

Iran in a Week

Iran’s political discourse reflects a persistent divide between “hardliner principlists” and more open-minded “reformists,” raising questions over whether this split is carefully managed or represents genuine demands for change. The contrast is particularly evident between Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei and President Masoud Pezeshkian. While Khamenei has emphasized war readiness, claiming that 30 million devoted

fighters are prepared to fight, Pezeshkian has defended Iran’s diplomatic position and the pursuit of negotiations. The divide has also surfaced among political figures, with Mohammad Reza Bahonar acknowledging a “war versus no-war” dichotomy within both society and the establishment. Former MP Ali Motahari has criticized “hardliners” who portray negotiations as weakness, while MP Abolfazl Abutorabi has accused some

advocates of talks of serving as infiltrators for Iran’s enemies. The contradiction extends to diplomacy, where Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has reportedly engaged US negotiators amid conflicting accounts from Tehran. This political duality reflects a deeper struggle between confrontation and pragmatism that is likely to persist while the establishment retains control over Iran’s security and military institutions.

News

Politics:



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, in an interview with NBC: “We are prepared to reopen the Strait of Hormuz if the United States takes specific measures.”



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian: “We are prepared to accept any proposal contained in the NPT and reduce the enrichment level of our stockpile of uranium enriched to 60%, within the framework of international law.”



Secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council Mohsen Rezaei: “Iran’s new diplomacy will not return to the past. We will force the United States to respect the rights of the Iranian people and abide by the conditions communicated to it.”



Hassan Ghashghavi, spokesman for the Parliamentary National Security Committee: “The new supreme leader is capable of issuing a new fatwa on nuclear weapons.”



Major General Rahim Safavi, adviser to the supreme leader: “The sale of Iranian oil is continuing, and we control its dynamics. China and Russia are providing nonpolitical assistance to Iran.”



Hussein Ali Haji Deligani, deputy chairman of the Iranian Parliament’s Article 90 Committee: “We must move toward acquiring nuclear weapons.”

Security and Military:



Public Relations Department of the IRGC Navy: An unmanned submarine from the US military’s fleet of advanced, smart submarines, known as the Remus 600, has been seized.



Quds Headquarters of the IRGC Ground Forces: The commander of the Sajjad Operations Headquarters in Saravan County, Brigadier General Hossein Zarifi, was killed during a clash with armed groups.



Tehran Prosecutor General Ali Salehi: “The bank accounts and vehicles belonging to 394 counter-revolutionary individuals who cooperated with the enemy during the war and acted against the Iranian people have been identified and confiscated.”



A police officer was killed in an armed attack in the city of Iranshahr, Sistan and Balochistan Province.

Society and Culture:



Hamid Sahib, director general of Health at the Tehran Municipality: “Our estimates indicate that by 2051, more than one-third of the country’s population will be elderly.”



HRA, a human rights organization in Iran: A hearing was held at the Ahvaz Revolutionary Court in the case of nine women residing in the city, who face charges including “propaganda against the regime” and “assembly and conspiracy against national security.”



Deputy Minister of Education Razvan Hakimzadeh: “Last year, 140,562 primary-school-age children who had dropped out of school were identified, but only 48,000 of them returned to school.”

Economy:



The dollar hits a new record in Iran’s free market, reaching 250,000 toman.



Central Bank Governor Abdolnaser Hemmati: “Year-on-year inflation, which had been on an upward trajectory for the past 15 months since the 12-day war, reached 84.4% in August before falling to 83.8% in September of this year.”



Hassan Sadeghi, head of the Union of Retired Workers: “The increase they granted at the beginning of the year was enough to meet a worker’s needs for roughly 23 days, but the worker’s purchasing power has now fallen to less than 10 days.”

The Region and the World:



The Nayak Organization announced that it had filed a lawsuit against US President Donald Trump over his continued war against Iran without congressional authorization, asking a federal court to declare the action unconstitutional under US law.



The Colombian Foreign Ministry announced that Colombia had severed diplomatic relations with Iran. It said that Tehran’s ties to terrorist groups, human rights violations and its nuclear program were among the reasons for the decision.



The Central Bank of the UAE announced that branches of Iran’s Bank Mellat in the country are no longer permitted to conduct financial transactions with Iran.

Editorials

1

جوان آتلان



Javan Newspaper

This Is the Time for Nuclear Ambiguity

The experience of unilateral transparency has shown that it has failed to ensure Iran’s security. Under the current circumstances, the doctrine of nuclear ambiguity and the implicit suspension of cooperation with the IAEA is the most effective way to increase the cost for the other side while preserving Iran’s options. There is no need to withdraw from the NPT. It is enough simply not to be transparent about the future of our nuclear program and not to let the enemy know what stage we are at or what is on our minds.

2

دنیای اقتصاد



Donya-ye Eghtesad

Find Other Ways

The Iranian economy has entered the final six months of 2026 in a phase that may be unlike any previous period in its history. Although conditions were extremely complex during the two world wars and when Iran was under occupation, the country was not subjected to a blockade as it is today. Even the severe sanctions that have weighed on the Iranian economy for more than a decade cannot be compared with the blockade imposed recently. At best, Iran’s foreign-exchange revenues appear likely to reach only one-fifth of their pre-blockade level, even with the use of alternative channels so long as they remain outside the blockade. There is no economic solution to this situation. If experts, technocrats or self-proclaimed authorities claim that they can steer the Iranian economy away from these scenarios under blockade conditions, they are nothing more than opportunists wasting policymakers’ time and filling their minds with false hopes.

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مردم سالاری



Mardom Salari

Iran’s Economy Awaits an End to Uncertainty

Trump’s statements on Tuesday showed that two paths remain open: threats and pressure on the one hand, and negotiations and efforts to reach an agreement on the other. Which path will prevail depends on the decisions and responses of both sides in the coming weeks. The Iranian economy needs one thing above all: predictability about the future for economic actors, not only investors and producers, but also families that want to know how much they will pay for goods next month, how much housing rents will be, and how much of their money’s value will be preserved. Under the current circumstances, the end of the state of “neither war nor peace” may be more important than merely a political headline, because every day that uncertainty persists, the cost is paid by the economy and by people’s livelihoods.

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ستاره سوب



Setar-e Sobh Newspaper

What Is Expected of Pezeshkian in New York

Iran’s standing at the UN and among other countries has declined compared with where it was last year or under previous governments. As the representative of the Iranian people, Pezeshkian should strengthen Iran’s standing, fulfill his national duty and enter negotiations with the United States in the hope of resolving the problems facing Iran. Negotiation, and even compromise and reconciliation, does not mean surrender; rather, it means overcoming deadlocks and problems. If Pezeshkian returns from New York empty-handed, we are likely to see war, the imposition of additional sanctions and a tightening of the naval blockade, which would worsen inflation, the budget deficit, declining purchasing power and rising prices.