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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

G20 Summit Accelerates US Decline on the International Stage

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The US is definitely on the decline on the world stage as is evident by the ignoring of the presence of its president at major international forums by fellow heads of states.

Following his pushing to the extreme end of the back row at the photo session of leaders of 21 participating countries in Lima for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) earlier this week, Joe Biden was totally out of picture on Monday during a similar photo session of the G20 states against the backdrop of Rio de Janeiro's iconic Sugarloaf Mountain.

Like the summit in the Peruvian capital, in the summit in Brazil's major city China's President Xi Jinping held the centre stage along with host President Luiz Lula da Silva, while none of the leaders of the 16 (out of 19) countries assembled for the photo session missed the absence of Biden and the two other absentees.

Yesterday, however, as consolation to the outgoing US president, or perhaps as a form of courtesy towards the Canadian and Italian prime ministers (Justin Trudeau and Giorgia Meloni), a second photo session of all participants was hastily arranged – the first such instance at international summits.

The phrase "a picture is worth a thousand words" proved true at this year's annual G20 'family photo', which clearly showed the countries of the western bloc in disarray and the US a fast fading shadow on the world stage.

At any rate, this is all clear indication of the declining trend or the further disgrace of the US, of whose stagnant economy and ageing military power, no one is much bothered.

We are also not concerned here about the proceedings of the G20 summit since its decisions do not affect us in the Islamic Republic of Iran, although we are happy at the cutting to size of the US, which is viewed as the 'evil empire' by most of the free world.

This downward slide will continue under the incoming Republican regime of Donald Trump, who is only a showman with an over-inflated ego given to theatrics but with a weakness for slavishly serving Zionist terroristic designs that often drives him to commit crimes against humanity.

In other words, the person whom the North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un famously called "dotard" is not a politician, let alone a statesman, as is obvious by his immoral behaviour, foul mouth, fraudulent accumulation of wealth, habitual lies, racial discrimination, and threats against independent countries that only backfire on the US.

We are fully confident that irrespective of his bombastic and blundering statements, in between his Israeli-dictated external policies, especially against Muslims and particularly against the long persecuted Palestinians, the 78-year old mentally declining Trump will lead the US to its ultimate decline.

When this happens, the US will no longer be hegemon, with relief for the free world in which there will no entity called Israel.

Qatari FM, Russian Envoy in Tehran for Key Talks



Pictures show FM Abbas Araghchi meeting his Qatari counterpart Sheikh Muhammad bin Abdulrahman Al Thani and the Russian president's special representative Mikhail Bogdanov in Tehran Wednesday.

TEHRAN -- Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi met with his Qatari counterpart Sheikh Muhammad bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, who is also Qatar's prime minister, here Wednesday and discussed bilateral and regional issues.

Qatar, along with the United States and Egypt, had led months

of fruitless negotiations for a truce in the Gaza war, but the Persian Gulf state announced earlier this month it was pausing its mediation efforts.

Doha has long enjoyed close ties to Iran. It has also hosted Hamas, but reports have said Qatar had warned the resistance movement

that its political bureau was no longer welcome.

Qatar said on Tuesday that Hamas negotiators were not in Doha but their office had not been permanently closed.

The Islamic Republic has always tried to mobilize and unite the regional countries as regards the most pressing issues of the region and prevent certain extra-regional parties from meddling in their affairs.

U.S. envoy Amos Hochstein has been in the region talking to different sides about a ceasefire rides roughshod of the Lebanese and Palestinian interests in favor of the occupying regime of Israel.

Araghchi held another important meeting with Mikhail Bogdanov, the Russian president's special representative for West Asia and Africa.

The foreign minister emphasized Iran's determination to further strengthen cooperation in bilateral and multilateral fields while referring to very good relations between Tehran and Moscow.

He referred to the visit of a high-ranking economic delegation headed by Russian Minister of Energy Sergei Tsivilev to Tehran, expressing hope that the visit would help further develop bilateral relations.

Araghchi said insecurity and instability in West Asia is the result of the aggressive actions of the Zionist regime and warned against the spread of conflicts throughout the entire region.

Aref: Russia, Iran Set to Strengthen Ties

TEHRAN — Vice-President Muhammad-Reza Aref said Wednesday Tehran and Moscow are determined to strengthen bilateral relations to the maximum level.

In his meeting with visiting Russian Minister of Energy Sergei Tsivilev here, Aref said there are significant capacities in both countries for boosting cooperation.

Iran, he said, believe that all-out and long-term cooperation with Russia is of paramount importance.

For his part, the Russian minister of energy said there are several

grounds for deepening cooperation between his country and Iran.

Tsivilev, who is also the Russian chairman of the Moscow-Tehran economic committee, underscored the panel's efforts facilitate cooperation.

His visit comes in the wake of new sanctions imposed by the EU and Britain on both countries.

Last week, the European Union said it had added the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL) to its sanctions list, accusing the group of using its vessels and ports to transport drone, missiles and related technologies and

components to Russia which is in war with Ukraine.

Moving in lockstep the same day, Britain imposed sanctions against Iran's national airline and shipping carrier, saying the entities would face an asset freeze for the same reason alleged by the EU.

The EU also sanctioned three Russian shipping firms of MG Flot, VTS Broker, and Arapax, accusing them of transporting Iranian weapons across the Caspian Sea, while Britain targeted the Russian cargo ship PORT OLYA-3, accusing it of role in transporting military supplies to Russia.

Tehran Fires Warning Shots Ahead of IAEA Board Meeting

TEHRAN -- Iran's foreign minister reached out to his counterparts and the head of the UN nuclear agency ahead of the agency's Board of Governors meeting, amid speculations that it would pass a resolution against Tehran.

In a phone call with South African counterpart Ronald Lamola on Wednesday, Abbas Araghchi warned that the resolution proposed by three European powers at the IAEA's Board of Governors meeting would further complicate the situation.

The censure resolution against Iran was reportedly added to the Board's agenda on Tuesday night. France, Britain, Germany, and the United States were set to present the resolution during Wednesday's meeting.

Araghchi also reiterated the sentiment in a phone call with the

IAEA chief Rafael Grossi, saying that "if the other parties disregard Iran's goodwill and cooperative approach and pursue unconstructive actions by issuing a resolution at the IAEA Board of Governors meeting, Iran will respond in an appropriate and proportional manner."

In another phone call with French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot Tuesday night, he also warned that if the board took up a confrontational approach, the Islamic Republic would respond appropriately.

"This measure by the three European countries is in blatant contravention of the positive atmosphere created in the interaction between Iran and the Agency," the Iranian foreign minister told his French counterpart. "It will only make matters more complicated."

FM Araghchi Slams EU, UK Hypocrisy in Imposing Sanctions

TEHRAN -- Iran has condemned Western double standards in dealing with Tehran after the European Union and Britain imposed sanctions on the country's shipping over accusations of supplying ballistic missiles to Russia.

"The EU and the UK, without presenting any evidence, have accused Iran of supplying ballistic missiles to Russia and imposed sanctions on our airlines and shipping," Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi wrote on X. Iran says it maintains a policy of neutrality in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and categorically rejects the unfounded accusations made by the US and its European allies to the contrary.

Araghchi highlighted the hypocrisy inherent in the UK government's approach to international arms trade and the issue of human rights.

He drew attention to reports by the British media that the UK government is fully aware that the weapons it sends to Israel, including components for F-35 fighter jets, are being used against civilians in violations of international humanitarian law.

"At the same time, based on documents submitted to court, British media today reveals that the UK, fully aware that its arms and F-35 components are used by Israel in grave violations of international humanitarian law, continues to export these weapons," Araghchi said.

The UK continues to export advanced weaponry to Israel to avoid any friction in its relations with the United States and the NATO military alliance, the top diplomat noted.

"This contradictory behavior exposes their double standards and abdication of responsibility toward human rights."

The Holy Qur'an

O our Lord! Surely Thou knowest what we hide and what we make public, and nothing in the earth nor any thing in heaven is hidden from Allah: Praise be to Allah, Who has given me in old age Ismail and Ishaq; most surely my Lord is the Hearer of prayer:
The Holy Qur'an (14:39)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	11:50
Evening (Maghreb)	17:14
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	06:46
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	05:19

Defense Minister Discusses Expansion of Ties in Caracas

CARACAS (Dispatches) -- Iran's Defense Minister Brigadier General Aziz Nasirzadeh here Wednesday emphasized the need for promotion of cooperation between the Islamic Republic and Venezuela.

Nasirzadeh arrived here at the head of a delegation to attend a joint commission meeting to come up with plans for the development of economic cooperation.

He said several meetings would be held with high-ranking Venezuelan officials, including oil minister, as well as the Latin American country's ministers of defense, economy and finance.

"Our goal is to examine and present solutions for the expansion of economic cooperation between the two countries, an issue that has always been emphasized by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution and the president," he said.

His itinerary also included talks with Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro.

Nasirzadeh is in Caracas to participate in the 10th meeting of the Joint Economic Cooperation Commission, with representatives of the private sector and knowledge-based companies tagging on.

The purpose of the commission is to deepen cooperation in strategic areas, as part of the 20-year agreement signed between the two countries.