

# Iran in a Week

Iran’s current strategy blends diplomacy and military readiness at a moment shaped by the 12-Day War’s enduring legacy. Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmail Baghaei emphasized alignment between diplomats and commanders, noting briefings where the military reviewed post-June gains while diplomats assessed ongoing negotiations, signaling integrated decision-making rather than dual tracks. Former diplomat Kourosh Ahmadi described tense indirect talks mediated by Oman, with US Central Command unusually involved. Divergent narratives emerged: Iran’s optimism contrasted with US restraint and Trump’s brief “very good” characterization, reflecting a preference for concise agreements. Central to negotiations is Iran’s missile program, with nearly 2,000 medium-range missiles underpinning deterrence. Last June’s barrage of over 500 missiles fired by Iran toward Israel offered tactical gains despite limited strategic effect. The outcome appears set for continued ambiguity: partial, reversible understandings framed by mutual deterrence, leaving risk management dominant unless missiles are addressed in a wider regional security framework.

## News

### Politics:



**Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi:** “We cannot attack US soil if America attacks us, but we will target US bases in the region.”



**Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian:** “The current negotiations are a good opportunity to resolve the nuclear issue fairly.”



**Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmail Baghaei:** “We are prepared to remain at the negotiation site until the talks are concluded.”




**Atomic Energy Organization of Iran Director Mohammad Eslami:** “Reducing uranium enrichment to 60% is conditional on lifting all sanctions.”



**Former Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi:** “We have made many mistakes regarding our neighbors; exporting the revolution should not have been done using incorrect methods.”


### Security and Military:




**Brigadier General Hossein Ashtari:** “The enemy also knows well that if we deploy our equipment on the battlefield, they will be forced to retreat.”



Head of Iran’s Reform Front Azar Mansouri was arrested along with other reformist figures.



Abdolrahim Mousavi unveils a new underground missile city belonging to the IRGC Aerospace Force.



**Major General Yadollah Javani:** “The Khorramshahr-4 missile has great destructive power, and the enemies must recognize its seriousness.”

### The Region and the World:



**Human Rights Organization Report 2026:** The Iranian regime carried out over 2,000 executions in 2025.



**French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian from Beirut:** “Iran must abandon its role as a destabilizing power.”



The US Department of State announces new sanctions on two individuals, 15 companies and institutions.


### Economy:



**Ali Mohammad Mousavi:** “Despite Iran’s geopolitical position, it has been excluded from global supply routes and chains.”




India detains three oil tankers linked to Iran in international waters, alleging they were involved in oil smuggling.”




**Central Bank Governor Abdolnaser Hemmati:** “Inflation has risen significantly, and economic growth has become low and unstable.”


### Society and Culture:



**Sadegh Zibakalam:** “The Islamic Revolution did not result in democracy.”



**Sadegh Amoli Larijani:** “We are in a difficult situation, facing economic and livelihood problems.”



**Coordinating Council of Teachers’ Trade Unions:** The number of students killed in the January protests has risen to 200.

## Editorials

1

  
Arman Emrooz

“

**The Fate of Negotiations**

So far, Iran–US talks suggest that reaching a major agreement will not be easy.

2

  
Setar-e Sobh Newspaper

“

**Iran’s Issue Is “Life”**

Domestic despair and international sanctions make Iranians worry about their future. Past conflicts imposed heavy costs with little gain. Diplomacy lacks understanding of global politics and secret agreements.

3


  
Jomhuri Eslami

“

**The People’s Message to Clerics**

Religious influence in Iran is waning. After half a century of the Iranian republic, clerics have strayed from their core role as the people’s refuge.

4

  
Eqtesad Bouya

“

**Dying in Poverty**

Poverty is no longer a warning — it dominates Iranian life. Skyrocketing rents and prices shrink people’s ability to live.