

# Kayhan International

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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

# U.S.-Led Coalition Likely a Non-Starter



Deputy FM of Iran Abbas Aragqchi addresses to the United Nations Security Council during a meeting on the situation concerning Iraq at UN headquarters in New York City.

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – **The Sept. 19 UN Security Council meeting on the ISIL militants laid bare the regional differences that spell trouble for the U.S.-led coalition.**

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, presiding over the UN forum, opened the session with an upbeat assessment that some 50 countries have joined the fight against the group also known as ISIL in some form or another.

“The international coalition against ISIL, which is said to be in the offing, has yet to decide to pursue a serious strategy,” said Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Aragqchi.

Such a strategy, Aragqchi said, should discourage “centrifugal forces” inside Iraq — namely, the Kurds — while working with Assad’s forces in Syria.

“A successful fight against ISIL requires helping and enabling the relevant central authorities to deal with this menace,” he said. “Any strategy that undermines these authorities — including the Syrian government, which has resisted ISIL for a few years — or differentiates between segments of the population in terms of protection,

will be a recipe for defeat.”

Russia’s ambassador to the UN for his part flatly faulted the U.S. invasion of 2003 and its support of the Syria unrest for the current woes.

“We’re extremely concerned by the publicly mentioned intentions to strike ISIL in Syrian territory without cooperating with the Damascus government,” Vitaly Churkin said. “This would not only be a gross violation of the fundamental norms of international law, but could also have a destructive practical consequence, including for the humanitarian situation in Syria.”

Churkin went on to specifically denounce U.S. President Barack Obama’s plan to train and equip militants in Syria, which Congress approved this week. He pointed out that U.S. weapons given to Iraqi forces are now in the hands of ISIL. He called for the UN to hold a “brainstorming session” on the root causes of terrorism and said all nations should “entirely rule out any forms of foreign support for terrorist organizations”.

“It’s extremely risky to see that the fight against ISIL could involve the (Syrian) opposition,” Churkin

said, “that they should be armed.”

China’s ambassador to the UN also chimed in, if more subtly.

“In conducting international counterterrorism cooperation,” said Liu Jieyi, “the international community should respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the countries in question”.

The comments follow the Obama administration’s assurances that it would not cooperate with Assad or coordinate with Iran as it sold its plan to combat ISIL on Capitol Hill this past week. Kerry has made it clear he’s willing to talk to Iran, however, even as Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said Sept. 15 that he had vetoed those entreaties.

“Iran is very opposed to ISIL,” Kerry said at a House Foreign Affairs hearing on Sept. 18. “It would be terrible diplomacy not to ask their opinion and communicate, but there is no coordination or joint action with Iran.”

**The Holy Qur'an**  
*O you who believe! do not take your fathers and your brothers for guardians if they love unbelief more than belief; and whoever of you takes them for a guardian, these it is that are the unjust.*  
**The Holy Qur'an (9.23)**

**PRAYER TIMINGS**

Noon (Zohr)	12:57
Evening (Maghreb)	19:21
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:27
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:51

## Iran Welcomes Reconciliation in Yemen

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- A senior Iranian diplomat said Saturday the Islamic Republic welcomes any political reconciliation that would end the ongoing deadlock in Yemen.

“The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes any political reconciliation in Yemen, which would guarantee the rights of people and all domestic parties in this country,” Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hussein Amir-Abdollahian said.

He added that Tehran supports an “independent, united, stable and secure” Yemen where all parties would fulfill their obligations.

Amir-Abdollahian also stated that the Yemeni government and people “will not allow Takfiri terrorists to divert the course of public demands and political reconciliation towards extremism and violence.”

At least five people were killed on Saturday during heavy fighting between government forces and Houthi fighters in the Yemeni capital, Sana’a.

Several others were also wounded  
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## America’s Mistaken War on ISIL

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The Obama Administration’s plan to bomb Iraq and Syria (without UN mandate), and to train and arm imaginary “vetted and moderate” Syrian rebels is now in full swing.

This while the Obama Administration insists they don’t need any authorization for the war at all, and by the end of November the war is going to be extremely entrenched and difficult to roll back.

The decision is unsurprising. If anything, it is American intervention, not its absence, that fuels terrorism in both Syria and Iraq. Given these realities, with boots on the ground, Iraq is destined to become a slippery slope. To make matters worse, the new war launched less than a month ago as a “humanitarian intervention”, will escalate into an air war spanning Iraq and Syria. Add to this a divided coalition of nations (some ISIL financiers), so unruly, unwilling, and ill-matched, and you have a recipe for disaster.

Failing to learn the lessons of the previous wars, American officials are thoughtlessly convinced they can still win the mistaken war on ISIL if only they could get more power, more money, more coalition members, and more boots on the ground.

In any event, the War Party should realize that in the absence of a true coalition of the willing, the war they will be fighting will be a hopeless war they cannot win.

Likewise, the War Party cannot fight “extremist terrorists” in Iraq by arming “good terrorists” in Syria. Their double standard approach to the subject matter of terrorism, overt and covert alliances, thicket of misinformation, hit-and-miss commentary and competing propaganda is the reason why they cannot thwart the roiling chaos.

It is true that boots on the ground (Iraqi forces and volunteers only) are needed to effectively fight ISIL. But it is also true that inserting the former occupier’s military personnel for fighting would be counter-productive, with terrible consequences for ordinary citizens in both Iraq and Syria.

Still, there remains a chance for the international community to contribute to a military process that ensures the security of all communities. Having boots on the ground in Iraq or pursuing regime decapitation through military escalation and guns/training for “good terrorists” in Syria will not produce such results.

Ultimately, the best way for the external actors (including the former occupiers) to help curb violence and terrorism is to support and arm the government forces (the true fighters of terrorism) in both Iraq and Syria under UN mandate and without preconditions - not through some wasteful meeting somewhere in the middle of Paris and certainly not through a coalition of terrorist enablers that started this terrible mess in the first place.

## Chinese Warships Visit Iranian Port

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- A Chinese fleet of warships on Saturday docked into the southern Iranian port city of Bandar Abbas.

The fleet, comprising a warship and a destroyer, docked for the first time ever.

The Chinese fleet docked into the Iranian territorial waters with the purpose of increasing interaction between the Islamic Republic and China. It was returning from a mission in the Gulf of Aden.

On March 4, 2013, the 24th fleet of Iran’s navy, comprising Sabalan destroyer and Kharg helicopter carrier, docked at China’s port city of Zhangjiagang after sailing 13,000 kilometers in 40 days.

The Iranian navy said in a statement on September 17 that Iran’s

naval forces rescued a Chinese container ship from an attack by pirates in the Gulf of Aden.

It added that five boats, each containing five armed pirates, attacked the Chinese ship, Xin Lian Yun Gang, in an attempt to hijack the vessel, but the Iranian navy’s 31st fleet of war vessels foiled the move.

The Chinese vessel was reportedly on its way from Singapore to the port of Jeddah in Saudi Arabia when it came under attack. It continued its voyage after being rescued from the pirates.

In April 2012, Iran’s naval forces also rescued a Chinese cargo vessel seized by Somali pirates in international waters off the southern Iranian port city of Bandar Jask and detained the hijackers.

## Venezuela Seeks Iran Help for Reconstruction

CARACAS (EFE) -- **Venezuela is seeking Iran’s help in developing its construction materials industry and ensuring three million homes are built before the end of the decade.**

“Brothers of Iran, we’re still asking for your help. We need to develop our construction materials industry, which is vital if there is to be an explosion in housing construction,” Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said in a ceremony attended by Iranian Industry Minister Muhammad Reza Nematzadeh.

In 2011, Venezuela’s government launched a government-funded program - known as the Great Housing Mission - aimed at building three million homes by 2019 to address a severe housing shortage.

Three years later, around 600,000 low-income families have received homes built by companies based in Iran, Russia, China and Belarus, the government says.

Once the target has been achieved, Venezuela will “have a modern housing construction industry” capable of “exporting homes” to other countries, Maduro said.

The Iranian minister is in Venezuela as part of a high-level delegation attending an Iran-Venezuela Mixed Commission meeting, which began Tuesday in Caracas.

Nematzadeh and Venezuelan Foreign Minister Rafael Ramirez met at that gathering and reviewed ongoing bilateral projects and agreements the two nations have signed over the past 15 years.

### Press Digest

#### Idiotic Policy

**RESALAT:** ISIL, a product of idiotic US actions, controls large parts of Syria and Iraq, effectively erasing the border between them. In response, Obama wants to obliterate the terrorists (by air) without helping Damascus or alienating Sunnis. Talk about squaring the circle!

#### Arming Terrorists

**SHARGH:** If recent history is any guide, arming the phantom moderate rebels against Syria amounts to arming ISIL. The pact among the ISIL and other anti-Assad groups, along with the US-blessed Free Syrian Army’s announcement that it would not join Obama’s anti-ISIL coalition, seems to sink Washington’s plan for the so-called humanitarian intervention.

#### Political Reverberations

**ASIA:** More and more of US officials are being pressured to look away from the money the Israel lobby grants them for their re-elections campaigns, and focus instead on human rights. This is not easy for these officials to do; such a view does not come naturally to them. Yet the political reverberations are beginning to be felt, and can only increase.

#### ISIL War

**AFTAB:** ISIL or whatever you call it, chose to bring this war on – or, rather, to bring the United States back into a war that it started, lost many times over, and still never really quit. Obama and his crew don’t want to call ISIL by the name it now uses. They favor the names it used to go by after it broke away from al-Qaeda – ISIS or ISIL.