

**BAMAKO (Dispatches)** -- Iran's Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian on Tuesday arrived in this Malian capital on the first leg of his three-nation Africa tour, which will later take him to Tanzania and Zanzibar. The top Iranian diplomat is leading a high-ranking political and economic delegation on the high-profile tour. A group of the representatives of several private sector companies also is also accompanying him during his visit. He was welcomed by his Malian counterpart Abdoulaye Diop upon arrival at Bamako's international airport on Tuesday. The Malian foreign minister called the visit a sign of (Continued on Page 7)

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — Secretary-General Antonio Guterres demanded a halt to "nuclear saber-rattling", saying the world is at a "maximum moment of danger" and all countries with nuclear weapons must make a commitment to "no first-use."

Saying "humanity's future is in our hands today," Guterres urged all countries "to recommit to a world free of nuclear weapons and to spare no effort to come to the negotiating table to ease tensions and end the nuclear arms race, once and for all."

### Viewpoint

## The Villain of the Piece at the IAEA

## On JCPOA Revival Hurdles: Grossi Doing Zionist Regime's Bidding

**TEHRAN --** Rafael Grossi, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is obstructing the revival of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal by his continued political approaches amid the U.S. administration's foot-dragging in removing economic sanctions against Tehran, Nour News wrote on Tuesday.

The news analysis website, which is close to the country's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), said that Grossi, in tandem with the occupying regime of Israel, is the main obstacle to the finalization of the Vienna talks.

"The continued adoption of political approaches by the director general of the IAEA at a time when Western officials and media are optimistic about reaching an agreement, shows that Rafael Grossi is still the main obstacle to the finalization of negotiations on removing sanctions along with the Zionist regime," Nour News said.

The news website stressed that Grossi's "political and non-technical behavior" has always posed a serious challenge to resolving existing disputes about the revival of the JCPOA.

Pointing to Grossi's recent interview with CNN, Nour News said the IAEA's chief had repeated previous accusations against the Islamic Republic.

"Give us answers and access to people and places so we can clarify a lot of things that need to be clarified," Grossi told CNN on Monday, calling on Iran to explain what he claimed to be "traces of enriched uranium" found at the country's nuclear research sites three years ago.

Responding to the unsubstantiated protestations in the interview, Nour News said Grossi has made the claims while Iran has already provided necessary information and access to the IAEA.

Te director general of the international organization, however, "continues to play opposition regardless of Iran's goodwill and based on undocumented reports provided to the IAEA by the Zionist regime," the website said.

"Grossi's approach shows that he and the Zionist regime are still the main obstacle to the finalization of the negotiations on removing sanctions", it added.

Pointing to Grossi's travel to Occupied Palestine and his talks with Zionist officials before the Board of Governors meeting in June, Nour News

said, "The adoption of non-constructive positions by the director general of the IAEA confirms that the Islamic Republic of Iran's insistence on the need to resolve the remaining safeguard issues before any agreement has valid reasons and is aimed at preventing the continuation of the political behavior of the Director General of the IAEA."

On Tuesday, EU's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said most countries involved in negotiations with Iran have agreed with the EU proposal aimed at salvaging the 2015 nuclear deal, which was abandoned by the U.S. in 2018 despite Iran's full compliance.

Borrell said the proposal follows 16 months of indirect talks between Iran and the United States, with the EU shuttling between the parties.

Iran said last Monday that it had responded to the EU's proposal, emphasizing that it was now the U.S. turn to show realism and flexibility if it really wanted a final agreement to be reached.

Iran submitted its response to the EU draft proposal on August 15, a week after the latest round of talks wrapped up in Vienna.

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said on the same day that if the U.S. showed a realistic and flexible reaction to Iran's offer, "we would be at the point of agreement".

Former U.S. President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew his country from the JCPOA in May 2018 and reinstated draconian sanctions on Iran despite Tehran's full compliance with its commitments under the landmark accord.

After exercising "strategic patience" for one year, Tehran started to gradually scale back its commitments under the deal in 2019 but maintained that its "remedial measures" were reversible provided the other parties fulfill their commitments.

Unlike the United States, the Islamic Republic of Iran never left the JCPOA.

In April last year, Iran and the world powers started negotiations in Vienna to salvage the deal and lift sanctions on Iran. Tehran says the U.S. indecisiveness and procrastination caused a stalemate in the talks.

The Vienna talks resumed on August 4 after a five-month impasse, with expert-level negotiations held between Iran and the P4+1 group of countries.

### President Raisi, Cabinet Members Pay Tribute to Imam Khomeini (RA)



### Iran U18 Volleyball Team Stands Second in Asia



### Palestinian Dies of Wounds Sustained During Zionist Raid



# Nasrallah: Victory Upended 'Greater Israel' Project



**Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah delivers a televised address to the Lebanese people on Aug. 19, 2022.**

**BEIRUT (Dispatches)** -- Secretary General of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement says the resistance front's victory over Israel in the year 2000, which saw the occupying regime withdraw its forces from Lebanon, put an end to the myth of the regime's invincibility and the so-called greater Israel project.

"The victory in 2000 put an end to the greater Israel project and shattered the invincible army" of the occupying regime, Nasrallah

told a late Monday ceremony held in Beirut to mark the 40th anniversary of the movement's foundation.

He also hailed Hezbollah's victory in the 33-day war against the Zionist regime in 2006 as one of its most important achievements.

Nasrallah said the resistance movement's role in reclaiming the country's rights in its dispute with Israel over an offshore gas field is one of the achievements of the 33-day war.

Hezbollah, he said, will not give in to any threats regarding the demarcation of Lebanon's maritime borders, describing such threats as worthless.

"Our decision and approach are clear; we are waiting for the coming days to make decisions in line with what happens," he added.

The Hezbollah chief went on to note that the movement has been maintaining close ties with all resistance groups in Palestine and

during the past 40 years will continue to do so.

Nasrallah then voiced Hezbollah's staunch opposition to normalization of some Arab countries' relations with Israel, advising the regional states not to normalize relations with an entity that has committed war crimes and crimes against Palestinian people.

"Everybody should help the revolution of the Palestinian people. We have also supported the Palestinian refugees and emphasized their right to dignified return to Palestine," he said.

Nasrallah said the Palestinian cause is part of the Lebanese nation's religion, culture, honor and dignity and there is no place for abandoning that cause in any way.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Nasrallah hit out at the United States for trying to fan the flames of civil war in Lebanon by pitting the resistance movement against the Lebanese army.

"We do not seek civil war. Of course, there are certain parties that want civil war in Lebanon. During the past 40 years, we have been trying to establish security in Lebanon and have avoided any measure that would lead to our confrontation with the army. This is an open and permanent plan pursued by the United States to pit Hezbollah against the Lebanese army and security forces. However, it has been (Continued on Page 7)

## CNN: Arab States Woo Back Iran

**ABU DHABI (Dispatches)** – A lot has happened since Persian Gulf Arab states downgraded ties with Iran in January 2016 when an angry mob stormed the Saudi embassy in Tehran following the Saudi execution of a prominent Shia cleric.

Iran's nuclear agreement with world powers came into effect that month, but the Trump administration withdrew from it just two years later, leading to a wave of tit-for-tat attacks that affected oil and shipping in the Persian Gulf.

As tensions grew, Persian Gulf states found the U.S. standing on the sidelines, either unwilling or unable to come to their rescue, with their own lines of communication with Iran all but severed.

But much has changed since then. The United Arab Emirates is set to restore top level diplomatic relations, saying on Sunday that its ambassador, Saif Muhammad Al Zaabi, would return to Tehran "in [the] coming days." Kuwait returned its ambassador last week and Saudi

Arabia, whose lead the Persian Gulf states followed in downgrading ties with Iran six years ago, is holding direct talks with the Islamic Republic.

"It's obvious there is a regional direction that is in tandem with Saudi movement," Muhammad Baharoon, director general of the Dubai Public Policy Research Centre, told CNN.

The decision to return the ambassador "comes within the UAE's regional orientation towards restoring bridges, strengthening relations, maximizing on what we share and building on it to create an atmosphere of trust, understanding and cooperation," tweeted Anwar Gargash, adviser to the UAE president.

Dina Esfandiary, a Middle East adviser at the International Crisis Group think tank, said Persian Gulf Arab states have developed a "pragmatic policy" on Iran that involves both containment and engagement "because they realized just one would not work on its own." (Continued on Page 7)

## Euro Hits New 20-Year Low as Crisis Deepens

**LONDON (Reuters)** – Contractions in the eurozone economy for the second straight month sent the single currency to a 20-year low against the dollar on Tuesday, and rising gas prices exacerbated poverty, pushing Europe into recession.

Flat U.S. stock index futures also blew investor interest in risky assets, although oil jumped more than 1% as tight supply came back into the spotlight as Saudi Arabia floated the idea of OPEC+ production cuts.

While the S&P Composite Manufacturing Index (PMI) for Europe was not as bad as feared, analysts say gloomier news for the economy is likely to come as gas prices jumped to record highs ahead of winters.

The MSCI Global Equity Index was down 0.3%.

The STOXX European Stocks Index lost 0.4% after falling for almost a week. It is now about 11% below the January 4 record high as the war in Ukraine pushed up inflation and forced central bank interest rate hikes that clouded economic growth.

Estimated gas prices in the European Union rose 13% overnight to a record peak, doubling in just one month and 14 times the average over the past decade.

Europe was ready for new interruptions in the supply of energy resources from Russia.

"I don't see the war in Ukraine ending anytime soon, that would be the catalyst for a market rally. This will continue to put pressure on energy prices, and as far as the euro is concerned, the only way is down," said Michael Hewson, chief market officer at CMC Markets.

Stocks have begun to recover on bets that the U.S. Federal Reserve will 'deviate' from its rate hike path next year.

But despite signs of a spike in U.S. inflation, markets now expect the Fed to remain aggressive when its chairman, Jerome Powell, speaks at the annual meeting of world central banks in Jackson Hole on Friday.

At last year's meeting, central banks deceived investors by predicting (Continued on Page 7)