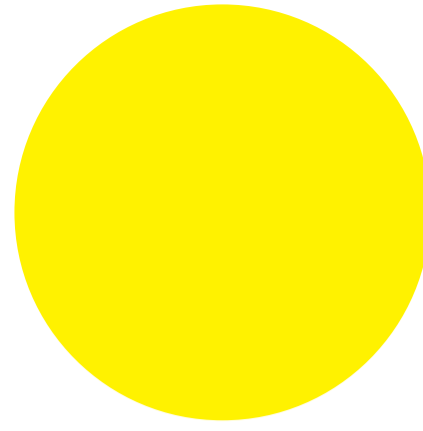


**Raeisi:**  
Tehran never  
opposed  
IAEA  
inspections



# Iran Daily

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## WSA: Iran's Eight-month Steel Ingot Output Near 20m Tons

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# NED TROJAN

'National Endowment for Democracy' or National Enemy for Democracy?  
How does the NED destabilize countries by interfering in their internal affairs?

SPECIAL ISSUE

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## Iran, Egypt economy ministers call for establishing joint committee

Economy Desk

Iranian Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi held a meeting with his Egyptian counterpart Mohamed Maat, stressing the need for setting up a joint committee. In the meeting with his counterpart, Khandouzi announced Iran's readiness to develop cooperation be-

tween Tehran and Cairo, especially in the areas of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), the Islamic Development Bank, the joint bank of Egypt and Iran, the textile company of Egypt and Iran, and the joint shipping and transfer of pharmaceutical technology and medical equipment company, IRNA reported. The Egyptian minister, for

his part, voiced his country's readiness to implement the suggestions made by his Iranian side. He added that Egypt calls for developing ties with the Islamic Republic and anticipates improved relations between the two countries soon. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank's eighth annual meeting is being held in Sharm El Sheikh,



Egypt, on Sept. 25-26, 2023. The meeting, which marks AIIB's first in-person annual meeting since 2019, provides a distinctive opportunity to highlight AIIB's

achievements and solicit insights and guidance from its shareholders regarding the institution's strategic direction and initiatives. [Page 2 >](#)



## Tourist arrivals in Iran grow by 38%

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## Iran's economic growth at 7.9%: SCI

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OPINION  
EXCLUSIVE

## Efficiency of Iranian Air Force strategies during 1980s war

The Iranian Army's Air Force, a pivotal element of the military, has managed to position itself as a technology-focused and knowledge-driven entity within the Armed Forces. [7 >](#)



## Sixth cornelian cherry festival held in Kaleybar

EXCLUSIVE [3 >](#)



## Hangzhou Asian Games: Second rowing silver for Iranian women

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## Minister urges enhanced cultural ties with Pakistan

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### IMIDRO's five-month aluminum production almost 268,000 tons



**IRNA** - The Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO) in its latest report announced that the country produced about 268,000 tons of aluminum ingot in the first five months of the current Iranian year (started March 21). The country's smelters produced 267,983 tons of aluminum ingot from March 21 to August 22, 2023 the report added.

### EU car group calls for urgent action on post-Brexit trade rules

**REUTERS** - The European Union and Britain need to take urgent action to postpone rules for electric vehicles traded between the bloc and the UK that will trigger 10% tariffs, Europe's car industry group said on Monday.

"Driving up consumer prices of European electric vehicles, at the very time when we need to fight for market share in the face of fierce international competition, is not the right move," European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) president and Renault CEO Luca de Meo said in a statement ahead of a planned trade meeting between EU and UK officials this week.

### Japan to compile package to ease inflation pain



**REUTERS** - Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida unveiled on Monday the pillars of a new economic stimulus package to be compiled next month to help households ease the pain of price hikes and boost wages. Kishida will instruct his cabinet on Tuesday to put together the package and swiftly set up an extra budget to fund it, he said.

## Iranian steelmaking keeps upward trend of production

# WSA: Iran's eight-month steel ingot output near 20m tons

By Reza Abesh Ahmadlou  
Staff writer

Iranian steelmakers churned out 19.7 million tons of crude steel in the first eight months of 2023, according to statistics released by the World Steel Association (WSA) on Monday, indicating that the country stands at tenth place among steel producing countries.

Steel mills of the country kept the rising trend for the eight-month period despite a major drop in production during the summer due to problems in electricity supply. The country's steel ingot production for August 2023 registered a 24.1-percent shrinkage compared to the figure for August 2022.

World crude steel production for the 63 countries reporting to the association was 152.6

million tons in August 2023, a 2.2 percent increase compared to August 2022.

China produced 86.4 million tons in August 2023, up 3.2 percent over August 2022, while India produced 11.9 million tons of steel ingots last month, up 17.4 percent compared to the figure for last year, as Japan produced 7.1 million tons, down 2.9 percent compared to the same month last year.

The United States produced 7 million tons of crude steel in August, up 1.1 percent. Russia is estimated to have produced 6.4 million tons, up 8.9 percent. South Korea produced 5.6 million tons, down 5.9 percent. The World Steel Association is one of the largest and most dynamic industry associations in the world, with members in every major steel-producing country. The WSA



represents steel producers, national and region-

al steel industry associations, and steel research

institutes. Members represent

around 85 percent of global steel production.

## SP daily gas extraction capacity to exceed 730mcm: POGC



The chief executive of the Pars Oil and Gas Company (POGC) said Iran's gas production capacity in the South Pars Gas Field will surpass 730 million cubic meters per day (mcm/d) in the winter of the next Iranian year (to start March 20, 2024).

Mohammad Hossein Motejalli said that a 30 mcm/d increase in winter output of the world's larg-

est joint gas field has been planned through putting several wells of Phase 11 and platform 13A as well as a new pipeline of Phase 16 into operation, Shana reported.

Shared by Iran and Qatar in the Persian Gulf region, the South Pars Gas Field holds 50 percent of Iran's gas reserves and accounts for 70 percent of the country's gas supply.

Although the development of the gas field started over 23 years ago, different projects for maintaining and increasing its production are underway, the CEO of the company emphasized.

Given Iran and Qatar's gas extraction in the past years, pressure in the South Pars field's reservoir has begun to decrease gradually. Hence, pres-

sure-boosting projects are necessary for keeping gas production at its highest level and meeting domestic need.

As Iran's Oil Minister Javad Owji has said, the country will face a gas imbalance of over 250 mcm/d in winter, thus it is important to preserve the current production capacity.

In addition to the implementation of energy efficiency projects in different sectors, the increase of gas output is a must.

To that end, Motejalli stated, the development of other gas fields, namely Kish, North Pars, Belal, and Farzad B is in progress.

An Iranian contractor and its foreign partners are conducting onshore and offshore studies on boosting pressure in the South Pars gas field, he added.

## Iran's economic growth at 7.9%: SCI



According to a new report by the Statistical Center of Iran (SCI), the country's economy grew by 7.9 percent in the first three months of the Iranian calendar year (March 21 to June 21) compared to the same period in 2022.

The latest SCI report, which was published on Monday, showed that Iran's gross domestic product (GDP) rose to 2,144 trillion rials in the first quarter of the current Iranian year (March 21-June 21), IRNA reported. The data showed that Iran's GDP, without oil, had increased to 1,818 trillion rials in the same period, up 6.1 percent from the second quarter of 2022.

The SCI said Iran's agriculture sector had contracted by 4.6 percent, while the industry and mining sector grew by 7.3 percent, and the services sector reported an expansion of 9.3 percent over the second quarter of 2022.

## Iran, Egypt economy ...

Furthermore, the event's overarching theme, "Sustainable Growth in a Challenging World," is suitable for encouraging discussions among delegates from AIIB member countries.

It also promotes engagement with partners, prominent business leaders, civil society organizations, and experts from various fields globally. High-ranking official representatives from AIIB member nations, the bank's development partners, influential business figures and civil society organizations as well as scholars and experts across diverse domains have attended the event. Operating since 2016, the Beijing-headquartered AIIB is a multilateral development bank and international financial institution that aims to collectively improve economic and social outcomes. Iran is a shareholder and founding member of the bank.

Second Announcement

## Tender invitation

### Invitation to public tender for TERT BUTYL PEROXY BENZOATE // 22000 kg

**Tabriz petrochemical company** intends to procure its required quantity of TERT BUTYL PEROXY BENZOATE for polystyrene production plant.

Interested suppliers should submit their request to below email in order to get tender documents until September 28, 2023.

Deadline for submission of offers for tender is: October 10, 2023.

Email: me.rahimi@tpco.ir Phone No.: +98-41-34282592

Tender	No	Quantity
TERT BUTYL PEROXY BENZOATE	PVS-0141011	22000 kg

Public Relations of Tabriz Petrochemical Company (Public Stock)

First turn published: September 18, 2023
Second turn published: September 23, 2023

# Sixth cornelian cherry festival held in Kaleybar



IRNA



IRNA



IRNA



By Reza  
Abesh Ahmadlou  
Staff writer

The Sixth Cornelian Cherry Festival (Zoghal Akhteh) was held in Kaleybar in the northwestern province of East Azarbaijan.

As one of the largest producers of the fruit in Iran, the gardens of Kaleybar are host to the best Cornelian cherries in the country.

Every year, at the same time as the harvest season, in the beautiful city with a pleasant climate, the people hold a thanksgiving celebration with local rituals.

They call it the "Cornelian Cherry Festival". They have local music and folklore and traditional games in their celebration.

Every year in late September, as gardeners harvest their crop, they spread it on the rooftops, and this gives a special and colorful feature to the city and its villages. According to officials, tons of Cornelian cherries are produced annually and exported from the northwestern city. One of the main purposes of holding the festival, which was organized by the Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization, is to remove the role of middlemen who prevent the sale of the product at a reasonable price.

Talking to Iran Daily, the head of Omid Entrepreneurship Fund (OEF) of East Azarbaijan Province announced that OEF is ready to help the launch of processing units of Cornelian

cherry in Kaleybar.

Hamed Haddadi added that appropriate packaging of the products made from the fruit will help more job creation which has been targeted by his fund.

Any investment plan for development of small- and medium-sized enterprises can receive the support of the OEF under the approved plans in the province, Haddadi said, noting that plans related to Cornelian cherry processing industry have priority in receiving facilities in Kaleybar.

To realize more entrepreneurship, the private sector can play a more serious role in this field, the official stated.

On the sidelines of the event, there were stalls offering hand-

icraft products, dairy products, rural and nomadic products as well as other agricultural products related to the festival.

It has been reported in some research that Cornelian cherries have antibacterial, antihistamine, antiallergic, antimicrobial, antimalarial and anti-diabetic properties due to their antioxidant properties. Cornelian cherries can be consumed fresh or dried, as well as processed into marmalade, jam and fruit juice.

The polyphenols content in the fruit reduce blood cholesterol and are good for heart health. Cornelian cherries are high in iron, calcium, folic acid, vitamins E, B1, B2, C, and flavonoids. The delicious fruit is a good source of fiber as well.



IRAN DAILY

## Shah Abbas Caravanserai: A cultural gem in Bistoun

### Iranica Desk

If you travel to Kermanshah Province, you can visit the city of Bistoun, which is located 30 kilometers from the provincial capital city of Kermanshah. Bistoun has a rich history and is home to many valuable historical artifacts that have been well-preserved over time.

The renowned caravanserai of Shah Abbas, also known as the Safavid Caravanserai, is situated in the southwest of the city of Bistoun, directly opposite Farhad Tarash, which is a long smooth rock surface on Mount Bistoun.

The caravanserai, along with 15 other sites, was first registered as a world heritage site during the UNESCO meeting in Lithuania in July 2006. After 17 years, it has once again been recognized for its cultural significance, this time in Riyadh,

Saudi Arabia. Along with 53 other caravanserais, this site is a testament to the enduring cultural power of this land.

The dossier of Iranian caravanserais, which includes 54 caravanserais from the Safavid era, has recently been added to the UNESCO World Heritage List. This marks the 27th historical and natural site of Iran to be recognized by UNESCO.

Director General of Kermanshah Province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization Dariush Farmani said, "We thank God for allowing us to witness yet another display of the magnificent grandeur of the authentic, captivating, and delightful culture of this land."

By registering this enduring work, we are reminded to revisit and contemplate the profound ideas of our predecessors in the domains of hospi-

talities, transportation, security, and other facets of cultural advancement.

"The Shah Abbas Caravanserai in Bistoun, with an area of over 6,000 square meters, is located on an important transportation route that connected Iran to Iraq and, according to historical texts, it was built to accommodate pilgrims visiting the holy shrines of the country.

The primary builder of the structure remains unclear, but it is believed that Shah Abbas Safavid ordered its construction. According to the inscription at the top of the building, it was completed under the supervision of Sheikh Ali Khan Zanganeh, who served as the prime minister of Shah Soleiman Safavid.

During the early Qajar period, a part of this structure was damaged due to an earthquake. According to the remaining in-

scription at the top of the building, it was restored during the reign of Nasereddin Shah Qajar and used as a caravanserai. However, during the Pahlavi era, it was utilized as a grain storage facility.

For 17 years following the Islamic Revolution, this historic building was under the control of the department responsible for administering prisons. After this period, the Cultural Heritage Organization took it back from the department to preserve and restore it. The caravanserai was built in a four-ivan form, in a north-south direction. In a remarkable display of ancient craftsmanship, the perimeter wall of this building boasts carved stones dating back to the Sassanid period. The intricate stonework can be seen both from the inside and outside of the building, extending

all the way up to the level of the arches. Above the arches, the wall is constructed from bricks, adding to the impressive architectural feat of this structure.

The building had four towers situated at its outer corners, shaped like an octagon. However, presently, only one circular tower is in the northwest corner and the remains of another tower in the southeast corner of the caravanserai are visible.

The entrance of the caravanserai is located in its south, which has seven arched façades and two stone platforms on each side for resting.

Beyond the entrance lies an octagonal structure with a domed roof, serving as a link between the entrance, interior space, and courtyard. It includes *shahneshin* (royal room) and two-story arched façades.

After passing through the octag-

onal entrance, we enter a rectangular courtyard of the caravanserai, with an *ivan* (a vaulted space) at the center of each side. With a population of around two million people, Kermanshah Province is in north-western Iran, neighboring the provinces of Hamedan, Lorestan, Kurdistan, and Ilam. With over 330 kilometers of shared border with Iraq, it has always played a pivotal role in the west of the country throughout history.

The pristine nature, suitable climate, four-season weather, abundant water, countless lakes, numerous border markets, cultural diversity, fertile plains, appropriate infrastructure and communication routes, an international airport and, most importantly, hospitable people have turned this cradle of civilization into a tourist destination.



TASNIM





By Faezeh sadat Yousefi  
Guest contributor

## EXCLUSIVE

Thierry Meyssan, the French journalist and the president of the media organization Voltaire Network, cited Otto Reich, John Negroponte, Henry Cisneros, and Elliot Abrams as some of the most historic figures who were both involved in the CIA's covert actions and, at some point, members of the NED's Administrative Council or its board of directors.

So, it can be argued that democracy is used as a deceiving façade to further the goals of the United States intelligence services and Department of State.

Dr. Michael Pinto-Duschinsky, who is a political consultant and writer, democracy building's institutional formation rests upon a reconfiguration of Cold War positions, which itself relies on retaining the subversive covert operations previously perpetrated by the CIA or MI6 to overthrow the governments opposed to America.

The foundation seeks to present itself as a non-governmental organization to stress that it is not affiliated with the United States government. However, the evidence suggests that it is funded by Congress as part

## NED TROJAN

# National Enemy for Democracy

'National Endowment for Democracy' or National Enemy for Democracy?  
How does the NED destabilize countries by interfering in their internal affairs?

The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) was founded in the early 1980s during the presidency of Ronald Reagan after the CIA's crimes and destructive activities were revealed in the second half of the 1970s. NED's website introduces itself as "an independent, nonprofit foundation dedicated to the growth and strengthening of democratic institutions around the world". In 1991, right at the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, David Ignatius wrote a detailed article for the Washington Post, titled "The New World of Spyleless Coups," on the activities of the NED and the CIA as well as one of the NED's founders, Allen Weinstein. The article quotes Weinstein as saying that "a lot of what we do today was done covertly 25 years ago by the CIA," adding that the NED foundation "did openly what had once been unspeakably covert".

In a report published in 1997, titled "Foreign Taint on National Election? A Boomerang for U.S.," the New York Times discussed the NED's role as the overt arm of the CIA. "The National Endowment for Democracy, created 15 years ago to do in the open what the CIA has done surreptitiously for decades, spends \$30 million a year to support things like political parties, labor unions, dissident movements, and the news media in dozens of countries including China," the report said.

of the United States Agency for International Development. Although the foundation is private, its budget is mostly provided by the government.

What sets NED apart  
By studying international affairs and patterns followed by governments, think tanks provide recommendations or develop guidelines that fall in line with policy-making goals. So, the goal of these organizations is to empower policymakers to make better decisions.

Even though some think tanks get to implement their research findings and strategies using covert networking and establishing contact with dissident elements in other countries, their main activity revolves around analyzing national and international issues and subsequently issuing recommendations. However, the National Endowment for Democracy, for one, has a completely practical field approach that, as it was already established, carries out the programs and operations of the CIA under the justified guise of democracy to evade allegations.

Pursuing a calculated diplomacy, the foundation engages with criminals or popular dissident groups directly and overtly. Then,



by disrupting social order, inciting riots, influencing public opinion, and interfering in the internal affairs of governments that oppose American policies, the foundation either manipulates or changes those governments. So, because of the political ties it has and the specific activities it undertakes, the National Endowment for Democracy is commonly called “the white glove” of the US government to hint at its high-profile, special services.

#### FDI's interventionism in Iran

The interventionist actions of the Foundation for Democracy in Iran (FDI) expanded in the 1980s to include granting scholarships, extending financial aid, and awarding prizes to Iranian dissidents. But the official, substantial activities of the foundation against the Islamic world and specifically Iran launched after the September 11 attacks with the publication of the 2002 Strategy Document and the important speech of its president, Carl Gershman, entitled “Promoting Democracy in the Muslim World,” on March 21, 2003. Addressing the World Conference of Democracy-Support Foundations in Paris, Gershman openly declared that spreading democracy in the Muslim world is now top of the West's agenda. He placed the responsibility of creating democratic institutions and democratic culture on the reformers of Islamic countries. Since then, the Foundation for Democracy in Iran has played a prominent role in inciting unrest and riots in Iran. The foundation interferes with Iran's internal affairs in various ways and has cooperated with the proponents of the regime change in Iran and provided financial aid to them.

The foundation specifically played a central role in the failed Velvet Revolution of 2009–2010. Kenneth R. Timmerman, one of the founders and CEOs of the FDI, who openly calls for regime change in Iran, wrote in an op-ed before that fateful Iranian presidential election, “There's talk of a ‘green revolution’ in Tehran.” He continued: “The National Endowment for Democracy has spent millions of dollars during the past decade promoting ‘color’ revolutions in places such as Ukraine and Serbia, training political workers in modern communications and organizational techniques. Some of that money appears to have made it into the hands of pro-Mousavi groups, who have ties to non-governmental organizations outside Iran that the National Endowment for Democracy funds.” In an exclusive interview with the American magazine Foreign Policy,



▲ Ladan Broumand, the daughter of Abdurrahman Broumand, is the link between the opposition and the US government, and her activities in ned are prominent.  
● NED



the former assistant secretary of the US Treasury Paul Craig Roberts said that George W. Bush had ordered the CIA to spread misinformation to create instability in Iran and ultimately overthrow its regime. In the aftermath of the failed ‘Green Revolution’ in Iran, Roberts wrote another op-ed for Pravada, wherein he pointed out that then-President Barack Obama asked the Iranian government to allow the protesters to take control of the streets of Tehran to demonstrate. He then asked whether Obama or any other US president, for that matter, would have allowed demonstrators to take control of the streets of Washington, D.C. Condoleezza Rice, the US secretary of state under George W. Bush, in a speech in 2006 called for the allocation of \$15 million —

which was later increased to \$20 million by Congress — to the foundation to be spent on education and civic work that would be used to help organize anti-Iran labor unions and political organizations. Also, \$36.1 million were allocated to support Voice of America TV and Radio Farda to influence the public opinion of Iranians. The foundation also grants scholarships to experienced and elite academics and journalists to further its soft war project of dismantling Iran from within. Several Iranians including Mehrangiz Kar, Ramin Jahanbegloo, Hossein Bashiriyyeh, Siamak Namazi, Ali Afshari, and Manouchehr Mohammadi have received scholarships as guest researchers. Jahanbegloo was the one who infiltrated the ranks of politi-

cal and cultural officials when the reformists were in power in Iran as part of a secret operation launched by the NED and the CIA.

Moreover, the foundation created various websites including Panjareh and Rahbord to exchange information and advance its goals of training the civil society, empowering non-governmental organizations, etc.

The foundation also provides such groups and organizations in Iran with financial aid. For example, during 1995–96, the FDI was granted \$75,000 in order to collect information about Iran's human rights situation using local reporters and sources that are unavailable to the Westerners. NED allocated a total of \$190,000 in financial aid to Abdul Rahman Broumand Foundation

for four consecutive years between 2002 and 2005. NED has also helped the Women's Learning Partnership for Rights, Development, and Peace institution, which was founded by Mahnaz Afkhami in 2001 in the US. She received \$25,000 for holding a series of educational workshops in Tehran under the management of Azar Nafisi, which resulted in the publication of the book “Reading Lolita in Tehran”.

The National Iranian American Council (NIAC) is one of the organizations that is also being sponsored by the NED. The council is an American lobbying organizations that claims to be advocating the interests of the Iranian-American community, but in fact, it has always supported subversive groups sustained by foreign services.

In 2005, NED entrusted a project for the development of Iran's private sector in line with American values to the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE). One of the items on CIPE's agenda was to attract entrepreneurs and private sector activists of other countries for the benefit of the US to ultimately advance its foreign policy goals. In his book ‘Startup Rising: The Entrepreneurial Revolution Remaking Middle East,’ Christopher Schroeder claimed that in West Asia, it is these entrepreneurs and new business owners that are starting a revolution, a revolution that he thinks is very much needed in the region.

According to a document prepared by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps' Intelligence Organization, NED indirectly played a significant role in street clashes during the 2022 riots in Iran. Its ties to Masih Alinejad, who actively works against the Islamic Republic, is one of the many examples of the foundation's ties with the proponents of the regime change in Iran. Alinejad has received money from NED in exchange for her cooperation in recent years. According to the documents published on NED's website, the organization devised plans to create 2020 unrest in Iran years before.

In general, the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) financially supports non-governmental organizations that try to influence the political atmosphere of societies around the world by taking advantage of the media outlets, protests, and civil movements as well as indirectly interfering with the elections. Its attempts at removing the rulers who are against American policies is, in essence, a violation of the right of nations to self-determination, which earned the foundation the nickname “The Trojan Horse”.

## Teargas used to disperse rioters after Eredivisie game abandoned



Police officers use teargas to disperse football fans rioting Johan Cruyff Arena in Amsterdam, Netherlands, on September 24, 2023.

● REUTERS

REUTERS – Ajax Amsterdam's home Eredivisie game against defending champions Feyenoord was abandoned on Sunday as fans threw flares onto the pitch, and mounted police used tear gas to disperse rioting fans outside the stadium.

A group of angry Ajax fans tried to force their way into the stadium after the game was halted leading the police to disperse them with tear gas, Amsterdam police wrote on social media platform X. "After the stopped game supporters broke into the main (stadium) entrance. Order has since been restored," the police said.

"It is a jet black day, this makes it even worse," Ajax coach Maurice Steijn told broadcaster NOS.

Ajax were 3-0 down in the second half when the game was first suspended in the 56th minute.

Ajax, who have had a poor start to the season with just one win, sit 13th in the 18-team league and they conceded all three goals in the first half.

When flares were thrown onto the pitch for a second time, with many landing near the goal, the referee stopped the match and directed the players down the tunnel.

Fans paid no heed as the club displayed the message "Lighting of fireworks is prohibited" on the big screen at the Johan Cruyff Arena.

"De Klassieker has been permanently suspended after repeated fireworks on the field," Eredivisie said in a statement.

"More information on playing out this game will follow later."

Feyenoord manager Arne Slot said it was "especially annoying" that his side were not able to finish what had been a superb performance.

"In this way the chance for something very beautiful is taken away from us," he said on the club website.

"We understand the decision that has been taken, but we do not feel a sense of victory... And so we certainly won't get on the bus satisfied."

Ajax finished third last season and failed to qualify for the Champions League for the first time in 13 seasons. They had finished champions seven times and runners-up another five over the previous 12 seasons.

## Hangzhou Asian Games:

# Second rowing silver for Iranian women; cyclist Parto-Azar wins historic bronze

### Sports Desk

The second day of the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, saw Iranian women claim a second silver in the rowing contests, while Faranak Parto-Azar grabbed a historic bronze in the women's mountain bike cycling event.

Iran is yet to win a gold in the Games but still enjoyed a successful run on Monday by collecting double silvers and four bronzes.

### Rowing

The Iranian team of Fatemeh Mojallal, Nazanin Malaei, Mahsa Javer, and Zeinab Norouzi clocked 6:51.82 minutes to finish behind the Chinese team in the women's quadruple sculls final, with Vietnam taking the bronze.

This was a second rowing silver at the Fuyang Water Sports Centre for Javer and Norouzi, who had teamed up for a runner-up spot in the double sculls event on Sunday.

● Faranak Parto-Azar  
● hangzhou2022.cn



The Iranian team celebrates after winning the women's quadruple sculls silver at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, on September 25, 2023.

### Mountain cycling

Parto-Azar captured a first-ever international medal for Iranian women in the history of the sport after crossing the finish line of the cross country Olympic race in 1:42:44 hours – standing behind gold medalist Li Hongfeng (1:30:59) and her fellow Chinese Ma Caixia (1:42:44).

### Taekwondo

Iranian Mahdi Hajimousaei overcame opponents from Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and the

host country to reach the men's -58kg showdown, only to settle for the silver after a 2-0 defeat against South Korea's Jang Jun.

Mobina Ne'matzadeh, meanwhile, won a fifth medal for Iranian women in Hangzhou, a -49kg bronze courtesy of a last-four setback in straight rounds against home-favorite Guo Qing.

### Table tennis

Having made history on the preceding night by defeating Japan for a place in the men's team

semifinals, the Iranian three-man side fell to a 3-0 loss to South Korea to take a precious bronze medal.

Nima Alamian was beaten 3-2 by Lim Jong-hoon before his elder brother Noshad also came short in five games against Jang Woo-jin.

Mirhossein Hodaei's straight-game loss at the hands Park Gangh-yeon sealed the victory for South Korea.

### Fencing

Iranian fencer Mohammad Rah-

bari was in an impressive form heading into the men's saber semifinal against South Korea's Oh Sang-uk – an Olympic team gold medalist in Tokyo and a world champion in 2019.

However, the Iranian finished his individual campaign in Hangzhou with a bronze following a 15-11 defeat against the high-profile South Korean – taking his personal tally in the history of the Games to three medals, including back-to-back team silvers in 2014 and 2018.

## Wrestling World Championships:

# Iran makes clean sweep of men's team runner-up finishes

### Sports Desk

A total of five medals – including one gold – across 10 weight classes saw Iran stand second in the Greco-Roman competitions of the Wrestling World Championships in Belgrade.

Azerbaijan was crowned the champion, capturing double golds and three silvers to collect 120 points – 18 clear of Iran – with Turkey in third on 93 points.

The runner-up spot came after Iran's freestyle squad had also finished on the second podium earlier in the Serbian capital with four medals.

On Sunday, reigning Olympic champion Mohammadreza Geraei brought the curtain down on a mediocre campaign for Iran by grabbing a consolation bronze in the 67kg contest.

Also a world gold medalist in 2021, Geraei bounced back from a technical-fall loss against Azerbaijan's Hasrat Jafarov to edge out Hungarian Istvan Vancza 6-5 before outmuscling Armenia's Slavik Galstyan 8-0 for a joint-third place alongside the host's Mate Nemes, who had beaten the Iranian in last year's final.

This was a third Greco-Roman bronze for Iran at the event, following Pouya Dadmarz (55kg) and



Iran's Mohammadreza Geraei (red) is seen in action during a victory over Armenian Slavik Galstyan in the third-place bout of the Greco-Roman 67kg contests at the Wrestling World Championships in Belgrade, Serbia, on September 24, 2023.

● UWW

Mohammad-Hadi Saravi (97kg). Amin Mirzazadeh celebrated a first victory in three meetings with Turkish great Riza Kayaalp to take the 130kg gold, while Alireza Mohmadi fell to a 2-1 defeat against Rafiq Huseynov of Azerbaijan in the 82kg final.

The two team runner-up finishes might go down as a decent out-

come for the country but some of the results and performances would surely raise the alarm for Alireza Dabir, the chairman of the Iranian Wrestling Federation, as well as head coaches Pejman Dorostkar and Hassan Rangraz ahead of next year's Paris Olympics.

Geraei was clearly far from his

best, in part owing to a last-gasp weight loss before his first bout, as he ran away with shaky victories against minnow opponents before the last-eight humiliation against Jafarov.

The Iranian will be facing a daunting task in defending his Olympic crown in Paris as Cuban Luis Orta – a 60kg gold medalist

in Tokyo – has emerged as the favorite to win the 67kg title after a statement world gold in a new weight category.

In the freestyle contests, meanwhile, Hassan Yazdani won a national-high ninth major medal – an 86kg silver – but again proved to be the second best against American David Taylor, suffering a fifth defeat in the sixth match-up with his familiar foe.

Numerous wrestling pundits have suggested that the Iranian sensation will have to come up with new tactics against Taylor if he fancies a second Olympic gold.

Rahman Amouzad also had a below-par run in Belgrade.

Ruthless Rahman stepped into the event as the defending champion but could only manage a berth for Paris after finishing fifth in the 65kg class, though he was the only Iranian wrestler to win a bout in eight freestyle encounters for the country against either an American or Russian opposition.

For the meantime, Dabir and his coaches will be looking to build on gold-winning performances from Mirzazadeh and Amirhossein Zare', who will head to Paris as the frontrunners for the superheavyweight top podiums.

# Raeisi: Tehran never opposed IAEA inspections

## National Desk

President Ebrahim Raeisi said Iran has never opposed the inspection of its nuclear facilities by the inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency and is ready to further cooperate with the agency. Raeisi made the remarks in an interview with the CNN's Fareed Zakaria, who asked him about a recent decision by Tehran to bar multiple inspectors assigned to the country. President Raeisi noted that Iran has never said that it is opposed to the inspection, but it has lost its trust in the people related to three European countries, namely, Germany, Britain and France. He said that inspectors from different nationalities have always come to the country and Iran has no problem with their presence in Iran. Raeisi said that the IAEA had confirmed 15 times

that there has been no deviations in Iran's nuclear activities. But these European countries ignore the IAEA reports and make baseless claims about Iran's nuclear program. President Raeisi said that the European actions are purely political and are carried out with the intention of exerting pressure on Iran. Regarding Iran's uranium enrichment to the purity level of 60%, Raeisi said that it was in response to the lack of commitment by the European parties to the 2015 nuclear agreement. "In the beginning, we were not seeking 60% levels of enrichment. They (European states) trampled upon their commitments," the Iranian president said. "What the Islamic Republic of Iran did was in response to a breaking of commitment of the signatories to the (2015) agreement." Raeisi also categorically rejected the country's en-

richment of uranium to near weapons-grade levels, saying, "It was officially announced that the action that we intend to take is not to reach nuclear weapons of any type, or a military dimension of any type, but a response to the lack of commitment demonstrated by the Europeans." He also reiterated Tehran's long-standing conviction that the Islamic Republic does not plan to acquire a nuclear bomb. Meanwhile, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), Mohammad Eslami, asked the IAEA to take tangible measures to remain impartial and avoid disclosing confidential information on Iran's nuclear activities and sites. He made the remarks in an address to the 67th Regular Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the Austrian capital, Vienna, on Monday. Referring to the fact that



Iran has been the subject of one of the most intensive investigations in the history of the IAEA, Eslami

underlined that the cooperation between Tehran and the UN agency should not go unnoticed.

Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi (R) speaks in an interview with the CNN's Fareed Zakaria on the sidelines of the 78th session of the UN General Assembly in New York on September 20, 2023. [president.ir](http://president.ir)

## Efficiency of Iranian Air Force strategies during 1980s war

By Brig. Gen. Alireza Roudbari  
Chief of Air Force  
Research Center

### OPINION EXCLUSIVE

The Iranian Army's Air Force, a pivotal element of the military, has managed to position itself as a technology-focused and knowledge-driven entity within the Armed Forces. Equipped with essential technological components and possessing practical knowledge of aerial operations, the Iranian Air Force has devoted its capabilities to serving the main goals of warfare and defense. By pioneering a novel ap-



proach known as "systematic operations," which is based on the application of knowledge, experience, skills, and operational effectiveness in airborne missions, Iran's Air Force succeeded in demonstrating its military prowess and a comprehensive set of cutting-edge military

and defensive technologies during the Iraq-Iran war in 1980-1988. By the end of the conflict, the Air Force had accomplished over 300,000 combat sorties, including air refueling and air transport, under the categories of combat patrol and escort, reconnaissance and photography, strategic and tactical bombing, as well as transport and fuel-supplying. Aerial combat patrol operations received the highest share of the Iranian Air Force's operational activities, with the majority of combat patrol operations taking place in 1980 and 1981. This highlights the prioritization of Iran's Air

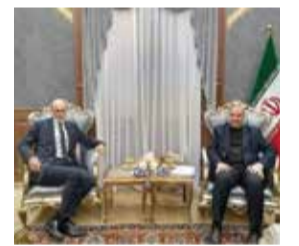
Force in achieving aerial superiority in the campaigns to push back invading Iraqi forces, as part of the Air Force's operational plan, including Operation Nasr and Operation Beit ol-Moqaddas in the first three years of the war. Besides, a reduction in Iran's aerial patrols as the war drew to its end indicated a diminishing air power, prompting a necessity to modify the strategy of "all-out airstrikes and attaining air superiority" to the one that calls for "the preservation of military might," often referred to as a "systematic contingency strategy." At the war's outset, the Iraqi Air Force boasted

nearly 500 bomber and fighter aircraft. Over the eight-year conflict, they received additional aircraft such as Super Etendard, Mirage, MiG-25 and MiG-29, Sukhoi Su-24, Sukhoi Su-25, as well as more MiG-21, MiG-23, and Sukhoi Su-20 and Sukhoi Su-22 aircraft. Over the course of the war, Iraq carried out nearly 250,000 operational sorties and lost approximately 500 aircraft of various types. However, by the end of the war, its fleet had grown to over 650 aircraft. According to available documents and reports, Iraq suffered even greater losses in equipment and personnel, largely attributed to Iran's relentless airstrikes on the invading forces, a fact recognized by analysts. The Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force, equipped with a fleet of various transport aircraft, performed aerial refueling missions, aerial electronic reconnaissance and communications interceptions, cargo transport, and personnel and casualty evacuation throughout the war. It managed to deliver over one hundred million pounds of fuel to combat aircraft in aerial refueling operations and transported approximately one million tons of cargo and equipment, along with over two million personnel. In order to prevent an increase in the operational success rate of Iraq's Air Force, the Islamic Republic's Air Force effectively re-

duced its own operational ceiling to a negligible extent, based on the information provided. Iran's Army Air Force represents a "technology-oriented" force that has incorporated the concept of "systematic operations" into its operational framework, playing a significant role throughout the eight-year war. The Air Force is a complete and clear manifestation of air power with a very high impact in expediting the war and achieving swift and clear-cut victories, playing a key role in the field of battles, wars and the field of military and national security. By relying on air power, you can quickly overcome time and space. Experts argue that, without the assistance of the Air Force, success is nearly impossible solely through ground forces. In the current conditions, many believe that the competition is not for land or sea but for having undisputed rights and access to the widest and farthest element of the world, which is airspace. Giulio Douhet, an Italian general and air power theorist, believed that "Victory smiles upon those who anticipate the changes in the character of war, not upon those who wait to adapt themselves after the changes occur." Therefore, to strengthen national sovereignty and possess superior aerial power, the creation of a powerful and modern Air Force with advanced technology that intelligently accomplishes its missions at maximum speed and minimum time should be the aspiration of all military experts and statesmen in the country.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iran criticizes new UK sanctions



IRNA - Iranian Ambassador to Iraq Mohammad Kazem Al-e Sadegh criticized new sanctions imposed by the UK on Iran over the human rights situation in the country.

The Iranian diplomat made the remarks at a meeting with the British ambassador to Iraq, Stephen Charles Hitchen, in the Iranian Embassy in Baghdad.

The Iranian official also denounced the West's double standards towards human rights.

### Self-sufficiency attained in dental prosthesis production

IRNA - Iran says it has reached self-sufficiency in production of dental prosthesis.

The Head of Faculty of Dentistry of the Tehran University of Medical Science Hossein-Ali Mahgoli said that Iranian dental prosthesis are produced with high quality.

He said that Iran has received orders from many countries including Iraq, Afghanistan and Australia.

**First Announcement**

  
NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY  
AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0240004

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
01	CASING 5-1/2 IN. API GRADE L-80 SEAMLESS, 20 PPF	2200 LE

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: [www.nisoc.ir](http://www.nisoc.ir), not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded.

The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 52,185/49 EURO or 20,943,397,542 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials through technical specifications and Qualitative

Assessment Forms can be accessed via: [www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab](http://www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab).  
**ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P., NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D., SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.**

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## Minister urges enhanced cultural ties with Pakistan



### Arts & Culture Desk

IRNA – Iran's Culture and Islamic Guidance Minister Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili met with his Pakistani counterpart, Caretaker Minister for National Heritage and Culture Jamal Shah, on the sidelines of the two-day conference of Culture Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) held in Doha, Qatar.

During the meeting both sides emphasized the importance of enhancing bilateral cultural relations and signed a new memorandum of understanding in the cultural sphere. They also stressed the need to accelerate the production of joint cinematic works, particularly in promoting the works of renowned filmmaker Iqbal Lahori.

In their discussions, the ministers underscored the necessity of developing collaborations in various cultural and artistic fields. Pakistan's culture minister extended an invitation to his Iranian counterpart to visit Islamabad and participate in Iran's Cultural Week, expressing Pakistan's interest in introducing Iranian arts such as calligraphy and visual arts in Pakistani schools.

Minister Esmaeili, who traveled to Doha for the conference, had previously met with Salim bin Mohammed Al-Malik, the Secretary-General of the Islamic World Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), emphasizing Iran's eagerness to strengthen cooperation with the organization.

He highlighted the diverse cultural concerns within the Islamic world and the need for increased dialogue and collaboration among Islamic nations, with ICESCO playing a pivotal role in this regard.

Al-Malik also expressed his willingness to visit Tehran and praised Iran for its rich cultural heritage. He emphasized that Iran, as an active and culturally robust nation, could contribute significantly to ICESCO's development programs.

The ICESCO chief stated, "Through cooperation with Iran, we can achieve a multitude of projects together."

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# Tourist arrivals in Iran grow by 38%

### Arts & Culture Desk

A total of 3.35 million foreign tourists traveled to Iran in the first half of the current Iranian year, showing a 38 percent growth compared to the previous year, Ali-Asghar Shalbfafian, said the Deputy Minister of Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts, and Tourism. Shalbfafian made the statement at a press conference on the occasion of World Tourism Day and Tourism Week in Iran.

According to IRNA, Shalbfafian said that with the cancellation of events with Iraq last year, we witnessed a significant growth in tourism from that country, and now it is the top country of origin of tourists to Iran.

However, regional developments in Azerbaijan and Afghanistan have reduced the volume of tourists

from these areas to Iran, he added.

He noted, referring to the theme of World Tourism Day (Tourism and Green Investment) this year, coinciding with Tourism Week in the country, that over 130 tourism programs, with the theme "Green Tourism," will be held in over 60 counties across the country.

Shalbfafian continued that there are programs focused on green tourism in over 50 ecotourism sites and 47 programs in collaboration with associations and educational institutions, along with three specialized roundtable discussions and the organization of the Isfahan International Tourism and Handicrafts Exhibition, as part of the activities of this week.

Iran's tourism official noted, "In line with the government's policy of developing cooperation

with countries, especially neighboring ones, we have proposed the cancellation of visas to 68 countries."

"Furthermore, negotiations have been conducted regarding facilitating travel for tourists with private vehicles, in cooperation with eight agencies, and this will be unveiled during Tourism Week," he added.

Regarding the initiation of tourism relations with Egypt, Shalbfafian said, "Our tourism relations with Egypt fall within the framework of foreign policy. Last week, there was correspondence with the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism, and a group of managers from Egyptian airlines will travel to Iran." He further clarified that "Egypt tours" will only make sense when we have direct flights. As far as we



● IRNA

know, we do not have direct flights at present. Shalbfafian also mentioned the cancellation of group visas with Russia, saying that the cancellation of group visas with Russia

has been implemented, and on September 27, the first group of Russian tourists will arrive in Iran. He concluded, "We are also considering canceling group visas with China.

The Chinese government has approved Iran as a destination, which is why we have witnessed good growth in Chinese tourists traveling to Iran in the past year.

## Iran Cinema Days at Tashkent Int'l Film Festival



IRNA – Iran Cinema Days will be held at the 15th Tashkent International Film Festival, also known as the "Pearls of the Silk Road," scheduled to run from September 29 to October 3 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Among the featured films from the Farabi Cinema Foundation are: 'No Prior Appointment,' directed by Behrouz Shoeibi; 'Romanticism of Emad & Tooba,' directed by Kaveh Sabaghzadeh; 'Squad of Girls,' directed by Monir Qeidi; and 'Mehran,' directed by Roqayyeh Tavakkoli.

The festival provides a platform for Iranian filmmakers to share their works and engage with the global cinematic community, further strengthening cultural ties between Iran and Uzbekistan. The "Pearls of the Silk Road" festival continues to be a significant platform for celebrating diverse and compelling films from around the world. The festival is held in order to preserve and develop the age-old traditions of national cinematography, and further develop cultural and educational activities in Uzbekistan.

## 'Suitcase' wins at Parma festival

The short film 'Suitcase,' directed by Saman Hosseinpour and Ako Zandkarimi, was awarded the Best Screenplay prize at the 11th edition of the Parma Film and Music Festival in Italy.

The film, produced by Fariba Arab, tells the story of an immigrant man who loses his homeland once again, ILNA reported.

The Parma Film and Music Festival is a platform for showcasing and promoting feature films, short films, and documentaries of all genres and nationalities. The festival aims to

highlight the importance of music in cinema as a fundamental element for a film's success. The 11th edition of the Parma festival took place from September 18 to 23 in the city of Parma, Italy.

'Suitcase' had previously won the Audience Award at the 4th Kobani International Film Festival and had been featured at the 46th Drama International Short Film Festival in Greece, the 13th Kurdish Film Festival in Berlin, and the 3rd Moscow Kurdish Film Festival."

