

# Iran in a Week

The recent expansion of the U.S. military presence in the Middle East marks a critical moment for regional stability and highlights Saudi Arabia's growing role as a risk manager. Washington's troop buildup and President Donald Trump's emphasis on "limited" military options reflect a pressure strategy aimed at exploiting Iran's internal weaknesses without sliding into a

full-scale war. Iran, meanwhile, pairs escalatory rhetoric with caution, aware that even a limited strike could trigger serious domestic fallout amid eroding legitimacy and suppressed protests. Tehran therefore combines deterrent posturing with indirect communication channels to Washington. In this context, Saudi Arabia has taken a calculated position, refusing to allow its territory

or airspace to be used in military action against Iran. This stance signals strategic confidence, balancing close security ties with the United States and pragmatic engagement with Tehran. Riyadh's political influence, economic strength, and regional awareness position it as a stabilizing "safety valve" capable of containing escalation and encouraging balanced deterrence.

## News

### Politics:



**Member of Iran's Assembly of Experts Mohammad Mehdi Mirbagheri:** "The enemy seeks to swallow Iran."



**Iranian Vice President Esmail Saghaf Esfahani, responding to Trump:** "God willing, the day will come when the person who uttered words bigger than himself will be forced to send a message of respect."



**Senior adviser to Iran's supreme leader on international affairs Ali Akbar Velayati:** "Tehran does not consider negotiations with the United States to be part of its security."



**Iran's Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva Ali Bahraini:** "Iranian officials are prepared for all scenarios."



**Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmail Baghaei:** "Countries in the region are working hard to ensure that no party makes a miscalculation, but if war is forced upon us, we will have no choice but to stand firm."

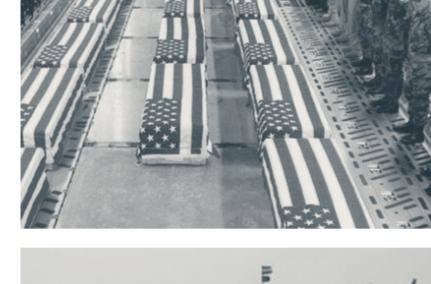


**Iranian government spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani:** "If it becomes necessary to cut internet access for security reasons and to protect lives, we are committed to the decisions of the security institutions."

### Security and Military:



**Iranian Police Chief Ahmad Reza Radan:** The country has passed a "complex and dangerous stage" of riots.



**Chair of the Parliamentary National Security Committee Ebrahim Azizi:** "If the United States makes a mistake based on the miscalculations of a delusional leader, I hope its soldiers in the region have said goodbye to their families."



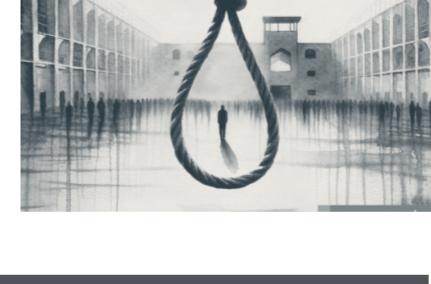
**Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC):** Showcases submarine missile tunnels equipped with cruise missiles with a 1,000-kilometer range to counter US ships.



**Deputy Commander of IRGC Naval Forces Brig. Gen. Akbarzadeh:** "Tehran knows well that these 33 kilometers (the Strait of Hormuz) are a tool capable of destabilizing the \$25 trillion US economy."

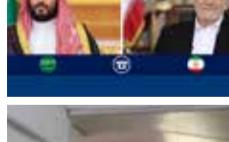


**Iranian Attorney General Mohammad Mo'ahidi:** "Trump's claim regarding the prevention of the execution of 800 people was false."



**Tasnim News Agency:** Hamid Reza Thabet, accused of spying and intelligence cooperation for Mossad, was hanged on January 28.

### The Region and the World:



**Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman:** "Any kind of aggression, threat, or tension-raising against Iran is unacceptable."



**US President Donald Trump:** "We are watching Iran. A large fleet is on its way there. A powerful force is moving toward Iran. I'd prefer nothing happens, but we are monitoring them closely."



**Pentagon, 2026 National Defense Strategy document:** The "Islamic" Republic is weaker and more fragile than at any time in recent decades.



**UN Special Rapporteur on human rights Mai Sato:** "Restrictions on communications since January 8 have severely limited the flow of information and seriously hindered international monitoring of the situation inside Iran."

### Economy:



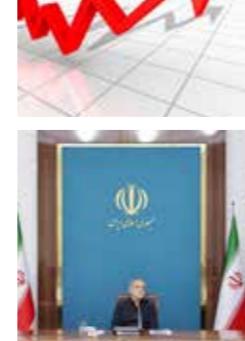
Exchange rate of the rial: Falls to new levels, exceeding 150,000 toman (1.5 million rials) per US dollar.



**Minister of Communications Sattar Hashemi:** "Daily losses to the national economy due to internet shutdowns are estimated at \$35.7 million."



**Iranian Statistics Center:** Food inflation has reached around 90%, while inflation for oils, fruits and bread has hit triple digits.



**Governor of Iran's Central Bank Abdolnaser Hemmati:** "25 million families received food coupons worth \$11 each."

### Society and Culture:



**HRANA Human Rights Agency:** The confirmed death toll in the protests has reached 6,126, with 17,091 cases still under verification.



**Sunni Friday Prayer Leader in Zahedan Mawlawi Abdul Hamid:** "The horrific massacre targeting protesters was an organized massacre, creating a deep rift between the Iranian people and the regime that cannot be repaired."



**Iranian Parliament Member Mostafa Pourdehghan:** "The approach of Iran's state broadcasting network is to continue moving forward with a single voice, which has caused a sharp decline in its followers."



**NetBlocks:** Internet shutdown in Iran enters its 18th day, concealing the scale of bloody repression against civilians.