

Iran in a Week

Iran is facing an increasingly acute and complex crisis, marked by deep economic distress and mounting domestic unrest. The sharp and ongoing depreciation of the national currency has driven inflation to record levels, severely undermining living standards and triggering waves of protests that could expand into broader challenges to the ruling system. These pressures are being intensified by

renewed US and international sanctions, reinstated after the European troika activated the snapback mechanism, further constraining Iran's economy. In response, the leadership, including the supreme leader and the government, has adopted more rigid positions, stressing alignment with Eastern partners and reliance on the "resistance economy" to withstand sanctions.

However, this strategy has not eased external pressure. The United States, Israel and Western powers may exploit Iran's internal instability, whether by leveraging protests to push for regime change or by using nuclear ambiguity to justify increased military pressure. With limited options domestically and internationally, Tehran shows no signs of an imminent breakthrough.

News

Politics:



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian: "Iran's response to any aggression will be harsh and devastating."



Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi: "The US president has been misled; he now sees Israel as a reliable ally and Tehran as an enemy."



Senior Adviser to the Supreme Leader for International Affairs Ali Akbar Velayati: "Iran will continue developing its peaceful nuclear industry."



Statement by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "Canada's naval forces have been designated a terrorist organization."


Security and Military:



Former IRGC Commander Major General Mohsen Rezaei: "Iran's missile capabilities are non-negotiable and cannot be halted or contained."



On a joint mission with Russia, Iran launches three satellites into space.



Commander of the Iranian Army Navy Admiral Shahram Irani: "The navy has planned to conduct exercises in neighboring countries and in the oceanic region."



University students join the popular protests in Iran.

The Region and the World:



The US Treasury Department targets 10 individuals and entities from Iran and Venezuela over their dealings related to drones and missiles.



US Ambassador to the UN Mike Waltz: "We stand with protesters across Iran."



US President Donald Trump at a joint press conference with the Israeli prime minister warns that any potential US attack on Iranian nuclear facilities would be more violent than the 12-Day War.

Economy:



Financial Times report: The value of Iran's currency has fallen by 40% since the 12-Day War.



For the third consecutive day, nationwide protests in Iran are disrupting a broad swath of the Iranian economy.



Spokesperson for Parliament's Article 90 Committee Mohammad Motamedi Zadeh: "The 2026 budget entails a 50% tax burden, a 20% increase in salaries and a poverty line reaching 40 million tomans."

Society and Culture:



Head of Parliament's Budget, Planning and Accounts Commission Gholamreza Tajgardan: "The poverty line in Iran has risen, meaning the size of the poor population has increased."



Government Spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani: "When people raise their voices, it is a sign that pressure has intensified."



Head of the Social Welfare Organization Javad Hosseini: "The rate of suicide attempts and completed suicides among adolescent girls has become equal to that among boys, whereas previously the gap was fivefold."

Editorials

1



Setar-e Sobh Newspaper



Iran at a Crossroads
Tehran faces mounting political, diplomatic and media pressure, alongside sanctions, threats and the specter of war. Iran stands amid a storm, forced to choose between resistance and war with unknown costs, surrender as the worst option or compromise — not surrender, but a search for an exit from crises. This comes as Iranians struggle with inflation, high prices, pollution and congestion, prioritizing basic needs such as bread, water and clean air.

2



(Arman Melli Newspaper)



The Heavy Cost of Brain Drain
Iran's declining scientific ranking reflects deep social, cultural and institutional shortcomings that are driving elites to leave. Without policy reform and proper recognition of talent, the cycle will persist.

3



Hammihan



Living Inside a Bubble
A dangerous cognitive gap separates policymakers from social realities, leaving priorities misaligned and problems unresolved.

4



Jahan-e Sanat Newspaper



Is Listening Enough?
Listening to protests is only a first step; without solutions, public anger will keep rising.