

TEHRAN -- Minister of Information and Communications Technology Issa Zarepour said Iran has developed its own system of internet expansion and controls.

"In China they have specially worked on local platforms, but we have our own model for development of internet," Zarepour said. Iran, he said, is looking for cooperation and synergy with all countries, including China, to expand its internet systems.

# Kayhan International

TEHRAN -- The chief of Hezbollah's executive council says all occupied territories are surrounded by missiles provided by Lt. General Qassem Soleimani, reminding the Zionists that the era of their historic leaders has been over.

"What we are doing y out today and what the friends and foes should know is that we want to force Israelis into the stage that they'd come to the conclusion that staying in Palestine is of no use.

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### Viewpoint

## Latin American Leaders Liken Qassem Soleimani to Simon Bolivar

## IRGC Stages Drill in Western Iran to Restore Security



## Iran's Wheelchair Basketball Team Beats Iraq



## Zionist Regime Admits Failures in Egypt Border Shootings



## In Nicaragua, President Raisi Hails 'Strategic' Ties

MANAGUA (Dispatches) -- In his first visit to Latin America, Iran's president met with his Nicaraguan counterpart and hit out at U.S. sanctions on both countries.

President Ebrahim Raisi's visit to Nicaragua is his second stop, after Venezuela. He is also scheduled to visit Cuba, Iran's other ally in the region.

Raisi spoke at a joint appearance in Managua with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

"The United States wanted to paralyze our people with threats and sanctions, but it hasn't been able to do it," Raisi said.

On Monday, Raisi visited President Nicolás Maduro of Venezuela, which is also under U.S. economic sanctions, and the two sides signed 19 documents covering a variety of sectors, including communications and information technology, energy, insurance, maritime transport, higher education, agriculture, medicine, cultural exchanges, and mining.

Raisi said Iran and Venezuela can expand their bilateral trade volume in two phases, \$10 billion in the first phase, and then expanding it to \$20 billion, from around \$3 billion at the moment.

In Managua, Raisi said the Iranian nation has succeeded in turning the United States' sanctions and threats into opportunities.

"The U.S. sought to stop our nation through sanctions and threats, but not only our nation did not give in, it created an opportunity out of threats and sanctions and made progress," he said.

Raisi said the Nicaraguan people's resistance against excessive demands and hegemonic powers led to their victory, adding that the two nations share a common desire for independence, freedom and justice.

The Iranian president said Tehran and Managua enjoy "strategic" relations. He expressed the Islamic Republic's readiness to improve mutual ties in various sectors, particularly science and technology.

Ortega, for his part, said the Iranian and Nicaraguan revolutions have deep roots in the fight against the dominance of arrogant powers, especially the

United States.

He said imperial powers intrinsically seek to dominate other countries, and they exert pressure on independent countries under the pretext of human rights and democracy.

The independent nations, however, continue to firmly stand up to them, he added.

In a Wednesday post on his Twitter account, Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian said part of the Iranian administration's "balanced foreign policy" is to take into consideration the capacities of Latin American countries.

He said the positive records of political solidarity between Tehran and Managua in international organizations can expedite the development of bilateral cooperation.

On Tuesday, President Raisi rebuked the West for seeking to dominate the world, saying the only way to confront the enemy is through resistance and steadfastness.

"This mentality is completely wrong that by surrendering to the enemy, it will retreat. We should not give in to an enemy that intends to plunder the entire material and spiritual interests of the nations," he told Venezuela's university students at the Teresa Carreño Cultural Complex in Caracas.

"The Iranian nation's experience has shown that the only way to confront the enemy is to stand up and resist," he added.

Raisi said the current international order is the order that favors imperialism and only seeks dominance over the people.

"What they demand is that we ... sell our natural resources, and grant them to whoever they want, but not for the benefit of our own peoples."

Raisi said, "We will resist until a new international order is established."

He said, "We have been with the Venezuelan people in difficult days and we will stay together."

He said independent countries are coming to the fore, while imperialism is in decline.

"This means a great future for the peoples of Iran, Venezuela, and other sovereign countries."

## Leader: Zionists in Passive, Reactive Position



Ayatollah Khamenei holds talks with Islamic Jihad Secretary General Ziyad al-Nakhlah and his companions during a meeting in Tehran on Wednesday.

TEHRAN -- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei told Islamic Jihad Secretary General Ziyad al-Nakhlah here Wednesday that the current situation of the Zionist regime is very different compared to 70 years ago.

"Today, the Zionist enemy is in a passive and reactive position. The present situation shows that the resistance groups and the Pales-

tinian Islamic Jihad have rightly identified the path and are wisely proceeding along," he said.

The Leader said it is not possible to achieve big goals until necessary risks are taken.

"Today, by the grace of God, the strength and credibility of the Palestinian resistance groups and the Islamic Jihad are increasing. The recent defeat of the Zionist regime in the five-day war proves

this," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the Islamic Jihad of Palestine passed the test well in the last month battle of Gaza, which broke out with the occupying regime's assassination of the resistance group's commanders.

"The conditions for the Zionist regime today have changed compared to seventy years ago, and the Zionist leaders have the right

to worry about not seeing the regime's 80th anniversary."

The Leader said Islamic Jihad and other Palestinian resistance groups have found the main key to fighting the Zionist regime.

"The growing power of the resistance groups in the West Bank is the key to bringing the Zionist enemy to its knees, and this path must continue," he said.

The Leader expressed his gratitude and appreciation at measures taken by the Palestinian resistance groups to unite their efforts on the political arena and the battlefield, calling it very important. Ayatollah Khamenei also emphasized the Islamic Republic of Iran's continued support for the Palestinian people and fighters.

Nakhlah thanked the Islamic Republic for its continued support of the Palestinian people and their resistance.

He gave a report on the recent developments in Occupied Palestine, especially the defeat of the Zionist regime in the five-day war on Gaza.

"Islamic Jihad came out from the Gaza war with a head held high. We hope that we will soon witness the ultimate victory and liberation of Al-Quds," Nakhlah added.

## Yellen: U.S. Should Expect Decline of Dollar

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- The U.S. should expect the dollar's share of global reserves to slowly decline, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has said.

Her comments came during a Housing Financial Services Committee in response questions about the risk of de-dollarization.

Asked by Rep. Warren Davidson, R-Ohio, on whether U.S. sanctions could impact dollar transactions, Yellen acknowledged that their use has motivated some countries to look for currency alternatives.

Later, Rep. Vicente Gonzalez, D-Texas, further inquired whether the U.S. should slow down the use of sanctions, noting that even traditionally allied nations, such as France, had recently made non-dollar transactions.

Asked whether the dollar's international status is diminishing, she noted growing diversification within reserve assets, something that can be anticipated in a growing global economy.

"We should expect over time a gradually increased share of other assets in reserve holdings

of countries — a natural desire to diversify," she said.

The U.S. dollar's reserve status has seen gradual erosion for two decades, and it saw a steep decline in 2022 even though its strength in international trade remains unchallenged, Eurizon SLJ Asset Management said in April.

Other reports have pointed toward an upsurge in foreign central banks' demand for gold as another way to reduce their reliance on dollar reserves.

But U.S. lawmakers aren't helping the dollar's cause, Yellen suggested. Earlier in the hearing, she reiterated her long-standing concern over the U.S. debt ceiling crisis, saying it undermines global faith in the nation's ability to meet its debt obligations, deteriorating the greenback's reputation.

On Sunday, Yellen said economic sanctions imposed on Russia and other countries by the United States put the dollar's dominance at risk as targeted nations seek out an alternative.

"There is a risk when we use financial sanctions that are linked

## President Abbas in Beijing China, Palestine Establish 'Strategic' Ties

BEIJING (Dispatches) -- Chinese President Xi Jinping said on Wednesday that his country was establishing "strategic" relations with Palestinians ahead of talks with leader Mahmud Abbas in Beijing.

Abbas will be in the Chinese capital until Friday, Beijing has said, on his fifth official visit to the world's second-largest economy.

"Facing a century of global changes and new developments to the situation in the Middle East, China is ready to strengthen coordination and cooperation with the Palestinian side," said Xi during a welcome ceremony at the Great Hall of the People.

"Today, we will jointly announce the establishment of a China-Palestine strategic partnership, which will be an important milestone in the history of bilateral relations," added Xi.

Abbas arrived in Beijing on Monday to hold talks with top Chinese leaders including Presi-

dent Xi and Premier Li Qiang.

The two sides are using the opportunity to discuss ways to advance relations and resolve longstanding challenges to the Palestinian-Israeli relationship.

Beijing has sought to boost its ties in the Middle East, challenging U.S. influence — efforts that have sparked unease in Washington.

During a regular press briefing last week, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin called long-time Palestinian leader Abbas an "old and good friend of the Chinese people."

Last December, President Xi visited Saudi Arabia on an Arab outreach trip that also saw him meet with Abbas and pledge to "work for an early, just and durable solution to the Palestinian issue."

Beijing has since positioned itself as a mediator in the Middle East, brokering the restoration of ties in March between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

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