

Iran in a Week

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit’s final statement condemned Israeli and US strikes on Iran, urged adherence to international resolutions and opposed European efforts to reimpose UN sanctions. Chinese President Xi Jinping reaffirmed Beijing’s respect for Iran’s sovereignty and its right to peaceful nuclear energy.

These positions reflect shifting geopolitics: US-India tensions, closer New Delhi-Beijing cooperation despite disputes and stalled Ukraine peace efforts all strengthen China’s efforts to rally states resisting Western influence. For Iran, these trends affirm its “look East” policy and offer diplomatic cover. The question is whether this support

economy or enhance its deterrence with advanced defense systems. Past experience suggests otherwise — Chinese and Russian backing remains mostly rhetorical, fueling debate between “conservatives” and “reformists” over the real gains of Tehran’s eastward turn.

News

Politics:



Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf: “Iran’s decision on how to confront Europe’s illegal measure will soon be implemented and announced.”



Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baghaei in an interview with The Guardian: “If Parliament approves withdrawal from the NPT, we must implement it.”



Spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran Behrouz Kamalvandi: “IAEA inspectors are overseeing the fuel replacement process at the Bushehr nuclear power plant.”



Former Iranian President Hassan Rouhani: “Reducing tensions with the United States is necessary and a duty for us — we must negotiate.”

Security and Military:



Parliament’s National Security Committee Chair Ebrahim Azizi: “Iran’s border guards reported that the Zionist regime used the Azerbaijani border to send drones into Iranian airspace.”



Committee Member Alaeddin Boroujerdi: “If Iran’s oil is blocked from export, no other country’s oil will be allowed to flow either.”



Committee Spokesman Ebrahim Rezaei: “We must prepare for war.”



Basij Commander Brigadier General Gholamreza Soleimani: “Iran’s target list is complete — any new attack will hit not just Israel but its backers too.”

The Region and the World:



IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi: “The three European countries say they want Iran to cooperate seriously and effectively with the agency.”



Reza Pahlavi: Triggering the snapback mechanism is an important step toward holding Tehran’s “terrorist regime” accountable.

Economy:



Economist Mohammad Taqi Fayyazi: “The war has led to a shortage of capital for companies and institutions, making it difficult for them to secure investment and sustain operations.”



Iranian Minister of Industry Mohammad Atabak: “Rising prices and energy disruptions are the two main challenges facing the country’s industries, threatening production and growth.”



The US dollar has hit a new record, surpassing 101,000 tomans, signaling a sharp decline in the value of Iran’s national currency amid ongoing economic pressures.

Society and Culture:



Public protests erupt in multiple Iranian cities over repeated water and power outages and deepening recession.



UN Human Rights Office: Nearly 850 people have been executed in Iran since the beginning of this year.



Economist Masoud Nili: “Society is on the verge of a social explosion. Thirty-one out of every 100 Iranians live in poverty.”

Editorials

1



Zangezur and the Geopolitical Shift

The Zangezur Corridor is more than a construction project; it threatens Iran’s strategic trade routes and long-term regional influence. Limiting Tehran’s leverage in regional commerce, it demands more than rhetorical responses if Iran hopes to maintain its role.

2



Back to Square One?

With the European troika triggering the snapback mechanism, UN sanctions return and the nuclear deal is effectively over. Iran now faces three strategic paths: full surrender, complete withdrawal from the NPT or conditional engagement — none of which it has fully prepared for.

3



Facing Reality

Iran is locked in confrontation with the world’s biggest power and Israel’s Netanyahu, while its citizens endure worsening economic conditions. The past decade’s lessons show that leadership must act decisively to ensure security and restore hope.

4



Priority: Saving Iran

Today’s crisis is both economic and existential. Factional rivalries risk deepening instability. The real priority is rescuing Iran’s security, unity and future before the situation becomes irreversible.