

Iran in a Week

Nearly 200 days into the US-Iran war, the military confrontation is being matched by an equally consequential “war of narratives,” with both sides using traditional and social media to promote competing, often exaggerated accounts. Even the question of who controls the Strait of Hormuz remains contested, while the global economy — particularly energy and manufacturing — bears the greatest

cost. Missile exchanges resumed Sunday despite diplomatic efforts involving Pakistan’s army chief and Qatar’s foreign minister. Signs now point to a potentially more dangerous phase, as Washington combines sanctions with a naval blockade and Tehran threatens to abandon its largely defensive posture for a more offensive strategy. International analysts increasingly question Trump’s approach. MSNOW

says his threats against US allies are deepening US isolation, while Foreign Affairs argues that “maximum pressure” on Iran will fail. Inside Iran, President Pezeshkian signals readiness to revive the memorandum if Washington does likewise, while Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei urges the government to preserve social cohesion amid mounting pressures.

News

Politics:



Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei, in a message marking Government Week: “I declare unequivocally that any action that harms social cohesion is strictly prohibited.”



Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Mohsen Rezaei: “If the United States commits any hostile act against Iran, we will inflict a disaster on its military and economic interests that history will record.”



Deputy Chairman of Parliament's Article 90 Committee Hussein Ali Haji Deligani: “US bases in Europe must be targeted.”



Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran Mohammad Eslami: “Any inspection of facilities that have been subjected to military attacks will be conditional on the issuance of legal decisions by Parliament and the establishment of specific protocols. As long as the necessary security regulations and protocols are not in place, requests to inspect these facilities will be unacceptable under parliamentary law.”



Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Kazem Gharibabadi: “The understanding with Oman will not be implemented automatically, as its realization depends on the fulfillment of commitments by the other party, specifically the United States.”



President Pezeshkian: “If the United States returns to its commitments under the aforementioned memorandum of understanding, Iran will immediately reciprocate.”

Security and Military:



The IRGC Public Relations Department confirmed that an attack was carried out on Larak Island, saying the attack resulted in the deaths and injuries of a number of IRGC personnel and island residents.



IRGC: A border guard was killed in Zahedan, southeastern Iran, by armed assailants who targeted a border guard patrol.



Spokesman for the Iranian Armed Forces, Brigadier General Abolfazl Shekarchi: “Hostile media outlets are included in our military target bank.”



IRGC spokesman Brigadier General Hossein Mohebbi: “The Strait of Hormuz is under our control, and all enemy warships are at least 400 kilometers away from the Strait of Hormuz.”

Society and Culture:



Friday prayer leader in Mashhad and the Supreme Leader's representative in Razavi Khorasan Province Ahmad Alamolhoda: “The gap created by the supreme leader's absence in communicating with the people must be filled.”



Deputy Speaker of Parliament Amir Ebrahim Rasouli: “I would like to avenge the killing of the supreme leader, but the price of a pack of baby diapers has risen from \$2.2 before the war to \$5.4. We must adapt our ideals and slogans to the realities of society.”



Nader Yar-Ahmadi, head of the Ministry of Interior's Center for Foreign Nationals and Migrants Affairs: “The number of foreign nationals has fallen to fewer than 5 million after 1.8 million of them were deported.”

Economy:



Iran's Statistical Center: Inflation stood at 69.9% in August, while annual food-price inflation reached 128%.



Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad: “Oil sales have not stopped. Although sales have declined, deliveries of oil to customers in international waters are still underway.”



President Pezeshkian: “Imports and exports have declined by 35%. Roads are blocked; goods cannot enter the country, and gasoline is among those goods.”

The Region and the World:



CENTCOM: “We conducted a limited and precise strike against Iranian forces that were in the process of laying mines in the Strait of Hormuz.”



US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent: “We agree with China on the need to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons.”



TankerTrackers: “At least 15 ship-to-ship oil transfers are currently underway in the Gulf of Oman. The oil originates from nearly all countries in the region, with the exception of Iran.”

Editorials

1 شترق Shargh

Resolving the Crises Depends on the People's Fundamental Rights
The ominous shadow of war and the consequences of US and Israeli military aggression against the country have exacerbated these crises. Gasoline, electricity and water are insufficient to meet the country's needs, and there is currently little prospect of closing these gaps. Foreign-exchange rates continue to rise unchecked, while essential necessities such as housing, food, medicine and medical treatment have become unaffordable for a large segment of the population. There are other crises that we will set aside for now. However, under Article 9 of the Constitution, none of these crises should serve as grounds for violating or suspending the people's fundamental rights.

2 دنیای اقتصاد Donya-ye Eghtesad

From Resilience to Structural Depletion
The destructive impact of sanctions stems not only from external pressure but also from their convergence with structural weaknesses, multiple centers of decision-making, chronic budget deficits, ineffective foreign policy and the erosion of social capital. Against this backdrop, the Iranian economy has shifted over the past four decades — particularly following tighter oil, banking and transportation sanctions — from an economy reliant on official oil exports and relatively open access to global markets to one increasingly dependent on costly, low-yield informal mechanisms.

3 کیهان Kayhan newspaper

Sending Mediators Is a Deception Operation... Do Not Hesitate to Respond Firmly
The hurried visits by regional mediators to Tehran mark a new phase in the White House's “deception operation” aimed at escaping the quagmire of war. Trump, using the stick of sanctions and the carrot of negotiations, seeks to alter the calculations of Iranian officials, a gamble that has naturally been accompanied by groundwork laid by self-proclaimed reformists. Washington's calculations and those of its domestic supporters are collapsing rapidly. As the secretary of the Supreme National Security Council stated, any reckless move, provocation or continuation of the economic war will be met with a decisive response that will be regretted. Sending mediators and repeating contrived phrases such as “economic D-Day” cannot change the reality on the ground, where the initiative lies with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States has no choice but to accept Iran's strength and end its hostile policies.

4 آرمان Arman Melli Newspaper

An Attempt to Return to Diplomacy
The simultaneous visits to Tehran by Omani Foreign Minister Badr Albusaidi and Pakistani Army Chief Asim Munir, alongside Washington's announcement of what it called the toughest sanctions in history against Iran, suggest that regional countries are prioritizing peace over war and seeking to revive diplomacy. In this context, Munir's visit to Iran following the Makkah Pact carries a message in itself. Meanwhile, reports of a possible Iranian-Omani understanding on passage through the Strait of Hormuz could provide another step toward easing tensions and reactivating the diplomatic track.