UNESCO Head Condemns Israeli Killing of Iranian Media Staff

PARIS (Dispatches) -- UNESCO Director Audrey Azoulay on Thursday condemned the killing of two Iranian media workers during Israeli airstrikes on the IRIB headquarters in Tehran last month.

She called for a thorough and transparent investigation into the incident. Azoulay emphasized that the media infrastructure of every country is protected under international humanitarian law, as it is classified as a civilian



**Envoy: Bushehr Nuclear Units Advancing on Schedule** 

MOSCOW (Dispatches) -- Iranian Ambassador to Russia Kazem Jalali says construction of the second and third units of the Bushehr nuclear power plant, in cooperation with Russia, is proceeding according to schedule despite the 12-day aggression by the Zionist regime.

In an interview with the Russian outlet RIA Novosti, Jalali noted that all Russian specialists and Iranian contractors are actively working in Bushehr. He added that operations are fully underway and the war had no impact

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**Judiciary Chief** Urges Swift Justice in Israeli-Related Cases



Foreign Journalists in Tehran to **Document Israeli Media Terrorism** 



**U-16 Volleyballers** Beat Japan, **Advance to Asian** Championship Final



Senior Official Says Lessons Learned From Talks With U.S.

Israeli Public 'Fed Lies' About **Defeating Hamas**, **Commander Says** 



## IRGC Chief Gen. Pakpour: **Armed Forces Ready to Resume** Strikes on Aggressors

TEHRAN -- The IRGC chief says Iran will resume its retaliatory war against the invaders from where it left off in the event of further aggression, emphasizing full preparedness of the Islamic Republic to strike the enemy once again.

Major General Muhammad Pakpour, Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) chief commander, made the remarks during a meeting with Iran's Army Chief Major General Amir Hatami on Thursday, emphasizing that IRGC's morale is at its highest level.

"The armed forces are in full readiness and coordination to repeat a strike against the enemy," Pakpour stressed.

He touched on Iran's 12-day response to the U.S. and Israeli aggression, noting that the Armed Forces managed to neutralize the toughest and most complex war and sedition in Iran's history with "the heroic support of the nation."

On June 13, Israel launched a blatant and unprovoked act of aggression against Iran, assassinating many high-ranking military commanders, nuclear scientists, and ordinary civilians. More than a week later, the U.S. entered the war by bombing three Iranian nuclear

In response, hundreds of Iranian ballistic missiles and drones overwhelmed Israeli air defenses and struck key military, intelligence, industrial, energy, and R&D facilities across the occupied Palestinian territories.

Iran's Armed Forces also launched a ballistic missile attack against the Al-Udeid air base in Qatar, the largest American military base in West Asia.

"The will and dignity of the Iranian people and the armed forces have prevailed. We all stand together. Beloved Iran has never been defeated in confrontation with its enemies," the IRGC chief said. "In the final days of the war, the Israelis saw the promised hell with their own eyes."

"We will not let the aggressors and invaders off the hook. We will resume the war and battle against the invaders exactly from where it was left off," Pakpour stressed.

Major General Hatami, for his part, condemned the Israeli regime for being the main threat to peace and security in West Asia.

"The evil Zionist regime is a threat to peace and security in the region and the world, and an enemy of Muslims. If given the chance, it will also invade other countries in the region," he stressed.

"We pledge that, God willing, the Army and the IRGC will stand side by side and hand in hand—as a divine army—to work for the elevation of Iran's proud flag and the security and power of Islamic Iran," Hatami added.

On June 24, the isolated Israeli regime, with U.S. President Donald Trump announcing on its behalf, declared a unilateral ceasefire. This came after Iran, through effective retaliatory actions against both Israel and the U.S., succeeded in forcing an end to the unlawful aggression.

Iran's top military official on Friday praised the country's air defense units, warning that the units will make any aggressor regret any potential attack against Iranian soil.

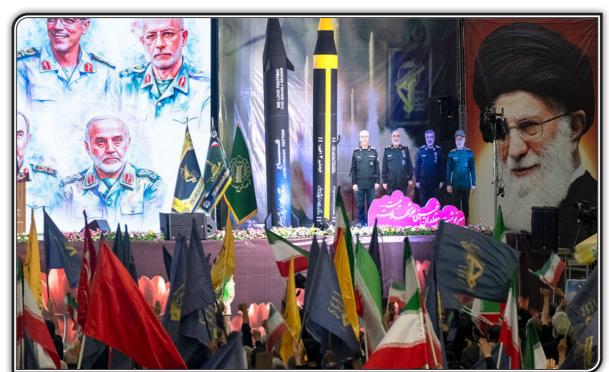
Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi, Chief of the General Staff of Iran's Armed Forces, visited the national air defense headquarters, where he honored the "martyrs, wounded, and war veterans" of the recent aggression and expressed gratitude to all air defense personnel for their service.

"Air defense, standing on the front line of our sky's protection, has proven its ability to withstand all levels of threats and to make the enemies of the Iranian nation regret their miscalculations," he said.

Mousavi added that the downing of a large number of enemy aircraft demonstrated not

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'No Reason to Waste Time With Talks'



Iranians participate in a funeral procession for some of the senior military general martyred in the unprovoked Israeli aggression in Tehran.

TEHRAN -- A senior Iranian political official has said that Iran will not enter new negotiations with the U.S. under the previous framework or agenda, applying lessons learned from earlier talks, Press TV reported.

The official, who requested anonymity, stressed Thursday that any negotiations must be consistent with the security realities of the region.

"For now, we think the purpose of the negotiations is to disarm Iran to make up for Israel's weakness in the next war," the official said.

"Our intelligence indicates Washington seeks talks to prepare for war, not peace. If so, we see no reason to waste time and would rather focus on preparing for conflict."

The official added that any new round of negotiations must include "serious and practical guarantees" to ensure the process is not a cover for security deception.

The official outlined key conditions for talks, including serious attention to Israel's nuclear program and its weapons of mass destruction.

"No one in the region will accept the disarmament of the region while such a bloodthirsty regime becomes more armed every day."

The official stated that credible punishment of Israel and compensation to Iran are other conditions for negotiations; otherwise, negotiations will once again be a prelude to war.

"This is a problem for the United States, and we do not know how they intend to solve it," the official added.

Tehran and Washington were engaged in negotiations led by Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and U.S. President Donald Trump's foreign envoy Steve Witkoff and had conducted five rounds of indirect talks mediated by Oman when Israel launched a series of unprovoked aggressions which upended the process.

"We must receive guarantees that Mr. Whitkoff is a mediator for a solution, not a firestarter for war," the Iranian official said Thursday.

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## Yemeni Strikes Force Eilat Port Shutdown

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- The southern port of Eilat is set to shut down completely in the coming days, due to massive debts and paralysis caused by Yemen's pro-Palestine naval blockade on Israel.

The Israeli Ports and Shipping Authority said that Eilat Port will suspend all its operations starting on July 20.

Hebrew media reports described the situation as a "dramatic step" that could undermine Israeli maritime logistics in the Red Sea, and referred to the port as "debt ridden."

Specifically, the could halt logistical support for the Israeli navy, which has used the port's facilities since the start of the war in Gaza.

The Eilat municipality has seized the port's bank accounts after failure to pay tax debts estimated at around 700,000 NIS (over \$200,000), according to Israeli outlet Globes.

"Following the shutdown of Eilat Port for ongoing operations and the economic situation it has found itself in as a result of the continuing crisis, the Eilat municipality has notified the port management of the seizure of all of the port's bank accounts due to financial debts to the municipality," Israel's emergency authority said in a letter obtained by Globes.

However, according to Israeli newspaper The Marker, the port's debt stands at several million shekels.

Activity at the port of Eilat has almost completely stopped since the start of the naval blockade imposed on Israel by the Yemeni Armed Forces (YAF) in November 2023.

Half of the cars imported into Israel are usually unloaded at the port of Eilat, yet the cargo is now being diverted to other

Over 130 ships docked at the port in 2023, as opposed to only 16 ships the year after. Since the start of 2025 until mid-May, only six ships have docked at Eilat port.

"Closing the port will stop the little activity that still continues there - limited phosphate exports and service to Navy ships," The Marker notes, adding that "the port cannot operate at full capacity until sailings in the Red Sea resume with the removal of the Houthi threat."

The Yemeni threat resulted in mass layoffs at Eilat port last

The first four months of the Gaza war and around two months into the Yemeni naval blockade, revenues at Eilat port plummeted by 80 percent.

Yemen recently escalated maritime operations against Israeli interests.

According to sources who

spoke with Middle East Eye, "Israel has approached marine insurers about the status of war risk coverage for vessels with indirect ties to Israel" due to "concerns that back-to-back Houthi attacks in the Red Sea could hurt traffic at the port of Haifa."

"There is a big discussion in the market right now whether insurers should cover vessels with even indirect connections to Israel," one of the shipping sources said. "This is not good for Israel. The optics are damaging. The Israelis have spoken to insurers and shipping companies."

Earlier this month, the Yemeni army sank two Greekowned, Liberian-flagged vessels that were heading to or dealing with Israeli ports.

On July 7, Israel carried out widespread attacks on Yemen. Tel Aviv said its latest attack on

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