

Iran in a Week

Toward the end of last week, the Middle East appeared close to a third regional war after two days of US threats to bomb Iran. However, the US president abruptly reversed course, accepting Iran's final amendments to the memorandum of understanding (MoU) and agreeing to sign the framework

agreement in Geneva on June 19. The shift reflected domestic political and economic pressures, as well as efforts to contain the fallout from the war launched on February 28 alongside Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The agreement, reached 107 days after the conflict began, raises questions

about who won the war. As Thomas Friedman argued, all sides appear to have lost. Yet Iran emerged with significant gains, including preserving its missile and drone programs, unifying the "resistance front," securing about \$12 billion in frozen assets and retaining leverage through the Strait of Hormuz.

News

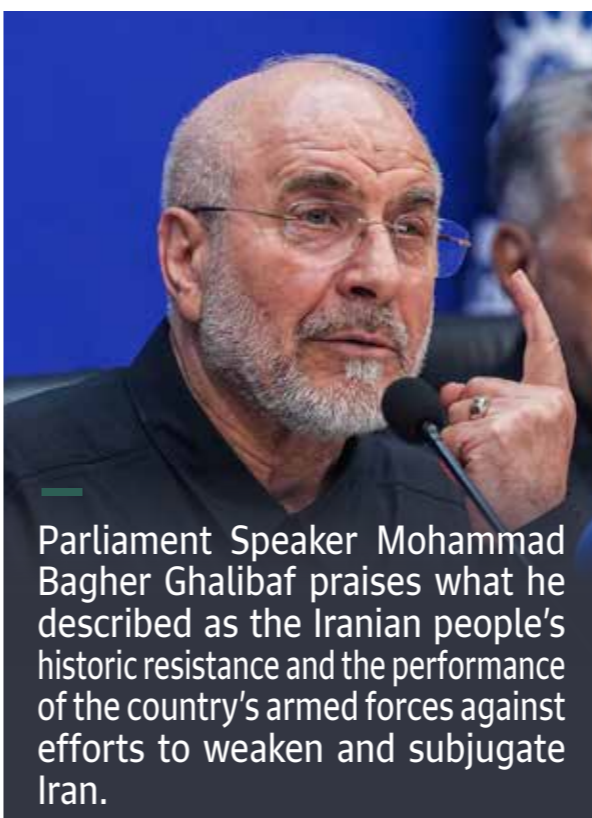
Politics:



President Masoud Pezeshkian describes the drafted MoU as the product of months of continuous negotiations and follow-up efforts.



Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi: "Meeting between the heads of the Iranian and American delegations was likely to take place in Switzerland on Friday."



Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf praises what he described as the Iranian people's historic resistance and the performance of the country's armed forces against efforts to weaken and subjugate Iran.



The President's Assistant for Executive Affairs Mohammad Jafar Ghaempanah: "The diplomatic process, shaped through the efforts of the presidency, members of the Supreme National Security Council and endorsed by the supreme leader, would secure Iran's national interests."



Fars News Agency: Citing an informed source close to the Iranian negotiating team, the agency reported that one of the key achievements of the MoU was the removal of two major US demands from the negotiating agenda: restrictions on Iran's missile capabilities and the termination of support for the "resistance front."



Chief Justice Gholam Hossein Mohseni Eje'i stated that Iranian officials remain fully aware of what he described as the enemy's unreliability and would therefore negotiate with vigilance and caution.

Security and Military:



IRGC Navy: The force announced that, following what it described as recent hostile actions by the US military in the region that had endangered the security of oil tankers and commercial vessels in the Arabian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, the Strait of Hormuz had been completely closed.



IRGC Public Relations: "We had targeted the Azraq base, including facilities used by US F-35, F-15 and F-16 fighter aircraft, as well as an air control center, with 12 ballistic missiles."



Iranian Army spokesman Brigadier General Akrami Nia: "The armed forces would support any understanding or agreement that safeguarded Iran's national interests."



The Greater Tehran Police Media Center: The police announced the arrest of an individual accused of gathering and transmitting information abroad.

Society and Culture:

Appeals Court: The sentences of Iranian track and field athletes convicted in South Korea for assaulting a Korean woman were upheld following review by the appellate court.



IranWire: A fire broke out on Saturday, June 13, in the Layt Anar area of Kabir Kuh, Darreh Shahr County, Ilam Province. According to local reports, the blaze destroyed a significant number of oak trees, with difficult terrain hampering firefighting operations.



Economy:

Iranian Minister of Labor and Social Welfare Ahmad Meydari: "Despite directives from President Masoud Pezeshkian to raise the value of commodity vouchers, the government has not yet reached a decision on securing the necessary funding."



Member of the Planning and Budget Committee of the Iranian Parliament **Mohsen Zanganeh** stated that the country is facing what he described as the most difficult phase of its war with the United States.



The Region and the World:

Radio Farda: More than 20 countries, including the United States, the UK, France, Germany, Australia, Canada and the Netherlands, issued a joint statement on Wednesday, June 10, condemning what they described as actions by Iranian security and intelligence agencies against opposition figures.



US Treasury Department: The United States announced new sanctions targeting one entity and nine individuals accused of cooperating with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and Iran's Ministry of Defense



Editorials



Hasn't the Time Come for Us To Exit the NPT?

Editor-in-Chief of Kayhan Newspaper and representative of the supreme leader Hossein Shariatmadari argued that the recent resolution adopted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors provides grounds for Iran to withdraw from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The resolution, sponsored by the United States and three European countries, passed with 21 votes in favor, three against and 10 abstentions, and calls on Iran to grant inspectors full access to information on its nuclear facilities and uranium reserves.



Monitor Popular Gatherings?

Writer and political analyst Mehdi Molaei argued that, from the first hours of the US attack on Iran, citizens voluntarily filled the streets to mourn those killed in the conflict rather than seeking refuge. He noted that people from diverse social and cultural backgrounds gathered around a shared sense of national belonging, turning public demonstrations into a sustained feature of political life.



Disarming Iranian Livelihoods

Journalist and economic analyst Mohammad Reza Rasouli argued that, according to the Central Bank, Iran's inflation rate in May surpassed levels recorded during World War II, making it the highest inflation rate witnessed in the country over the past eight decades. He described the situation as a gradual "disarmament of livelihoods," with households becoming increasingly impoverished as prices continue to rise. Rasouli criticized the government's decision to eliminate preferential exchange rates despite warnings from economic experts about its inflationary and social consequences.