

Iran in a Week

The US naval blockade of Iran has evolved beyond a tool of economic and political pressure into a broader contest over control of vital maritime routes and the regional security order. Recent developments — including security incidents near Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait’s reports of thwarted attacks, India’s diplomatic protest after an Indian sailor was killed

in the Strait of Hormuz and Iran’s parliamentary moves concerning the strategic waterway — suggest the confrontation is entering a more dangerous phase. At the same time, Tehran’s increasingly confrontational stance toward some Gulf states marks a departure from recent efforts to reduce regional tensions, reflecting its belief that countries providing political

or logistical support to Washington are part of the conflict. While the United States aims to weaken Iran’s strategic leverage at sea, Tehran insists it will not negotiate under pressure. The crisis now hinges on whether tensions escalate into a wider regional conflict or international diplomacy succeeds in restoring de-escalation and containing the dispute.

News

Politics:



Iranian Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei: “Revenge is the demand of our people and must be carried out. Soon, free people worldwide will help fulfill this divine mission.”



Iranian MP Alaeddin Boroujerdi, member of Parliament’s National Security Committee: “Trump, Netanyahu, and their agents should expect divine retribution at any moment at the hands of the world’s free people. No place — including the White House — will be safe for these criminal regimes.”



Iranian MP Ali Khazrian, member of Parliament’s National Security Committee: “If Oman assists the enemy, its territory will no longer be safe. Iran will control the Strait of Hormuz with or without Oman.”



National Security Committee Spokesman Ebrahim Rezaei: “Any new US attack will be met with a change in Iran’s nuclear doctrine.”



Ahvaz interim Friday prayer leader Ahmad Reza Hajati: “We call on everyone with missiles and drones to cleanse the earth of Trump’s defilement.”

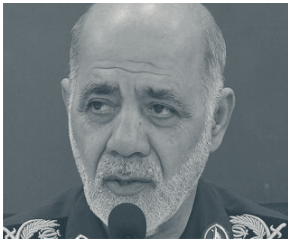


Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baghaei: “We have made no request for negotiations, and Trump’s claim is baseless.”

Security and Military:



Bushehr Deputy Governor for Political Affairs Ehsan Jahanian: “A US projectile struck the vicinity of the Bushehr nuclear power plant.”



Khatam al-Anbiya Headquarters Commander Ali Abdollahi: “We will avenge the assassins of our martyred commander, sooner or later.”



IRGC Navy: Owing to the security situation created by unlawful foreign intervention, the Strait of Hormuz has been closed until further notice.



Maj. Gen. Yahya Rahim Safavi, senior military adviser to Iran’s supreme leader: “Plans to close the Strait of Hormuz were drawn up 15 years ago under the orders of the ‘martyred’ supreme leader.”

Society and Culture:



Parliamentary Economic Committee member Fathollah Tavassoli: “The country’s banking sector has been grappling with structural imbalances for some time.”



Iranian MP Hossein Ali Haji Deligani: “The Iranian people have placed a \$100 million bounty on President Donald Trump, to be awarded to whoever brings his head.”



Amnesty International: Diplomatic efforts to secure a US-Iran agreement must not overlook Iran’s widespread human rights violations.

Economy:



CEO of Iran’s Power Distribution and Transmission Company Mohammad Elahdad: “The national power grid lost 4,200 megawatts of capacity, and more than 2,000 network sites were damaged during the recent war.”



Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Diplomacy Hamid Qanbari: “Iran has no objection to attracting investment from US companies. Economic ties with the United States do not mean abandoning China or Russia.”



The latest Statistical Review of World Energy, published by the UK’s IE Institute: Iran remained the world’s fifth-largest oil producer, accounting for 5.2% of global output, behind the United States, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Canada.

The Region and the World:



The UK government has designated Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organization.



Maritime analytics firm Kpler: Shipping traffic through the Strait of Hormuz has declined sharply.



The US Treasury Department announced sanctions on eight individuals and six companies linked to Iran and the IRGC.

Editorials

1



Sazandegi newspaper

The US and the Strait of Hormuz Card
Since the latest military moves began three days ago, Washington’s immediate objective appears to have shifted from ending the war to stripping Iran of its Strait of Hormuz leverage. In effect, the United States has shelved the draft agreement in favor of military pressure, telling Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi to “pick it up from the ground.” Although mediators have a month to revive negotiations, the past five days have dealt the most severe blow to diplomacy since the ceasefire.

2



Arman Emrooz

The Hidden Wound of Social Ills
Declining purchasing power and the erosion of Iran’s middle class are undermining living standards. Families struggling to meet basic needs are cutting spending on education, recreation, mental health and family life, fueling domestic tensions, despair and economic insecurity — conditions that foster broader social problems.

3



Mardom Salari

Rejecting the “Neither War Nor Peace” Narrative
The article criticizes Saeed Jalili for advocating war while questioning how conflict could improve public welfare. It argues that resisting aggression is necessary but warns prolonged confrontation is unsustainable under Iran’s current economic conditions, citing sanctions, inflation, banking isolation and mounting wartime costs.

4



Jahan Eqtasad

A “Brotherly Message to Azrael”
In a sharply worded editorial, Kayhan comments on the death of US Republican Senator Lindsey Graham, a staunch supporter of Israel, claiming he had been destined for retribution. The piece also refers to Senator Mitch McConnell’s reported critical condition, expressing that Azrael is “just” — a rhetorical statement reflecting the newspaper’s inflammatory tone.