

Iran in a Week

The decision by US President Donald Trump to impose a naval blockade around the Strait of Hormuz marks a shift from a regional escalation to a global geo-economic confrontation, given the strait's central role in energy flows. Without a UN Security Council mandate, the move falls into a legal grey area, weakening its legitimacy

and discouraging allies wary of breaching international law. This constraint has hindered coalition-building, with only limited UK coordination while France, Japan and Australia avoid direct involvement. Although the United States maintains operational superiority, the maritime environment remains high-risk.

Iran, through the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), is pursuing asymmetric deterrence using mines, missiles and drones to sustain uncertainty. Even limited disruptions can raise oil prices, shipping costs and insurance premiums, undermining the blockade's long-term viability.

News

Politics:



Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei: "The Islamic Republic has emerged as a superpower, while 'arrogance' is declining into weakness."



President Masoud Pezeshkian in a call with his French counterpart: "Iran entered negotiations seriously, but their success depends on the other side's approach."



Parliament Speaker Mohammed Bagher Ghalibaf, upon arriving in Islamabad: "Iran's experience with US negotiations has consistently involved failure and broken commitments."



Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmail Baghaei: "The talks came 40 days after the imposed war amid deep mistrust, making a one-session agreement unrealistic."

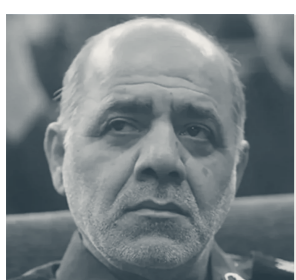


Deputy Speaker Hamidreza Haji Babaei: "Iran does not have a negotiation team but is engaged in 'soft war' diplomacy to formalize US surrender at the UN."




Former Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi died from wounds sustained in a US-Israeli strike on his home.


Security and Military:




Major General Ali Abdollahi warned that the continued US naval blockade would violate the ceasefire.



The IRGC denied reports of US naval passage through the strait, warning any attempt would face decisive retaliation.



Quds Force Commander Esmail Qaani: "The 'Axis of Resistance' is stronger than ever."




Cleric Ali Shirazi: "Even with an agreement, Iran will not reconcile with 'infidelity'; deals are for ending war, not normalization with the United States."


The Region and the World:



Costa Rica designated the IRGC, Hezbollah, Hamas and Ansarallah as terrorist organizations.




The United States revoked the residency of Issa Hashemi, son of Masoumeh Ebtekar, and confirmed his arrest with his family.



Amnesty International: Iran's internet shutdown constitutes a human rights violation.

Economy:



The central bank warned inflation could reach 180%, with 2 million more unemployed.




TankerTrackers: Two million barrels of Iranian crude have reached India since March 20.




Pars Energy Zone Chief Sakhavat Asadi: "Petrochemical output continues despite infrastructure damage in Asaluyeh."


Society and Culture:



Sunni Friday preacher Molavi Abdolhamid: "Citizens are enduring severe conditions but withheld demands during the war."



Activists warned of ongoing IRGC violations against children, including lowering conscription age to 12.



Economist Saeed Malek al-Sadati: "Continued internet restrictions will drive long-term emigration of ICT professionals."

Editorials

1 **اقتصاد بویا**
Eqtesad Bouya

The Need for Supportive Policies in Times of Crisis: Following the "Ramadan War" and its direct impact on economic sectors, many businesses faced severe disruption or temporary shutdown. This exposed the fragility of Iran's economy to sudden external shocks, underscoring the need for more sustainable and proactive support mechanisms to strengthen resilience.

2 **آرمان**
(Arman Melli Newspaper)

The Balance of Power in the Middle East: Recent developments stand out for combining military, diplomatic and symbolic power. The halt in hostilities and shift to negotiations, alongside regional political backing for Iran, suggest a new phase in Middle Eastern security — where deterrence, diplomacy and legitimacy jointly shape outcomes. These shifts point to a deeper reconfiguration of the region's geopolitical order.

3 **شترق**
Shargh

Naval Blockade: Objectives and Potential Outcomes: After the failure of the Islamabad talks, Trump announced a naval blockade on Iran. Its primary aim is to restrict Iran's oil revenues, which rose after the recent war. It may also serve as a signal to China regarding energy security vulnerabilities, representing a form of diplomatic pressure. Additionally, the increased global economic strain caused by the naval blockade could push the EU and NATO toward alignment with the United States.

4 **فوق العاده**
Fouq al-Ada

No Deal, Negotiations and the Explosion of Unemployment: Failed negotiations not only close a diplomatic path but open costlier alternatives, especially economically. With rising war concerns, Iran faces a new wave of unemployment. Companies are cutting costs to survive, making labor the easiest target — resulting in layoffs and growing job insecurity.