

# Kayhan International

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## Envoy Urges Respect for Syria's Territorial Integrity

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – Iran's ambassador to the United Nations has urged respect for Syria's sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as the formation of an inclusive government through free and fair elections.

Speaking to a UN Security Council session on Syria, Amir Saeed Iravani reaffirmed Iran's unwavering commitment to Syria's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity.

He said the Syrian people must exclusively make decisions about the war-ravaged country's future without any external interference or imposition.

"Iran advocates for the formation of an inclusive government through free and fair elections and a comprehensive national dialogue that ensures representation for all ethnic, political, and religious groups," the ambassador added.

He also stressed the importance of drafting a new constitution as a "key priority" in Syria, which will serve as the foundation for the country's future governance.

Pointing to Iran's "legal" presence in Syria, which had been at the request of the former Syrian government, Iravani said, "Iran participated in an advisory capacity to combat terrorism, aiming to prevent insecurity from spreading throughout the region."

He also defended Iran's withdrawal from Syria, saying it was conducted in a "responsible manner, with careful consideration of potential impacts on the Syrian people."

"Nevertheless, achieving peace, stability, and security in Syria, ending foreign occupation, and ensuring a Syria free of terrorism remain the cornerstones of Iran's foreign policy toward the country," Iravani said.

He warned about the severe economic and humanitarian challenges that the Syrian people are facing and said nearly 1.1 million people -- mostly women and children -- have been displaced since November 27, 2024.

Iravani commended the tireless efforts of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and

humanitarian partners in alleviating the suffering of the Syrian people.

"Rebuilding critical infrastructure, restoring essential services, and facilitating the safe return of refugees and displaced persons are essential steps toward recovery," he said.

He called for a swift removal of "extraterritorial, unilateral, unjust and illegal" sanctions imposed by Western countries on Syria.

"Exploiting the situation in Syria to impose political conditions and undermine Syria's sovereignty in exchange for sanctions relief severely harms the most vulnerable populations and violates the fundamental rights of the Syrian people," he said.

Iravani stressed the imperative to respect the rights of all minorities in Syria, including Alawites, Shias, and Christians, and to ensure the protection of diplomatic personnel and premises in accordance with international law.

He also expressed serious concern over the resurgence of terrorism in Syria, particularly the covert operations of sleeper cells linked to Al-Qaeda and Daesh, saying they have the potential to reconnect and reignite terrorism across the region.

"Compounding the crisis is the presence of over 60 armed groups, including foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) with divergent and often conflicting agendas, which has deepened instability and poses a severe threat to both regional and global security," he said.

Iravani described Israel as "the most significant threat" to Syria's present and future, saying the occupying regime continues violations of the Arab country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, by various means, including military aggression and ongoing occupation of Syrian territories.

"With U.S. support and exploiting Syria's situation, Israel has expanded its occupation by occupying over 500 additional square kilometers of Syrian territory and systematically destroying nearly all of Syria's military and research infrastructure," he said.

## Iran Condemns U.S., UK, Israeli Aggression on Yemen



*This file photo shows airstrikes on the Yemeni capital of Sana'a.*

TEHRAN -- Iran has strongly condemned the new U.S. and UK aggression in Yemen's three provinces as part of their support for Israel which is the target of retaliatory strikes by resistance forces in the region.

U.S. and British airstrikes targeted the districts of Jarban, Luhayyah, and Harf Sufyan in Sana'a as well as Hudaydah, and Amran provinces on Thursday.

On Friday, Israel and the U.S. attacked several areas in the Yemeni capital, including near Al-Sabeen Square, where crowds had gathered for Friday's million-man march.

The city of Hudaydah and its port also came under attack.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said the criminal acts cannot weaken the determination of the heroic people of Yemen in their support for the

oppressed people of Palestine.

"The repeated aggressions by the U.S. and UK against Yemeni infrastructures are committed with the aim of supporting the criminal Zionist regime and in line with the continued genocide committed by the fake regime against the oppressed Palestinians," he said.

He called the attacks a flagrant violation of the international law and principles of the United Nations Charter.

The spokesman said the attacks are a clear example of the "crime of aggression" according to the statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Baghaei censured the UN Security Council for failing to act in the face of the ongoing genocide in Gaza and the military aggressions of the U.S., UK and the Zionist regime against the vital infrastructures of Yemen.

He called on the international community, especially Islamic and regional countries, to stop genocide and aggression of the Zionist regime and its allies against different nations in the region.

The U.S. and its allies have been bombing Yemen over the past months in violation of the country's sovereignty and international law.

Yemeni armed forces have targeted ships heading to the Israeli occupied territories in the southern Red Sea, the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, the Gulf of Aden, and even in the Arabian Sea.

They have also conducted strikes against Israeli targets in the occupied lands.

The Yemeni forces have stressed that they will continue their anti-Israel operations until the occupying regime ends its bloody Gaza onslaught.

## Top Security Official Tells Pashinyan in Yerevan: Foreign Forces Would Complicate Situation in Caucasus

YEREVAN (Dispatches) -- The secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council has told Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan that peace and stability can only be achieved through cooperation among the regional countries, and that the presence of foreign forces would complicate political and security equations in the region.

Ali Akbar Ahmadian Ahmadian said here Thursday that the presence of extraterritorial and foreign forces does not contribute to re-

solving regional issues.

He also expressed Iran's readiness to share its experiences in various fields, including industry, agriculture, nanotechnology, and biotechnology with Armenia.

The prime minister of Armenia, in turn, expressed interest in further participation and cooperation in the North-South corridor and utilizing its potential.

Honoring the memory of former president Ebrahim Raisi, he emphasized the goal of achieving a

\$3 billion in trade between the two countries, as agreed upon during the time of the late Iranian president.

The two sides stressed the importance of enhancing political, economic, and defense relations between Tehran and Yerevan during their discussions.

Prior to Yerevan, Ahmadian travelled to Baku where he met and discussed issues of interests with Azerbaijani officials, including President Ilham Aliyev.

## 'California Fires Reminiscent of Israeli Savagery in Gaza'

TEHRAN -- Iran's vice president for strategic affairs on Friday compared the devastation caused by the "wrath of nature" in the form of raging fires in California to the destruction brought by the "savagery of Israel" in the Gaza Strip.

"Grim footage out of California is reminiscent of ravaged homes, schools and hospitals in Gaza," Muhammad Javad Zarif wrote on X.

"It's only human to sympathize with Californians

who've lost everything to wrath of nature—particularly as many there have stood with Gazans who lost everything to savagery of Israel."

Since Tuesday, huge fires have swept through Southern California and decimated tens of thousands of acres of land and as many homes and businesses in the area, with local reports saying at least 10 people have so far lost their lives.

About 180,000 people have had to evacuate and another 200,000 people are under

evacuation warnings.

Since October 2023, the Zionist regime has killed more than 46,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children in Gaza. The U.S. has repeatedly vetoed UN Security Council resolutions on a ceasefire in Gaza and has provided Israel with military assistance.

Last week, the outgoing administration of President Joe Biden announced plans to provide Israel with an \$8 billion military aid package.

The Holy Qur'an



Those who believe in Allah and the Last Day ask thee for no exemption from fighting with their goods and persons. And Allah knoweth well those who do their duty.

The Holy Qur'an (9:44)

### PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:12
Evening (Maghreb)	17:30
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	07:14
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	05:46

## Ministry Denounces Insulting Anti-Iran Poster in French City

TEHRAN -- The Iranian foreign ministry has strongly condemned "insulting" content used by the mayor of a French city against Iran's sanctities and personalities.

The city of Beziers in southern France recently ran a campaign on buses, using insulting portraits of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, Russian President Vladimir Putin, and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

"The use of offensive content against officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran is a flagrant violation of internationally accepted principles and rules regarding respect for cultural values of other nations," director for Western Europe at the Iranian foreign ministry Majid Nili said on Thursday.

"This is a clear example of hatred-mongering," he added.

Nili said Iran has officially protested to France through diplomatic channels and called on the country's government to take an appropriate measure to prevent the repetition of such "provocative" actions.

On Monday, French President Emmanuel Macron accused Iran of posing a main strategic and security challenge to France, the Europeans, the entire region, and beyond, accusing the country of accelerating its nuclear program and supporting Russia's war against Ukraine.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei rejected the French president's allegations as "baseless and contradictory."