

**Merkel: Ties With U.S. Set Back Over Iran**  
 BERLIN (Reuters) -- European relations with the United States have taken a knock after Washington pulled out of a nuclear deal with Iran, Chancellor Angela Merkel said Tuesday.  
 Speaking at a congress of the Confederation of German Trade Unions (DGB), Merkel said Europe was not blind to Iran's activities but still believed that sticking to the nuclear deal was the best way forward.


# Kayhan International

**U.S. Blacklists Iran's Central Bank Governor**  
 WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- The United States on Tuesday imposed sanctions on Iran's central bank governor, Valiollah Seif, and Iraq-based Al-Bilad Islamic Bank for "moving millions of dollars" for Iran.  
 U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin accused Seif of covertly funneling millions of dollars on behalf of the IRGC through Al-Bilad bank "to enrich and support" Hezbollah. The U.S. Treasury also blacklisted Ali Tarzali, assistant director of the international department of Iran's central bank, and the chairman of Al-Bilad Islamic Bank, Aras Habib.

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**Viewpoint**  
**Record of Hypocrisy of Britain, France, Germany Against Iran**

**Iranians Mark National Day of Ferdowsi**



**Iran's Taftian Wins Gold at Montgeron Athletics Meeting**



**Houthi Fire Rocket at Southern Saudi Military Base**



## President Rouhani Urges EU to Stand Against U.S.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iranian President Hassan Rouhani on Tuesday asked the European Union to stand against the United States' "illegal and illogical" actions, saying that after Washington's withdrawal from the nuclear deal, Tehran could stay in the accord only if it fully benefits from it. "Iran can stay in the JCPOA (the nuclear deal) only if it fully benefits from the deal," Rouhani was quoted as saying by the state news agency IRNA.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo spoke to German, French and British counterparts in recent days to discuss cooperation over Iran, a State Department spokeswoman said on Monday a week after President Donald Trump withdrew from the Iran nuclear deal.

"He is hopeful we can continue strong cooperation," spokeswoman Heather Nauert said in a statement.

The White House on Sunday threatened to impose sanctions on European companies that do business with Iran after Trump withdrew the United States from the 2015 accord negotiated by the Obama administration.

Pompeo was in Pyongyang when Trump made the announcement and senior State Department officials said the secretary will try to persuade allies in Europe, the Middle East and Asia to pressure Tehran to return to talks.

White House national security adviser John Bolton said on Sunday U.S. sanctions on European companies that maintain business dealings with Iran were "possible" although Pompeo has remained hopeful Washington.

So far, China, France, Russia, Britain, Germany and Iran remain in the accord, which placed controls on Iran's nuclear program and led to a relaxation of economic sanctions against Iran and companies doing business there.

In a statement, British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said after talks with his French counterpart, Jean-Yves Le Drian, that both countries were determined "to conserve the essence of the Iran nuclear deal."

"I want to stress that that does not mean we are in any sense not going to be working with the Americans," Johnson said, adding: "it's vital that we continue to engage with the USA and continue to interrogate our friends in Washington about how they see the nuclear deal developing."

Foreign ministers from Britain, France and Germany -- signatories of the 2015 deal -- held talks

with Iranian Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif, amid concerns that the sanctions will also damage European business interests.

## U.S. Backs Slaughter in Gaza: Palestinians Mark Nakba After Bloodbath



Palestinian demonstrators run for cover from Israeli fire and tear gas during a protest against U.S. embassy move to Jerusalem Al-Quds and ahead of the 70th anniversary of Nakba, near the Gaza fence in the southern Gaza Strip, May 14, 2018.

GAZA (Dispatches) -- Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian near the Gaza fence border Tuesday after thousands of Palestinians turned out for the funerals of dozens of protesters killed by Zionist troops a day earlier, local health officials said.

Sixty Palestinians were killed on Monday, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry, including an eight-month-old baby that died from tear gas that her family said she inhaled at a protest camp near the fence. More than 2,200 Palestinians were also injured by gunfire or tear gas, local medics said.

Monday's bloodshed took place

as the United States opened its new embassy in occupied Jerusalem Al-Quds. For the past six weeks, Palestinians have been holding Gaza fence demonstrations for the return of Palestinian refugees to areas that are now occupied by the Zionist regime.

The occupying regime of Israel rejects any right of return. At least 115 Gazans have now been killed since the start of the protests and nearly 11,000 people wounded, about 3,500 of them hit by live fire.

Palestinian leaders have called Monday's events a massacre, and the Israeli tactic of using live fire

against the protesters has drawn worldwide concern and condemnation.

The United Nations Security Council was due to meet to discuss the situation. The United States has backed the occupying regime.

Turkey told the Israeli ambassador to Ankara on Tuesday to leave, a Turkish foreign ministry source said. On Monday, Turkey said it was recalling its ambassadors to Tel Aviv and Washington.

Turkey also urged Islamic countries to review their ties with the Zionist regime and said it would call an extraordinary summit of the

world's main pan-Islamic body. "Islamic countries should without fail review their relations with Israel," Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim told his ruling party in parliament.

"The Islamic world should move as one, with one voice, against this massacre," he added.

Yildirim said that Turkey had called an "extraordinary summit" of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on Friday. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the body.

A Turkish foreign ministry official, who asked not to be named, said there was to be "a summit in Istanbul on Friday".

Yildirim said that after the summit at 3:00 pm a giant rally would be held at the vast Yenikapi meeting area in Istanbul under the slogan of "Stop the Oppression" to express solidarity with the Palestinians.

Ireland's Foreign Minister Simon Coveney "summoned the Israeli ambassador to Ireland... to express Ireland's shock and dismay at the level of death and injury yesterday on the Gaza Strip," the ministry said in a statement.

"The ambassador has been informed of Irish demands for an independent international investigation into yesterday's deaths led by the UN," it added.

It said there were 211 recorded attacks against health workers in Gaza and 25 ambulances had been damaged.

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## Syrian Army Retakes Last Terrorist Enclave in Homs

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Syrian government forces are in full control of the last militant enclave in Syria's largest province after "overpowering terrorism" following the evacuation of thousands of armed men and civilians, an officer told state-run TV Tuesday.

The militants have agreed to surrender the northern countryside of Homs province to the government under a deal reached in early May. According to the deal, thousands of militants and civilians who refuse to live under government control were to be evacuated to other terrorist-held areas in the country's north.

State media and activists say more than 27,000 civilians and gunmen have left the northern countryside of Homs in the past days, the latest in a string of capitulation deals by the terrorists around the country. In a major victory for the Syrian government, the terrorists agreed, following Russian-sponsored me-

diation, to evacuate their areas in early May.

The northern rural Homs deal came days after terrorists cleared their last remaining strongholds around the capital Damascus. The government troops and allied fighters continue to battle the remaining Deash terrorists in a pocket south of Damascus.

A Syrian security officer told state-run Al-Ikhbariya TV on Tuesday that police began deploying in northern rural Homs, restoring government control.

"We declare from the area that we have triumphed over terrorism and we declare that we have overpowered terrorism from Homs province," the unnamed officer told Al-Ikhbariya. "Starting today, northern rural Homs will begin to return to normal life."

Al-Ikhbariya TV showed Syrian government forces men raising the country's official flag over a (Continued on Page 7)

## Iran: Zionist Leaders Must Be Tried as War Criminals

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran said Tuesday that Zionist officials should be tried as war criminals over the "brutal massacre" of Gazan protesters the previous day.

"The killing of children, women and defenseless people of Palestine and the occupation of Palestinian lands has become the main strategy of the Zionists over the 70 years of occupation," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi on the ministry's website.

He called on the international community to take "immediate action" and try Israeli leaders as "war criminals in international courts".

At least 60 Palestinians were killed and thousands injured by Israeli forces on Monday as they protested along the Gaza fence against the opening of the new U.S. embassy in Jerusalem Al-Quds.

President Hassan Rouhani criticized the embassy move along with last week's decision by the

U.S. to walk away from the nuclear deal with Iran.

"History will judge that both of these decisions by the American government have been very wrong," he told reporters, according to state broadcaster IRIB.

"The main result of this wrong decision is Washington's isolation in global public opinion," he added.

Parliament speaker Ali Larijani added that recent U.S. policy decisions were undermining international institutions.

"All these cases show that America intends to destroy the international institution of the United Nations," he told parliament on Tuesday.

"It is driving the international scene to a kind of security chaos," he added.

The U.S. blocked a UN resolution on Monday calling for an (Continued on Page 7)