Iran strongly protests offensive move by French city mayor

The Iranian Foreign Ministry has strongly protested a French city mayor's offensive move toward Iranian leadership, characterizing it as a clear violation of international norms.Tehran - ISNA - On Thursday, Majid Nili, the director general of the ministry's department for Western European affairs, condemned recent posters in a French city that insulted Iran and its senior leadership.

He noted that such a move was a blatant violation of internationally accepted principles and rules, as well as a clear instance of inciting hatred.

The official emphasized the importance of respecting the cultural and religious values of all nations.

IRGC Chief:

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The chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) says various real-world scenarios were designed and implemented during a large-scale military exercise to protect the Natanz nuclear facility in Iran's central province of Isfahan.Tehran - ISNA - "We tried to perform what we expected the enemies would do in real-world conditions in the form of pre-planned scenarios during the [Eqtedar (Authority) 1403] war game. Fortunately, encouraging results and fairly valuable achievements were obtained," Major General Hossein Salami said on Tuesday.

He added that the Iranian Armed Forces have made impressive progress in the field of air defense over the past few months."Since this domain of our defense capabilities is among the most determining spheres, it was necessary to once again exhibit the capabilities out air defense systems in a nearly real-world and very precise situation," Salami pointed out.Also on Tuesday, the IRGC Aerospace Force employed a new air defense missile system equipped with loitering munitions during the Eqtedar 1403 drills.The IRGC has not provided much information about the specifications of the air defense system, codenamed 358, which launches drone-based missiles.

Moreover, the air defense division of the IRGC Aerospace Force employed point-defense tactics (self-defense at close ranges) to protect the Natanz nuclear site by engaging with 30 aerial targets in the exercise.

Short-range air defense systems, such as Dezful and Tor-M1, could detonate drones and cruise missiles at low altitudes.

Iranian forces also activated Dey-9 air defense missile system to practice interception of a bunker buster dropped from a warplane.

The homegrown air defense system could track, intercept and destroy the heavy weapon in less than 15 seconds at a distance of 17 kilometers away from the nuclear site.

Additionally, the IRGC Aerospace Force operated many other air defense systems to practice electronic warfare tactics.Iranian military forces hold routine exercises according to a detailed schedule in various parts of the country in order to test their weaponry and equipment and evaluate their combat preparedness.The country's officials have repeatedly underscored that the country will not hesitate to strengthen its military capabilities which are entirely meant for defense against potential new threats.

Iran's Supreme Leader:

US made grave 'miscalculation' about Iran over past decades



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei says the United States has, on most occasions, committed mistakes concerning its attitude towards Iran throughout the past decades.

Tehran - ISNA - Ayatollah Khamenei made the remarks during a Wednesday meeting with people from the north-central Iranian city of Qom on the occasion of the anniversary of a January 9, 1978 uprising in support of the late founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Rouhollah Khomeini that preceded the 1979 victory of the country's Islamic Revolution.

"Under the [regime of Iran's former] Pahlavi [monarchy], the country used to serve as a formidable fortress for American interests," the Leader noted.

"It was from the heart of this fortress that the Revolution was born and bubbled up. The Americans did not realize [this], were duped, lagged behind, and became oblivious," Ayatollah Khamenei remarked.The Leader described the issue as "the Americans' miscalculation" vis-à-vis Iran.

"After the Revolution, the Americans perpetrated mistakes concerning Iran throughout these several decades on most occasions," Ayatollah Khamenei observed.

The Leader said his remarks were mostly addressed towards those "who are intimidated by the US's policies."

Ayatollah Khamenei, however, dismissed existence of much of a cordial relationship between the Iranian nation and some European states.The Leader differentiated, though, between Iran's relationship with the European countries and the US."The US has lost a massive political and economic wealth as a result of Iran's Revolution. And it has expended much fortune over the past 40-odd years towards taking Iran out of the Islamic Revolution's grip," the Leader noted. "And it has failed to do so," Ayatollah Khamenei remarked, adding, "The US is after making up for its defeat. Therefore, it resorts to whatever sort of enmity towards Iran that it can."

Ayatollah Khamenei said Washington had incurred "profound rancor" towards Iran.

"The US had brought Iran under its possession, but the country was wrested out of its grip and control. Therefore, its grudge towards the Islamic Republic and the Revolution is long-standing," the Leader noted.

"The US [however] would not let go easily either. It has suffered defeat in Iran, and seeks to make up for this defeat."

Ayatollah Khamenei's remarks were meant as a response to questions posed by some about why Iran would negotiate with the Europeans, but was not prepared to enter negotiations with the US.Observers describe the Islamic Revolution as a force that took the global anti-colonial movement to the next level, calling it a symbol of the fight for a just and multipolar world order.

Pezeshkian:

Iran seeks peace in region

Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian says the Islamic Republic is after peace, stability and security for the entire region, noting that the neighboring Iraq is experiencing a period of stability and expansion after vanquishing of the Takfiri terrorist group of ISIS.

Tehran - ISNA - Pezeshkian was speaking in a presser after his meeting with Iraq's Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani in the capital Tehran."The Iraqi Republic is an important country in our neighborhood and serves as Iran's strategic partner. We are pleased that our relations are underway at their most perfect level, and the extent of our mutual cooperation expands in various areas each day," the Iranian president stated.

Sudani's aircraft touched down in Tehran on Wednesday, when he was officially welcomed by Finance Minister Abdol-Nasser Hemmati.



He later met with Pezeshkian in the capital's Sa'ad Abad Historical and Cultural Complex.

For his part, Sudani said his visit was taking place within the framework of expanding the countries' cooperation and communications.

He lauded the favorable outcomes of Pezeshkian's trip to Iraq, which featured discussions over a range of various economic, developmental, social, religious, and contractual matters.

The trip comes in response to one paid by Pezeshkian to Iraq last year, during which he visited the Arab country's capital Baghdad, the holy cities of Karbala and Najaf, the southern city of Basra, and the country's semi-autonomous Kurdistan Region.

Sudani's visit to Iran comes as Syria, Iraq's neighbor, is experiencing instability following the fall of president Bashar al-Assah and the takeover of Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS).

Sudani is visiting Iran amid the countries' efforts at pursuing the case of the United States 2020 assassination of Iran's former top anti-terror commander, General Qassem Soleimani.

Iraq is fighting terrorism waged by Western and Israel-backed outfits as it demands that the US and the forces led by Washington leave the Iraqi soil, which was decreed by the Iraqi parliament following General Soleimani's assassination.

Iran's deputy FM:

Nuclear weapons have no place in Iran's doctrine

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs has said that acquiring nuclear weapons has no place in Iran's defensive doctrine, adding that Tehran has lived up to its commitments in its relations with the IAEA.Tehran - ISNA - Majid Takht-Ravanchi has made the remarks in an interview with Italy's Radio Radicale, recently."We are a member of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)" the senior Iranian diplomat said, adding that "nuclear weapons have no place in the country's defense doctrine."

"Numerous reports from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) show that Iran has fulfilled its commitments 100%," he also underscored."The Trump administration's Maximum Pressure continued during the Biden administration," he continued in an apparent reference to the huge illegal sanctions on Iran imposed by the previous Donald Trump administration in May 2018 after illegally leaving the nuclear deal known as the JCPOA.

"In all these years, our position has been consistent and transparent," Takht-Ravanchi said.

"We are ready to talk within the framework of the JCPOA," he said.

The deputy foreign minister also highlighted that the US is no longer a JCPOA participant.

Gharibabadi and Omani Deputy Foreign Minister Meet in Muscat

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The Omani Foreign Ministry announced that the country›s Deputy Foreign Minister for Politics met and consulted with the Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran›s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Tehran - ISNA - The Omani Foreign Ministry›s account on «X» (Formerly known as twitter) announced: Sheikh Khalifa Bin Ali Al-Harthy, Deputy Foreign Minister for Politics of the Omani Foreign Ministry, hosted Dr. Kazem Gharibabadi, Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran›s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The statement of the Omani Foreign Ministry states: In this meeting, the dimensions of bilateral cooperation and ways to enhance it in various fields were discussed in order to secure common interests and examine issues of interest to the two countries.The meeting was attended by Ali Najafi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Oman, Sheikh Sulaiman bin Saud Al Jabri, Head of the Legal Department of the Omani Foreign Ministry, and Sayyid Najib bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Deputy Head of the Gulf Cooperation Council and Regional Environment Department.

Iraqi PM met with Custodian of Astan Quds Razavi

Prime Minister of Iraq, met and discussed with Ayatollah Ahmad Marvi, Custodian of Astan Quds Razavi, in the Hall of the Guardianship of the Holy Shrine of Imam Reza (PBUH).

Tehran - ISNA - Mohammad Shia al-Sudani, Prime Minister of Iraq, met and discussed with Ayatollah Ahmad Marvi, Custodian of Astan Quds Razavi, in the Hall of the Guardianship of the Holy Shrine of Imam Reza (PBUH) on the evening of Wednesday, January ٢٠٢٥ ,٨.

Report: Iran Army to be equipped with modern drones

The Islamic Republic of Iran Army has announced that its forces have received ١,٠٠٠ modern drones which enjoy smart features.Tehran - ISNA - The Islamic Republic will be able to utilize ١,٠٠٠ domestically-made state-of-the-art drones, said the country's Army in a statement on Thursday in concurrent with the ongoing «Payambar-e Azam (The Great Prophet) ١٩» military exercise in Iran.The Iranian Army has always sought to gain more power to counter any threats, the statement added.