

Countering Israel's Warmongering Through Active Diplomacy

Following discussions with senior officials in Jordan, Araqchi arrives in Cairo to continue his diplomatic mission



Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi (C) meets with Jordan's King Abdullah II (R) in Amman on October 16, 2024.

The THAAD and the tall tale: real weapons and fake news

By Ehsan Etesam

TEHRAN – A dangerous new chapter in the ongoing saga of West Asia tensions has unfolded, fuelled by a blatant display of Israeli aggression and the weaponization of misinformation.

The recent delivery of THAAD missile defense systems to Israel, a move celebrated with a gleeful tone by a complicit Western media, has been met in Iran with a heightened sense of consciousness and readiness to respond in case of aggression. This awareness has been further amplified by the circulation of fabricated news regarding the arrest or even death of a high-ranking Iranian military commander, a narrative that has been eagerly disseminated by a network of Western media outlets, acting as willing accomplices in Israel's campaign of disinformation.

The delivery of THAAD systems, cloaked in the pretenses of defensive measures against ballistic missile threats, is a blatant escalation of Israeli aggression. This move, coupled with the recent bellicose pronouncements from Israeli officials, signals a shift towards a more confrontational posture. ▶ Page 3

Israeli motive behind deadly Lebanon strikes

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – Over the past two weeks, question marks have been raised about the targets of Israeli airstrikes in Lebanon.

These suspicions grew when the Israeli military bombed the Christian-majority region of Aitou in north Lebanon on Monday. At least 22 people were killed, according to the Lebanese Red Cross.

The United Nations human rights office said many of the victims of the Israeli strike on a building in Aitou were women and children.

"What we are hearing is that amongst the 22 people killed were 12 women and two children," spokesperson Jeremy Laurence told a press briefing in Geneva.

"We understand it was a four-story residential building that was struck. With these factors in mind, we have real concerns with respect to IHL [international humanitarian law], so the laws of war, and the principles of distinction proportion and proportionality," he said, calling for an investigation."

It marked the first time that this particular region has been struck since October last year. ▶ Page 5

Dubious diplomacy: US swords for Israeli protection, pediatric pills for Palestinian suffering

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN – The United States has thrown its full political and military weight behind Israel since the regime launched war on Gaza more than a year ago.

The administration of President Joe Biden has blocked several resolutions against Israel's brutalities at the UN Security Council in the wake of its genocidal war on Gaza which began on October 7, 2023.

Besides the \$3.8 billion of military aid that Israel receives from the US annually, the White House has also provided the regime with additional weapons worth billions of dollars.

According to US media, Israel has used American bombs in its strikes against Gaza making Washington complicit in the atrocities perpetrated in the enclave.

Israel has butchered more than 42,400 Palestinians, including some 17,000 children since launching its brutal military campaign in Gaza in October last year. ▶ Page 5

Pezeshkian urges Muslims to 'act as one' against Israel in call with Omani Sultan

TEHRAN – During a phone conversation with Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said on Wednesday, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian underscored the need for increased pressure on Israel's supporters to curb its aggression.

He expressed appreciation for Oman's condemnation of Israel's actions in Gaza and Lebanon, calling for greater unity among Muslim nations in addressing these issues.

"If Muslim countries act as one, the Zionist regime will not dare to commit violations so easily, nor will the U.S. and Western countries be able to support it," Pezeshkian stated.

The Iranian president reiterated Tehran's commitment to strengthening bilateral ties with Muscat, emphasizing that Oman's relationship is a top priority for the Islamic Republic. He highlighted the importance of expanding cooperation with neighboring states.

"Strengthening friendly and amicable relations between regional countries, and expanding regional cooperation, guarantee a shared vision and language to solve our region's problems," Pezeshkian explained. "This also provides a platform for collective development, promoting the welfare, peace, and comfort of our nations." ▶ Page 3

IRGC vows continued support for Palestinians on ann. of Israel's strike of Al-Ahli Arab hospital

TEHRAN – Marking the one-year anniversary of the bombing of Al-Ahli Arab Hospital, Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinians in their struggle against the Israeli regime.

"It is difficult to recall this heinous crime which killed hundreds of innocent Palestinian civilians," the IRGC said in a statement published on Wednesday. "The inaction of the international community back then, allowed the regime to continue such crimes and strike countless more medical facilities in Gaza and Lebanon [in the following months]."

On October 17, 2023, Israel launched a devastating airstrike on the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital compound in central Gaza, killing at least 500 civilians. This marked the first time Israeli forces had targeted a medical facility in this manner. Israel and its Western allies arming the regime claimed the strike was a result of a misfired rocket launched by the Islamic Jihad Resistance group – an assertion immediately refuted by both the Palestinian group and independent experts. The U.S. later announced it was launching an investigation to find the truth. ▶ Page 2

Iran determined to boost trade, energy co-op with Azerbaijan

TEHRAN – Iran's Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad, in a meeting with the visiting Azerbaijani Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev, called for the formation of a joint working group in order to pursue and accelerate bilateral cooperation, especially in the field of energy.

During the meeting on Tuesday afternoon, Paknejad said the two countries have a lot of cultural, historical and national similarities, which will help bring the two nations closer to each other.

While emphasizing the improvement of cooperation between the two countries, he said that neighbors have a priority in Iran's foreign policy and that the position of the Republic of Azerbaijan is special among them.

Stating that the field of oil and energy is one of the axes for the development of economic relations between the two countries, Paknejad said Iran welcomes any initiatives proposed by Azerbaijan to enhance the level of cooperation, adding that such cooperation requires the necessary infrastructure. ▶ Page 4

Education space per student, literacy rate improved

TEHRAN – According to the latest statistics, education space per student in Iran has increased from 5.17 square meters in the calendar year 1396 (2017-2018) to 5.28 square meters in the year 1402 (2023 – 2024).

The literacy rate, as well, has increased from 87.9 percent in 1396 to 90.7 percent in 1402, IRNA reported.

In the mentioned six-year period, the ratio of resilient classrooms improved from 0.64 to 0.82, sport space per student grew from 0.17 to 0.20, and the ratio of classrooms equipped with cooling and heating systems rose from 0.48 to 0.68.

The literacy rate has improved in urban areas as well as rural areas. From 1396 to 1402, the literacy rate among men and women amounted to 93.9 percent and 87.4 percent, respectively. ▶ Page 7



IRCS sends consignment of medicine to Lebanon

The Iranian Red Crescent Society sent a consignment of medicine on Wednesday to Lebanon to help relieve people under brutal attacks by the Zionist regime.

The consignment includes gastrointestinal, antiseptic, and cardiovascular drugs.

The IRCS is planning to set up another hospital in Lebanon after the Zionist regime targeted a field hospital set up at the Lebanon-Syria border in an airstrike on October 11.

