

Iran in a Week

Iran and the European Troika (France, Germany and the UK) will meet in Istanbul on Friday July 5, 2025 for a critical round of nuclear talks as the deadline for triggering the 2015 deal’s snapback sanctions mechanism nears. Disagreements over enrichment levels, verification and mutual obligations have stalled progress, raising fears of a breakdown. The choice of Istanbul as the venue reflects Iran’s effort to distance talks from European capitals seen as aligned with Washington, favoring a country it views as more neutral — though Türkiye is not mediating. The E3 say they remain committed to the deal but insist that Iran must fully comply or face renewed UN sanctions. If the talks fail, a referral to the UN Security Council under Chapter VII is possible, with serious consequences. The absence of the United States highlights the imbalance in diplomatic pressure and reveals a shifting balance of international pressures directed at Iran.

News

Politics:



Iran’s Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei: “A greater blow can be dealt to the United States and others.”



Supreme Leader’s advisor Ali Larijani: “Negotiation is a tactic — let the leader use it when he deems appropriate.”



Iranian Parliament’s National Security Committee Spokesperson Ebrahim Rezaei: “We will seriously consider withdrawing from the NPT if the snapback mechanism is triggered.”



Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmail Baghaei: “Iran has agreed to the European states’ request to hold a new round of talks with the three European signatories to the nuclear deal.”

Security and Military:



Intelligence Minister Esmail Khatib: “Just as some spies were executed, the rest will also be punished.”



IRGC Commander Maj. Gen. Mohammad Pakpour: “In the war’s final days, Israelis saw with their own eyes the promised hell.”



IRGC: A test was conducted for the Qased satellite launch vehicle.



Intelligence Minister Esmail Khatib: “Infiltration has always existed here — and will remain — just as we also infiltrate other countries and the Zionist regime.”


The Region and the World:



The EU steps up sanctions on Iran over alleged human rights violations.



UK police: Like Russia, Iran is trying to export violence to the UK using criminal networks.



On July 18, 2025, the Belgian Parliament backed a resolution to formally designate Iran’s IRGC as a terrorist group.

Economy:



Eghtesad Online, citing the Statistical Office of Iran: Half of Iran’s population is unemployed.



Iran’s Civil Aviation Organization: Isfahan Airport resumes operations after a 34-day halt.




Economist Morteza Afqeh: “Given high liquidity and likely tighter sanctions, the dollar could well reach 100,000 tomans.”


Society and Culture:



Deputy Minister of Communications Ehsan Chitsaz: “Iran plans to replace the US GPS with China’s BeiDou system.”



Presidential Inspector Mostafa Moulavi: “The president’s car was filled with petrol mixed with water en route to Tabriz.”



President Masoud Pezeshkian: “Water reserves are alarming. Both the government and the public must manage consumption.”

Editorials

1


Etemad Newspaper



Time for Honesty
Some clerics still act as if Iran has not changed in 30 years. They must stop blaming a vague “enemy” for declining religiosity. The real issue lies in their own failings.

2


Arman Emrooz



Snapback Warning
Europe may trigger the snapback mechanism by 18 October. Some downplay it, but renewed UN sanctions could return Iran to Chapter VII — paving the way for legal military action.

3


Setar-e Sobh Newspaper



Reconciliation or Ruin
Without US talks, Iran risks further sanctions — or war. The chance for agreement is narrow, but far less costly than conflict.

4


Jahan-e Sanat Newspaper



Let the People Breathe
The government can no longer buy popularity. It must now rely on citizens and offer them a break after two tense decades.