



IRAN:

View from the LEFT

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Word of the Month: Is it realistic to expect an agreement between Iran and the United States?

By: Mehdi Ebrahimzadeh

Although the United States and Israel have, in the recent war, succeeded in killing the leader and several senior officials and commanders of the Revolutionary Guard, destroying much of the country's infrastructure, and disabling Iran's naval and air fleets, the economic and political consequences of the war in the region and around the world especially in the United States have worked against Trump and the United States.

Trump's visit to China and his meetings with the leaders of the Gulf states and Saudi Arabia, together with the presidents of Turkey, Egypt, and Pakistan, are signs of an effort to find a way out of the quagmire of war with Iran.

On the other hand, despite the human and structural losses it has suffered, Iran has reached the limits of its resilience. In other words, both sides are now in a position where, on the one hand, they may continue in a state of neither war nor peace, while at the same time seeking to achieve a lasting agreement.

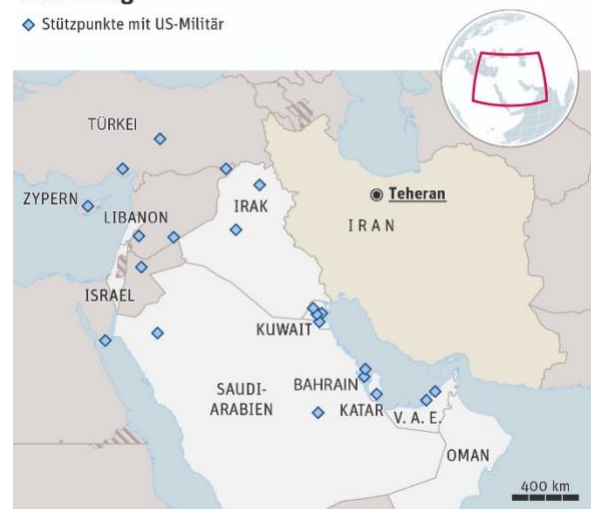
It also seems that both Iran and the United States are more concerned with being perceived as the conflict winners than with moving beyond the war through realistic negotiations. Rather than focusing on the compromises necessary for a durable settlement, each side appears intent on preserving a narrative of victory for its domestic audience, making meaningful concessions politically difficult. In this sense, negotiations often seem less about ending the conflict and more about securing recognition as the side that prevailed.

The Iranian People are Victims of War, Adventurism, and Repression! The Struggle for Peace is Also a Struggle Against Repression

Iran faces a dangerous crossroads where renewed war, prolonged instability, and a persistent state of neither war nor peace threaten the country's economic, social, and political future. Years of sanctions, inflation, corruption, and regional confrontation have imposed immense costs on ordinary Iranians, while the continuation of military tensions only strengthens authoritarian, security, and military institutions at the expense of civil society and democratic change. At the center of this crisis is the uranium

Iran-Krieg

◆ Stützpunkte mit US-Militär



enrichment program, which has become a permanent source of sanctions, international isolation, military threats, and economic hardship without delivering meaningful benefits to the Iranian people.



Rather than serving national development or public welfare, the program has largely served as a tool to expand the strategic influence, resources, and political power of the Revolutionary Guards and the security establishment. A voluntary suspension of enrichment, the transfer of highly enriched uranium under international agreements, and direct negotiations leading to sanctions relief could reduce the risk of war, ease economic pressure on society, and shift national priorities from ideological and military ambitions toward the welfare, security, and future of the Iranian people.

Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran

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A Tribute to Parviz Ghelichkhani, Distinguished Captain of Iran's National Football Team



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Former Iran national football team captain Parviz Ghelichkhani passed away on May 23, 2026, near Paris. Widely regarded as one of Iran's greatest footballers, he helped lead Iran to three consecutive Asian Cup titles and became a national sports icon. Beyond football, however, Ghelichkhani was known for his lifelong commitment to freedom and social justice. He opposed both the Shah's regime and the Islamic Republic, refusing to submit to authoritarian rule. He was arrested and harassed by SAVAK for his political beliefs,



Photo: Unknown / Wikimedia Common (cropped)

later spent four decades in exile after the 1979 Revolution, and continued his activism through cultural and political work, including publishing the left-wing journal *Arash*. He is remembered not only as a legendary athlete but also as a courageous and principled opponent of dictatorship in all its forms.

May 24, 2026

When Hunger Becomes Polite: Half-Portion Meals and the Growing Reality of Poverty in Iran."

A Short Social Commentary by Hamid Asefi

The growing practice of Iranian restaurants offering half-portions is presented not as a matter of customer choice or business innovation, but as a visible sign of deepening poverty and declining purchasing power. The article argues that with inflation approaching 60 percent, many people can no longer afford a full meal, forcing businesses to adapt to

economic hardship rather than overcome it. In this view, the half-portion meal has become a new measure of poverty, symbolizing a society gradually adjusting to diminished living standards. What begins as a smaller plate of food reflects a broader process of social contraction: reduced consumption, reduced opportunities, and reduced expectations for the future. The author warns that when poverty becomes normalized and embedded in everyday life, it ceases to be perceived as an emergency and instead becomes a permanent condition, leading people to accept not only less food but also fewer rights, lower aspirations, and a diminished sense of possibility for themselves and their society.

Environment iran

Whales: The Forgotten Victims of the War in the Strait of Hormuz



While the world's attention has been focused on military conflicts in the Middle East, scientists are warning of a lesser-known crisis: noise pollution caused by war could push one of the world's last populations of Arabian humpback whales toward extinction.

As global attention has been fixed on missiles, aircraft, and military operations, a quieter war has been unfolding beneath the waters of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. The victims are not humans, but whales and other marine mammals.

Researchers warn that escalating military tensions in the region, particularly during the Iran conflict and the Strait of Hormuz crisis, could threaten the survival of one of the world's most endangered whale populations.

According to reports, the Strait of Hormuz is not only a strategic oil passage but also home to the rare Arabian humpback whale, a unique population that, unlike most humpback whales, does not migrate and spends its entire life in the waters of the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea. Scientists estimate that fewer than 100 Arabian humpback whales remain. Researchers say the main threat is not direct physical damage from explosions but underwater noise. Whales rely on sound for navigation, finding food, mating, and maintaining social bonds. Modern warfare turns the ocean into an intensely noisy environment. Naval vessels, underwater explosions, mines, submarines, mine-clearing operations, and heavy tanker traffic all generate powerful underwater noise pollution.

According to *WIRED*, researchers at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi have warned that the frequencies produced by ships and military vessels overlap in the same acoustic range used by humpback whales for communication. As a result, whale calls can be drowned out by the background noise of war, disrupting their communication and social structure.

Source: Fararu News Website

Oil Pollution on the Shores of Shidvar Island in the Persian Gulf Following the Attack on the Lavan Refinery

As some Iranian citizens gradually regain internet access after more than two and a half months of disruption, new images revealing the effects of the war and its damages have emerged.



A citizen recently shared images of Shidvar (Maro) Island, located near Lavan Island, on Instagram. The images indicate that following the airstrike on the Lavan Refinery on April 8, 2026, oil pollution spread throughout the area, contaminating the environment and affecting native wildlife.

The photographs show oil contamination along the shores of this pristine, uninhabited island, as well as the deaths of several animals along its coastline. The island lies on the route of migratory birds and serves as an important nesting habitat for sea turtles, which come ashore from mid-March to early August to lay their eggs.

The Director General of the Hormozgan Provincial Department of Environmental Protection confirmed the oil pollution in the Lavan and Maro areas. On April 30, he stated that “no deaths of sea turtles have been reported on these shores.”

Speaking to the newspaper *Hamshahri*, Habib Masihi Taziani said: “A large portion of the oil pollution on the sandy beaches has been collected, but cleaning rocky and coral coastlines is much more difficult.”

He warned that the pollution “will have long-lasting consequences for the rocky

shoreline and coral ecosystems.” Earlier, satellite images labeled as showing an “oil slick near Kharg Island” had attracted public attention. In response, Iran’s Department of Environment rejected claims that the spill originated from pipelines or offshore oil platforms operated by the Iranian Offshore Oil Company, stating that the pollution was caused by “the discharge of contaminated ballast water from a damaged oil tanker.”

The CEO of the Iranian Oil Terminals Company also dismissed reports of the oil spill as “false claims and far from reality,” adding: “The entire area was monitored, and not even an amount equivalent to a teacup was found.”

Source: BBC Persian

Spring in the Chako Region of Jahrom: Plains and Mountains Between Meshkan and Neyriz, Fars Province

Thanks to this year’s spring rainfall, following many years of drought and low precipitation, the plains and mountains of our beloved Iran have transformed into a magnificent, breathtaking, and delightful tableau of diverse plant life and vibrant colors. It is a vivid expression of dynamism in contrast to static stagnation—a living painting that changes continuously every moment, bringing beauty, hope, and inspiration.



The social conditions of our country, Iran, are also changing, much like its nature. Surely and inevitably, just as nature renews itself, our society will overcome its difficult social, political, and economic challenges. Our children will one day live in an environment enriched by independence, freedom, and social justice, much like the stunning green and purple, silk- and velvet-like vegetation that carpets the Chako Plain. Salute to all those who remain hopeful and strive for independence, freedom, social justice, the territorial integrity of Iran, and the defense of the country against aggression and the ongoing war.

Source: Baboliha Telegram Channel

IRAN: “View from the LEFT” is published monthly for those interested in the Left Party of Iran’s perspective on current issues.

IRAN: View from the LEFT may occasionally contain news from Iran that the media might not have drawn attention to.

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