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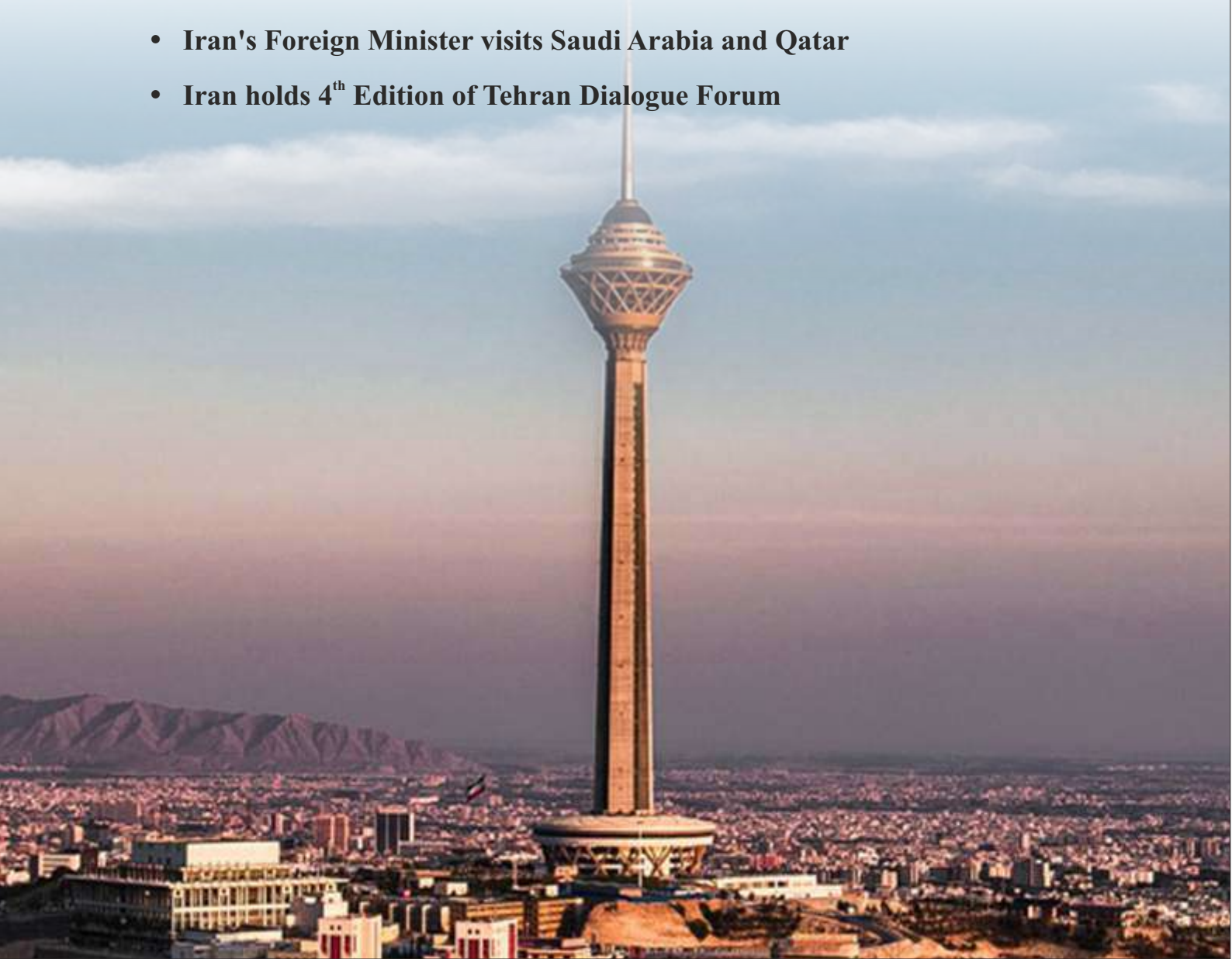
मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

# Iran

## *Digest*

May 2025

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## Iran's Foreign Minister visits India

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi visited India from 7-8 May for co-chairing the 20th Joint Commission Meeting between India and Iran. In the meeting, which was held on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the India-Iran Friendship Treaty, both sides reviewed issues of mutual interest between the two countries and the way forward in strengthening bilateral relations. Emphasizing the significance of economic and trade relations between Iran and India, Araghchi underscored the implementation of various components of the ten-year Chabahar cooperation agreement as a priority for bilateral ties. Highlighting the strategic importance of stability and security in South Asia for the Islamic Republic of Iran and the broader international community, Araghchi voiced hope that the recent regional tensions would be resolved through prudence and responsible engagement by the parties concerned. Acknowledging Iran's role as a close regional partner, Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar urged Tehran to maintain a clear understanding of India's national security imperatives. "As a neighbour and trusted friend, it is vital that Iran is fully aware of the gravity of this situation and our measured approach to addressing it," he said. After proposing to mediate in de-escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, Araghchi had travelled to Pakistan on 5 May. Following talks with his Pakistani counterpart Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Araghchi noted that the objective of his visit was to get a clear understanding of the current situation in the region, especially regarding the ongoing developments between India and Pakistan. Apart from discussing bilateral ties, Araghchi also briefed Islamabad about the latest developments in the indirect negotiations between Tehran and Washington.

## Pakistan's Prime Minister visits Iran

On 26 May, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif at the head of a delegation arrived in Tehran from Turkey. Underlining Iran's foreign policy aimed at promoting peace, stability, and security both regionally and globally, President [Masoud Pezeshkian](#) stated that Tehran believes the recent tensions between India and Pakistan should not have escalated into military confrontation. Pezeshkian, in his meeting with the Pakistani delegation, highlighted that Iranian officials consider the expansion and consolidation of ties with Pakistan to be crucial, strategic and aligning with the broader policies of prioritizing relations with neighbouring and Islamic nations. Sharif thanked Iranian officials for their support of regional peace and security, particularly concerning tensions between Islamabad and New Delhi. Pezeshkian stressed the importance of [eliminating insecurity and terrorist presence](#), asserting that Tehran and Islamabad are committed to enhancing security and combating elements that threaten stability in the border areas. He also called for enhanced cooperation in developing banking and monetary infrastructure to facilitate trade. Supreme Leader [Ayatollah Khamenei](#), in his meeting with Sharif, described the Palestinian issue as the most important issue of the Islamic world and noted that at a time when there have been continuous attempts to tempt Muslim countries to establish ties with Israel, Pakistan has never succumbed to these temptations. While expressing hope that Sharif's visit will contribute to the comprehensive expansion of ties, he also emphasized the necessity of Iran-Pakistan cooperation to revitalize and activate the Economic Cooperation Organization. Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, Major General Mohammad Hossein Bagheri, in

his meeting with Pakistani counterpart Syed Asim Munir Ahmed, noted that [coordination between the armed forces of Iran and Pakistan](#) in border control has been effective and valuable and needs to be enhanced further.

### **Iran's Foreign Minister visits Saudi Arabia and Qatar**

In the run-up to the fourth round of indirect nuclear talks between Iran and the United States and US President Donald Trump's visit to the region, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi visited Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Speaking in an interview ahead of his trip, Araghchi said the visit formed part of broader consultations between Iran and regional actors concerning regional security and the Iran-U.S. dialogue. Araghchi met with his Saudi counterpart, [Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan](#), in Jeddah on 10 May. Araghchi briefed him on the status of indirect negotiations with Washington. Both sides reviewed the current state of Iran-Saudi relations and reaffirmed their shared commitment to advancing the vision set by their respective leaders for broadening cooperation across political, economic, and cultural fields. Araghchi emphasized the critical need for unity within the Islamic world in facing shared threats and challenges, particularly concerning situation in occupied Palestine. In Doha, Araghchi delivered a keynote address at the [4th edition of Iran-Arab World Dialogue Conference](#). He noted that the Middle East is undergoing a critical phase requiring stronger cooperation among its countries. He reaffirmed Iran's commitment to dialogue as a strategic necessity for addressing challenges and promoting stability. On the Iranian nuclear issue, he asserted that Iran does not seek nuclear weapons, which he described as religiously forbidden and absent from

Iran's defensive doctrine. However, he affirmed Iran's full right to pursue peaceful nuclear energy, including uranium enrichment. He maintained that a "fair and balanced" agreement remains possible if other parties abandon unrealistic demands.

### **Iran holds 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of Tehran Dialogue Forum**

The Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the [Tehran Dialogue Forum](#) on 18-19 May. President Pezeshkian, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, addressed the event featuring high-ranking officials from 53 nations, including [Foreign Ministers](#) of Iraq, Oman, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Qatar, Armenian Secretary of the Security Council Armen Grigoryan, Acting Foreign Minister of the Taliban [Amir Khan Muttaqi](#), former Prime Minister of Iraq Adil Abdul-Mahdi al-Muntafiki, President of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq Nechirvan Barzani and Hikmet Hajiyevev, Assistant to the President of Azerbaijan. Calling for a [home-grown regional order](#) and economic interdependence, Araghchi stated that "West Asia is in urgent need of a fundamental reassessment of its self-perception. Years of fixation on manufactured rivalries—often fuelled by the illusion of perpetual threats—have stymied meaningful cooperation, obstructed the resolution of common challenges, and opened the door to destabilizing foreign interference." He noted that "no peace or stability can be achieved in our region without addressing the Palestinian issue sincerely, comprehensively, and decisively" and reiterated Iran's call of holding a referendum with the participation of all native residents of Palestine—Muslims, Christians, and Jews—to determine the future political system of their homeland.