Syria, Iravani stated.

Iran's Oil Output Up Nearly 13% in 2024



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iran raised its oil production by 13% in 2024 despite grappling with increased pressure of US sanctions.

Latest data from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) show that Iran's oil production rose significantly in 2024 despite US efforts to ramp pressure on the country's energy sector through imposing back-to-back sanctions on its oil exports.

OPEC data, cited in a report by the Fars news agency, showed that Iran's oil production had reached an average of 3.257 million barrels per day (bpd) last year, an increase of 12.93% from 2023.

The figures showed that Iran had ended 2024 with an average monthly production of 3.293 million bpd in December and continued to pump 3.28 million bpd in January 2025.

That comes as total oil production by OPEC, a bloc that is made up of 12 countries, fell by 1.52% from 27.804 million bpd in 2023 to 26.672 million bpd last year.

A similar decline was reported for OPEC+, a broader alliance of oil-producing nations that include Russia.

Iran was OPEC's third largest oil producer in 2024 after Saudi Arabia and Iraq which both reported drops in production in 2024, the data showed.

The increase in Iran's oil production comes despite the fact that the United States toughened its sanctions on Iran's oil industry last year by issuing penalties on individuals, entities and the tankers involved in the country's oil exports.

They are also the latest sign that US sanctions on Iran, which were enacted in 2018 with the aim of choking off the country's oil revenues, have failed bitterly.

Iranian authorities have said that the oil production in the country is expected to reach nearly 4 million bpd in the near future.

Meanwhile Turkmenistan has reportedly reached an agreement with Turkey for exports of gas via Iran amid growing energy cooperation between regional countries.

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BEIRUT (Dispatches) - A large number of people have taken to the streets around Beirut's International Airport to protest the cancellation of two scheduled civilian flights from Iran to Lebanon.

On Thursday night, protesters blocked the entrance to the airport and the international road leading to it, setting tires alight while chanting anti-American and anti-Israeli slogans.

The demonstrators set fire to tires, creating roadblocks, while tensions rose during clashes with Lebanese military personnel who attempted to clear the route.

The cancellation was ordered by the Lebanese Roads Minister under pressure from the Zionist regime, which claimed that the plane was transferring funds to the Hezbollah resistance movement.

Iran's Mahan Air was reportedly informed that a flight scheduled to arrive in Beirut from Tehran would not receive the necessary permission to land, resulting in the cancellation of the trip.

An official at Beirut's airport told AFP that the Public Works and Transport ministry had asked the facility to inform Mahan Air that Lebanon could not welcome two of its Beirut-bound flights.

The official who requested anonymity to discuss sensitive matters said one flight was scheduled for Thursday and another for Friday.

Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri has called for immediate measures to bring the stranded Lebanese passengers back to Beirut.

A pro-resistance lawmaker condemned the decision, stating that the government must take necessary measures to guarantee Lebanon's sovereignty over all its public facilities, especially the airport.

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Powell Puts Up 41 as Clippers Down Jazz in OT



NEW YORK (Dispatches) - Norman Powell scored a season-high 41 points and came up big in overtime while lifting the Los Angeles Clippers to a 120-116 victory over the Utah Jazz in Salt Lake City. Powell scored nine of the Clippers' 12 OT points as Los Angeles entered the All-Star break on a three-game winning streak. James Harden added 32 points, 10 rebounds, seven assists, three steals and two blocks in the come-from-behind win. The Clippers overcame a 20-point deficit and outscored Utah 22-13 in the fourth quarter. Jazz rookie Kyle Filipowski scored a career-high 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. Lauri Markkanen also logged 20 points, John Collins added 17 and rookie Isaiah Collier contributed 16 points, eight assists and four steals but committed seven turnovers. Both teams played for the second consecutive night. Ben Simmons made his Clippers debut, days after the Brooklyn Nets bought out his contract and he signed with Los Angeles. He totaled 12 points, seven rebounds, six assists and three steals in a reserve role. Powell put the Clippers up 115-110 in overtime by sinking two free throws, but the Jazz quickly pulled back within one after a Collier bucket and a steal and slam by Svi Mykhailiuk. Powell answered with two baskets, giving the Clippers a five-point lead with under a minute to go. Los Angeles opened the fourth quarter on a 14-4 run, and Powell's tip-in gave the Clippers a 100-99 lead with 6:28 to go. Simmons ignited the charge with the first four points. Harden then pushed the lead to 103-100 with a 3-pointer. Markkanen scored two consecutive baskets for a 106-105 Jazz lead. Harden tied it with a free throw and rebounded his own missed foul shot, leading to Simmons' go-ahead layup. Collier knotted the score at 108-108 by hitting two free throws with 45.3 seconds left. Neither team could convert on late 3-point attempts, setting up the extra session.

The Jazz hit 9 of 14 shots from beyond the arc in the first quarter to go ahead 33-26. Utah built its lead to 50-30 before Harden scored seven in a row as the Clippers erased much of the deficit to go into the break down 60-54. Meanwhile Naz Reid collected 27 points, 14 rebounds and seven assists, and the Minnesota Timberwolves pulled away for a 116-101 win over the Oklahoma City Thunder in Minneapolis. Anthony Edwards added 23 points, seven rebounds and seven assists for Minnesota, which snapped a two-game skid. Jaden McDaniels scored 21 points. Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 24 points, grabbed eight rebounds and dished nine assists to lead Oklahoma City (44-10). The Thunder never led in the game -- the first time that happened all season. Jalen Williams scored 20 points, and Chet Holmgren and Isaiah Hartenstein notched double-doubles. The former had 11 points and 12 rebounds, while the latter put up 10 and 12, respectively. Minnesota shot 42.4 percent overall and 26.1 percent (12 of 46) from 3-point range. Oklahoma City hit 42 percent from the field and 24.1 percent (7 of 29) from deep. The Timberwolves (31-25) played without Rudy Gobert, who was a late addition to the injury report because of back spasms. Teammates Mike Conley (finger), Julius Randle (groin) and Donte DiVincenzo (toe) remained sidelined in the final game before the All-Star break. A 10-0 run early in the fourth quarter helped Minnesota put the game away. Backup big man Luka Garza made a tip shot to conclude the run and put the Timberwolves on top 107-89 with eight minutes remaining. Minnesota led 97-87 at the end of the third quarter. Aaron Wiggins made a 3-pointer to pull Oklahoma City within 84-80 with 4:39 remaining in the third. Minnesota responded with an 8-0 run to pull ahead 92-80 with 2:48 left in the third quarter. McDaniels drove toward the rim for a floating jump shot and Nickeil Alexander-Walker and Edwards knocked down 3-pointers during the run.

Roma Held at Porto, Galatasaray Thrashed 4-1 at Alkmaar



PORTO (Dispatches) - Francisco Moura's second-half strike earned hosts Porto a 1-1 draw against 10-man AS Roma in the first leg of their Europa League knockout round playoff on Thursday as Turkish champions Galatasaray lost 4-1 at AZ Alkmaar. Zeki Celik put Roma ahead in the dying seconds of the first half when he tapped in a loose ball in the six yard box before Moura equalised when his shot deflected off a defender past goalkeeper Mile Svilar in the 67th minute. Claudio Ranieri's Roma were dealt a further blow five minutes later when they were left with 10 men as Bryan Cristante was handed a second yellow card. The visitors, who had already lost forward Paulo Dybala through injury before half-time, withstood Porto's late pressure, as the Portuguese tried to capitalise on their man advantage but saw Goncalo Borges and Danny Namaso missing the target. Two-time Europa League finalists Roma will be looking to beat Porto for the first time in four European ties. Winners will face either Athletic Bilbao or Roma's arch-rivals Lazio. Ten-man Galatasaray suffered a 4-1 defeat at Dutch side Alkmaar, who are playing their first European knockout tie in five years. Alkmaar opened the scoring after 12 minutes as Sven Mijns netted a stunning free kick into the left top corner before Galatasaray equalised eight minutes later through Roland Sallai's rocket from the edge of the box. Troy Parrott restored the hosts' lead from the spot in the 37th minute before the visitors were reduced to 10 men shortly after the break when Kaan Ayhan saw a second yellow card.

Medvedev Moves on in Marseille

PARIS (Dispatches) - No. 1 seed Daniil Medvedev of Russia had little trouble defeating French qualifier Pierre-Hugues Herbert 6-2, 6-4 in the Round of 16 at the Open 13 Provence in Marseille, France. Medvedev had an automatic bye into the second round and played his first match of the week Thursday. He won 39 of his 49 service points, including an overwhelming 26 of 29 on his first serve (89.7 percent), and saved the only break point he faced against Herbert. Medvedev's quarterfinal opponent will be Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff, who outlasted French qualifier Hugo Grenier 6-4, 5-7, 6-4. A pair of seeded players also fell Thursday, as China's Zhizhen Zhang beat No. 4 seed Hubert Hurkacz of Poland 6-4, 6-7 (1), 6-3, and Belgium's Zizou Bergs took down No. 8 seed Nuno Borges of Portugal 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-2. Bergs had 13 aces and saved both break points he faced. Meanwhile the home fans in Buenos Aires said goodbye to one of their favorites, as Spaniard Pedro Martinez beat Argentina's Diego Schwartzman 6-2, 6-2 in the second round, marking the final match of Schwartzman's professional career. Schwartzman, 32, planned to make his hometown tournament his final event before retiring. The former World No. 8 upset seventh seed Nicolas Jarry of Chile on Wednesday to extend his run. He



saved one match point late in the day before falling to Martinez. The crowd did get to cheer on another Argentine to an upset win, as Mariano Navone beat second-seeded Holger Rune of Denmark 6-1, 7-6 (2). Third-seeded Lorenzo Musetti of Italy eliminated France's Corentin Moutet 6-2, 6-3, and Brazil's Joao Fonseca rallied past Argentine lucky loser Federico Coria 2-6, 6-4, 6-2. No. 6 seed Brandon Nakashima also rallied past fellow American Reilly Opelka 3-6, 7-5, 6-2 to reach the quarterfinals in Florida. Opelka had 17 aces to Nakashima's 14, but Nakashima's serve only got better as the match wore on. He won 16 of 17 total service points

in the third set, while Opelka only went 14-for-28. In their second-round action, No. 8 seed Alejandro Davidovich Fokina of Spain pulled away from American wild-card entrant Mackenzie McDonald for a 6-2, 5-7, 6-0 win. No. 4 seed Matteo Arnaldi of Italy squeezed past American wild card Learner Tien 7-6 (4), 4-6, 7-6 (1). In the last match of the night, top seed Taylor Fritz of the United States was set to oppose China's Yunchaokete Bu. Meanwhile three-times defending champion Iga Swiatek will face Latvia's Jelena Ostapenko in the Qatar Open semi-finals after the Pole overcame Elena Rybakina 6-2 7-5. Russia's Ekaterina Alexandrova, who defeated American sixth seed Jessica Pegula, will face another American Amanda Anisimova in the other semi-final. In a repeat of last year's final, second seed Swiatek swept through the opening set, breaking Kazakhstan fifth seed Rybakina's first service game to lead 2-0 and again to wrap up the set. Rybakina, who discovered on Wednesday that the WTA had decided to uphold a ban against her former coach Stefano Vukov following an investigation into a potential breach of its code of conduct, recovered to break in the opening game of the second set.

Brignone Wins Women's Giant Slalom World Gold



SAALBACH (Dispatches) - Italy's Federica Brignone put in a dominant display to win gold in the women's giant slalom at the Alpine World Ski Championships in Saalbach. Brignone, second in the super-G a week ago, led after the first run, and again put in the fastest time on her second to win by 0.90 of a second over New Zealand's Alice Robinson, who took silver and her first world championship medal. America's Paula Moltzan battled to claim the bronze medal, overcoming Norway's Thea Louise Stjernesund by one hundredth of a second. Brignone had finished second behind Mikaela Shiffrin in this event in 2023, and took the silver medal at the 2022 Olympics. The Italian also has a giant slalom silver medal from her first world championships in 2011. "Gold in the giant slalom is something I dreamed of throughout my career, I managed to stay calm after the first run, I knew I had a good lead," Brignone, who won a second world championship gold after her alpine combined victory in 2023, said.

Bayern Sink Celtic as Benfica, Feyenoord and Club Brugge Also Win

PARIS (Dispatches) - Harry Kane was on target as Bayern Munich beat Celtic 2-1 in Glasgow in the first leg of their Champions League play-off yesterday, while there were also wins for Benfica, Feyenoord and Club Brugge. Bayern are hoping to go all the way to this season's final, which will be played at their own Allianz Arena in Munich on May 31. They threatened to run riot against the Scottish champions at Celtic Park as they dominated the first half and took the lead just before the interval thanks to a superb Michael Olise strike. Bayern's second goal came just four minutes after half-time, with the unmarked Kane scoring with a cushioned finish at the back post following a corner. It was Kane's seventh goal in this season's Champions League, and his 29th in 29 games in all competitions. However, the Bundesliga leaders took their foot off the pedal after that, allowing Celtic -- who had a first-minute Nicolas Kuehn goal disallowed for offside -- to come back into the game. Brendan Rodgers' team pulled one back as Daizen Maeda scored following a corner with 11 minutes left, but they could not find an equaliser. "It's cliché to say, but it's the first half of the game. Overall, it's a



really great result," said Bayern coach Vincent Kompany, according to the BBC. Celtic's first home defeat since December 2023 leaves them facing a huge task to try to turn the tie around in Germany next Tuesday, with the winners going through to face either Bayer Leverkusen or Atletico Madrid in the last 16. "It's only a one goal difference. It's a big challenge, we know that but it's still a possibility," insisted Rodgers. Elsewhere, Vangelis Pavlidis scored the only goal as Benfica won

1-0 away to Monaco, as the home side were forced to play much of the second half with 10 men. Benfica had won 3-2 in Monaco in the league phase in November and they came out on top again at the Stade Louis II thanks to a Pavlidis strike just after half-time. It was the Greek international's sixth goal in his team's last five Champions League outings, a run which includes a hat-trick in the dramatic 5-4 loss to Barcelona last month. Monaco had Libyan midfielder Moatasem Al-Musrati sent off in the 52nd minute, when the recent signing from Besiktas gestured to the referee calling for a yellow card after his teammate Breel Embolo had been fouled, only to be handed a second caution himself. Benfica will hope to finish off the tie in next week's return, with the winners facing either Liverpool or Barcelona in the last 16. In Rotterdam, Feyenoord shook off the sacking of coach Brian Priske on Monday to beat seven-time European champions AC Milan 1-0 and gain the upper hand to take to San Siro for the return. The Dutch side were helped by a clanger from Milan goalkeeper Mike Maignan, who allowed Igor Paixao's speculative third-minute shot to ricochet off his body and into the net.

Brignone, fourth out of the gates, set a blistering pace on the first run for the rest to follow, and Robinson was the only rival to get within one second of the Italian, 0.67 seconds behind. Her dominance, especially in the second half of her run, left just six racers less than two seconds behind Brignone, including her expected rivals Moltzan, Lara Gut-Behrami and Sara Hector. Before the big guns came out for the second run, Albania's Italian-born 18-year-old Lara Colturi was the surprise leader in her first world championships appearance, but was finally overtaken by Stjernesund. With the top five still to come, Stjernesund had a nervous wait to see if her time would earn a medal, and neither Hector nor Gut-Behrami could overtake the Norwegian. Moltzan then took over at the top by the slimmest of margins, before Robinson set the fastest time of the second run to pile the pressure on Brignone. Yet the 34-year-old Italian seems to get better with age, and in a superb season where she leads the overall world cup standings, Brignone finished the job in style. "At the World Championships we know it's all or nothing, I had the opportunity to go full throttle, today I was fine, I was focused on skiing," Brignone said. "So much so that in the second run for a moment I was falling asleep and I said to myself 'move'. I'm out of breath but I was fine, I arrived at this event relaxed and at my best. I have to enjoy it as soon as it sinks in."