

Iran in a Week

In a joint letter to the UN secretary general and Security Council president, the ambassadors of Iran, China and Russia challenged the European troika’s move to trigger the snapback mechanism. They cited paragraph 8 of Resolution 2231, which sets October 18, 2025 as the expiration date for all provisions, calling any post-deadline activation “fundamentally invalid.” While Moscow and Beijing invoke the resolution’s timeline, their opposition also reflects strategic calculations. Russia seeks leverage over Europe and limits on Western influence in the Middle East. Moreover, this signals the diminishing effectiveness of Western sanctions. China views the ongoing Iranian nuclear issue as a tool to enhance its energy, trade and geopolitical positioning, especially vis-à-vis the United States. The two powers’ support for Iran thus blends legal reasoning with strategic maneuvering, turning the snapback debate into a contest over global influence and the authority to define international law.

News

Politics:



Member of the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee in the Iranian Parliament Fada Hossein Maleki: “The United States has sent a message asking to negotiate, but Iran has no intention of negotiating.”



Head of the National Security Committee in the Iranian Parliament Ebrahim Azizi addressing the Venezuelan ambassador in Tehran: “As long as you stand up to the United States, Iran will support you.”



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi: “The danger of radiation and unexploded munitions at the facilities is still present.”



Tehran Friday prayer leader Ahmad Khatami: “There will be neither negotiations nor relations unless the United States behaves itself.”

Security and Military:



IRGC Navy Commander Brigadier General Alireza Tangsiri: “In the latest drill, we used a missile whose range exceeds the entire length of the Arabian Gulf coast.”



IRGC Ground Forces Commander Major General Mohammad Pakpour: “Iran is now in a phase of halting engagement with Israel.”



Iranian Armed Forces Spokesperson Brigadier General Abolfazl Shekarchi: “The enemy was defeated on the battlefield and resorted to pleading and sending messages to stop the clashes.”



Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf: “We have a 20% shortage in foreign currency due to the decline in oil prices, but nothing will be cut from the armed forces’ budget.”

The Region and the World:



The United States has set a reward of \$10 million for information on two Iran-affiliated cyber operatives.



US State Department: Iran remains the world’s leading state sponsor of terrorism.



Reporters Without Borders: Iran is the world’s seventh-largest jailer of journalists.

Economy:



Iranian Economy Minister Ali Madani-Zadeh: “The situation is now extremely bad.”



Head of the Dairy Products Association Ali Ehsan Zafri: “Forty to 45 million people in society are no longer able to buy dairy products.”




The dollar exchange rate reaches a new level: 126,000 tomans.

Society and Culture:



Head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) Peyman Jebelli: “The decline in audience numbers has been an ongoing process for 10 years.”



Former Head of the Iranian Sociological Association Saeed Moeidfard: “All statistics and evidence show that social capital is evaporating and public trust has reached its lowest possible level.”



CEO of Tehran Water Company Mohsen Ardakani: “The four Tehran dams are only 3% full.”

Editorials



Why Iran’s Problems Remain Unsolved
Reviews of media and research output show a painful reality: nothing is being resolved in Iran — economically, politically or culturally. Runaway inflation, weak growth and declining investment all signal that Iran has taken the wrong path and has lost the ability to return.



Despair With Life
Bread, water and air have long been at risk in Iran, and conditions worsened under Raisi. Major corruption, environmental decline and hardship have deepened despair. The paper calls for spending Iran’s resources at home, not abroad.



The Missing Link in Diplomacy
Iran must act decisively against Grossi, pursuing his removal from the IAEA.



A Critical Test for the President
A widening social–government gap challenges Iran; restoring trust is essential.