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## In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

### First-Ever Factual UN Assessment of US Economic Terrorism Against Iran

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

*At long last we are seeing a sort of impartial assessment by a top official of the United Nations regarding Washington's economic terrorism against the Islamic Republic and the people of Iran.*

*In her press conference in Tehran yesterday, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights, called for the immediate release of Iran's estimated 120 billion dollars illegally held up in foreign banks under US pressure.*

*Alena Douhan said: "Applying extraterritorial sanctions on Iranian companies or companies working with Iran is illegal under international law. I urge states to unfreeze the assets of the Central Bank of Iran in accordance with customary norms of international law."*

*She slammed the US for its brutal sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran, asserting that decades of sanctions have wholly affected Iranian people's lives and have particularly hit the low-income section of the society.*

*This is the first time a senior UN official has taken the US to task for its blind hostility against the Iranian people and explicitly called on Washington to abandon its hard-nosed policy of maximum pressure against Iran and other countries.*

*The rogish regime in Washington, however, is not expected to show respect for international law or admit its history of crimes against world people.*

*Anyway, such a fair and positive report on the illegality of US sanctions and their negative consequences in Iran will definitely make people around the world to become aware of realities long hidden from public view because of American propaganda and the pressures over the World Body.*

*The former professor of International Law at the University of Belarus and the Director of the Peace Research Center, who arrived in Tehran earlier this month has met several civil society members, representatives of financial centers, and the diplomatic community during her 11-day visit.*

*Douhan, who said she will address her concerns about the illegal US sanctions in her final report to the UN headquarters in New York, also criticized the US decision to abandon the nuclear deal with Iran, pointing out that the 2015 Geneva Accord was endorsed by UN Security Council Resolution 2231.*

*It is now two years since she took up this post at the UN and has a positive record of presenting facts, as is evident by her earlier reports on the negative impact of Washington's extraterritorial policies, or more properly economic terrorism against such countries as Syria and Venezuela.*

*It is also worth noting that Douhan was in Qatar for twelve days in November 2020 to assess the impact of sanctions imposed by the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Egypt. Her preliminary statement critical of the sanctions made Riyadh and Abu Dhabi use their wealth and pressures to prevent her from addressing the 48th session of the UN Human Rights Council in September 2021.*

## Iran, Tajikistan Discuss Expansion of Military Ties



Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Muhammad Baqeri (L) and Tajikistan's President Emomali Rahmon meet in Dushanbe on May 17, 2022

TEHRAN -- A senior Iranian commander says expansion of military interactions with Tajikistan is among the main priorities of the Islamic Republic's armed forces given the two countries' strategic position in the West Asia region.

Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Muhammad Baqeri, in Tajikistan at the head of a high-ranking delegation, made the remarks in a meeting with Tajik President Emomali Rahmon in Dushanbe on Tuesday.

"Strengthening, upgrading and developing the level of joint military interaction and relations between the two countries and increasing cooperation in various military fields are among the important priorities of Iran's armed forces with Tajikistan," Baqeri said.

He expressed hope that the two countries would accelerate the improvement of military and defense cooperation in the future.

The senior Iranian commander further stressed the importance of promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan as a neighbor and friendly country.

"The armed forces of the two countries can help Afghanistan establish security and peace by developing military and regional cooperation."

Rahmon, for his part, said Tajikistan's armed forces welcome expansion of military and defense cooperation with the Iran.

The Tajik president pointed to the inauguration of a manufacturing plant for tactical unmanned aerial vehicles in his country earlier in the day, saying that such cooperation should reach its highest level

in all military fields.

He said cultural commonalities are still regarded as the main basis for strengthening ties between the two nations and added that common historical and linguistic bonds have provided unparalleled conditions for further development of relations in defense, military, cultural, political and economic areas.

During an official ceremony in Dushanbe, Iran inaugurated a manufacturing plant for indigenously-developed Ababil-2 multi-role tactical unmanned aerial vehicles in Tajikistan in a bid to promote joint defense and military cooperation.

Baqeri also held talks on Monday with Colonel General Sherali Mirzo, the Tajik minister of defense, on ways to fight terrorism in West Asia, establish security in border areas, hold joint military drills and expand military equipment.

### Pompeo Visits Albania to Meet MKO Terror Leader

TEHRAN -- Former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has paid a controversial visit to Albania, where he met with the head of the anti-Iran MKO terrorist group and voiced his support for the notorious cult.

Addressing a gathering of members of the Mujahedin Khalq Organization, Pompeo said it was "special" for him to be among members of the MKO, which has the blood of over 12,000 Iranians on its hands.

The former CIA chief said that under the leadership of Maryam Rajavi, the MKO has been laying the groundwork for what he called a "free, sovereign, democratic republic of Iran."

The ill-famed MKO is currently based in Albania, where it enjoys freedom of activity after being delisted by the European Union and the United States in 2009 and 2012, respectively. The group regularly hosts big events in which top American and European officials make speeches in support of the group.

Late U.S. Senator John McCain, former mayor of New York City Rudy Giuliani, former U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolton, former U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman, and former director of Saudi Arabia's intelligence agency Turki bin Faisal Al Saud are among top officials that have attended the

group's events.

According to Albanian media reports, MKO members have been involved in various criminal activities in Europe, including human trafficking in France. MKO members have also been arrested while trying to traffic drugs to Italy.

Since it was founded, the MKO launched a campaign of bombings and assassinations in Iran. The terrorist group also fought alongside Iraqi forces in the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein's war on Iran in the 1980s.

However, the U.S. and the European Union removed the MKO from their lists of terrorist organizations

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### Envoy Blasts UN Inaction on Zionist Atrocities

UNITED NATIONS (Dispatches) -- Iran's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Zahra Ershadi has slammed the international community's inaction on the occupying regime of Israel's war crimes and continuous terrorism against the Palestinian people, saying the Security Council must take immediate action to hold the regime responsible for its brutalities.

"Every day, we are witnessing the occupying regime's crimes against the Palestinian people," Ershadi said on Tuesday.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran calls on the United Nations, in particular the Security Council, to take swift measures in support of the

Palestinian people to end the Israeli aggression and impunity and to hold the regime accountable for the international crimes it has committed over the decades," she said.

Pointing to the recent murder of a renowned Palestinian journalist in the occupied West Bank city of Jenin, the Iranian diplomat said the Israeli forces brutally martyred Shireen Abu Akleh in an attempt to silence the voice of the Palestinian people's resistance against the regime's acts of aggression and occupation, "something that will never materialize."

Abu Akleh, a veteran of the Qatar-based Al Jazeera network's Arabic service, was shot in the head on

Wednesday, when she was reporting on an Israeli raid against Palestinians living in the Jenin refugee camp.

Her tragic death sent shockwaves across the region, drawing global condemnation. The United Nations and the European Union, among others, have called for a full investigation into what has been described as a deliberate killing "in cold blood."

New footage has revealed Zionist forces' brutality and violence at the funeral of the slain Palestinian journalist as they stormed a hospital prior to the procession, hitting and shoving people inside, including patients, and firing from the grounds of the medical facility.

The Holy Qur'an

On the day when the earth shall be changed into a different earth, and the heavens (as well), and they shall come forth before Allah, the One, the Supreme. And you will see the guilty on that day linked together in chains. Their shirts made of pitch and the fire covering their faces that Allah may requite each soul (according to) what it has earned; surely Allah is swift in reckoning.

The Holy Qur'an (14.51)

#### PRAYER TIMINGS

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| Noon (Zohr)            | 13:01 |
| Evening (Maghreb)      | 20:26 |
| Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow" | 05:56 |
| Sunrise "Tomorrow"     | 04:17 |

### Ministry: No New Development in Saudi Talks

TEHRAN -- Iran's foreign ministry says there has been "no new development" since April in talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia, shortly after a lawmaker said top diplomats of the rival countries would meet soon.

Earlier, an Iranian lawmaker told the Fars news agency that Iran's Hussein Amir-Abdollahi-an would soon meet his Saudi counterpart Faisal bin Farhan in Iraq to discuss issues such as the reopening of embassies and the Yemen crisis.

When asked about the meeting, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Saeed Khatibzadeh said: "No new developments have taken place since the last round of talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia in Iraq."

"There are a number of issues on the agenda such as how the talks will continue and at which level," Khatibzadeh said.

Saudi Arabia and Iran started direct talks last year to try to ease tensions.

A fifth round of talks between the two countries was held in April in Baghdad, which Tehran described as "positive".

Riyadh severed ties with Tehran in 2016 after Iranian protesters stormed the Saudi embassy in the Iranian capital following the execution of an eminent Shia cleric in Saudi Arabia.

In a tweet on Sunday, Iran's top human rights official also said the occupying regime, owing to the United States' unswerving support, will continue its "unspeakable crimes" with no end in sight, urging the international community to make a stand to put an end to Tel Aviv's atrocities.

"Enjoying the United States' unwavering support for decades, the regime's unspeakable crimes will continue with no end in sight -- unless the intl. community makes a stand!" Kazem Gharibabadi, the secretary of Iran's High Council for Human Rights and the Judiciary chief's deputy for international affairs, tweeted.