



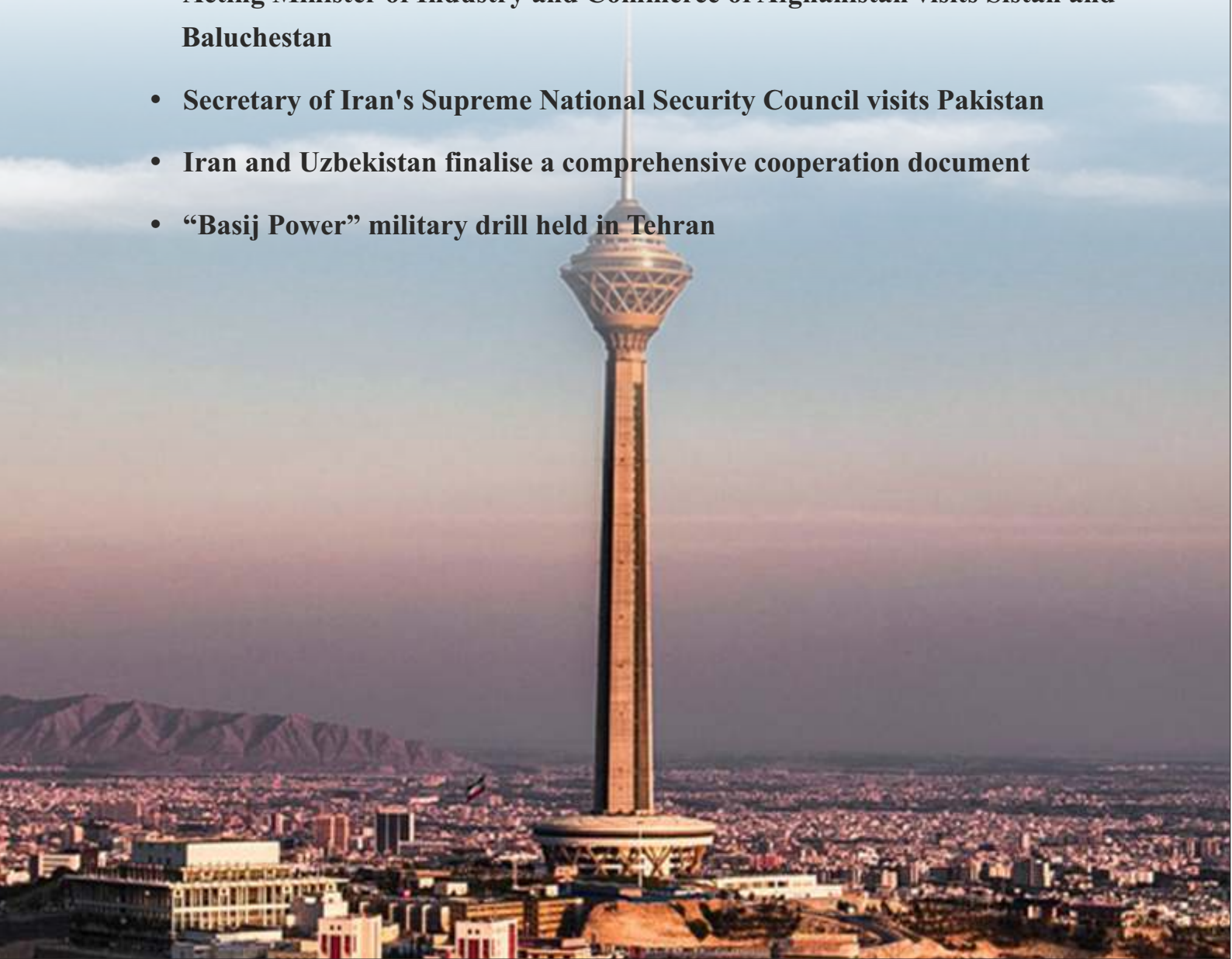
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Iran

Digest

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Turkish Foreign Minister visits Iran

On 30 November, Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan visited Iran at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart Abbas Araghchi. During a media briefing, Fidan underscored the need to boost bilateral cooperation in trade, energy and regional security. On regional security, Fidan said both countries view "[Israel as the biggest threat](#) to stability in the Middle East," citing concerns over Gaza, Lebanon and Syria. Emphasising the need to respect the national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and unity of both Syria and Lebanon, the two ministers condemned the continued Israeli attacks. Araghchi said, "Iran is one of the most [reliable energy suppliers](#) for Türkiye. We expressed our readiness to extend the gas (export) contract and expand cooperation in the electricity sector." Iran has been exporting nearly 10 billion cubic meters of gas per year to Türkiye under a 25-year agreement signed in 2001. Araghchi also stressed the urgency of connecting Iranian and Turkish railway lines and expressed hope for construction to begin promptly. He also announced Iran's readiness to activate new border crossings. Fidan also met Iranian President Massoud Pezeshkian and Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Larijani and Parliament Speaker Bagher Ghalibaf.

Acting Minister of Industry and Commerce of Afghanistan visits Sistan and Baluchestan

On 15 November, Nooruddin Azizi, Acting Minister of Industry and Commerce of Afghanistan participated in Iran-Afghanistan Joint Economic Commission meeting held in the city of Hirmand in Iran's [Sistan and Baluchestan](#). Azizi was received

by the Governor of the Sistan and Baluchestan province, Gen. Mansour Bijar. Bijar emphasised the need for strengthening the economic, cultural and infrastructural relations. Azizi, heading a delegation of Afghan economic officials, entered Iran through the Milak border terminal. Highlighting the trade potential between the two countries, he said that transit from Iran's Chabahar Port to the [Milak Border Terminal](#) is safe, secure, and unrestricted. He added that this route could become a competitive alternative to regional ports, including Karachi, due to its lower costs. Azizi also stressed that Afghanistan is committed to coordinating with Iran on water resource management, and any plans or actions in this area will be implemented with mutual consent.

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council visits Pakistan

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) [Ali Larijani](#) paid an official visit to Pakistan on 25-26 November. Larijani held delegation-level talks with the National Security Advisor, Lt. Gen. Muhammad Asim Malik. He met with Pakistan's political and military leadership. During his meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Larijani described elevating Iran-Pakistan relations to a "strategic level" and called for facilitating economic interactions to reach the stated goal of \$10 billion in bilateral trade. Larijani reiterated Iran's unwavering commitment to the Iran-Pakistan (IP) gas pipeline, noting that Iran has constructed the pipeline up to the border, while blaming external factors for the delay. He stated that

he is “very saddened” by the tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan and is “ready to play any constructive role” to help resolve them. Larijani met with Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chief of Staff of Pakistan’s Army, at the General Headquarters in Rawalpindi. Munir reaffirmed Pakistan’s commitment to regional peace and highlighted the need for strong collaboration to counter rising terror threats, emphasising that “close coordination with Iran” will help both countries handle evolving security challenges more effectively. Larijani praised “[Pakistan’s vital role](#) in ensuring regional peace and security” and expressing his commitment to strengthening Iran-Pakistan relations.

Iran and Uzbekistan finalise a comprehensive cooperation document

Iran’s [Minister of Industry, Mining, and Trade](#) Seyed Mohammad Atabak paid a three-day visit to Tashkent, Uzbekistan on 9 November. The objective of the visit by the Iranian delegation, which included senior officials from the trade and mining sectors and members of the Iranian Parliament’s economic and industry commissions, was to pursue new tariff arrangements, ease customs procedures, and promote industrial partnerships. Atabak noted that a comprehensive cooperation document between the two countries has been finalised. Both sides also highlighted the need to [address existing barriers](#), particularly in customs, banking, and transportation sectors, to facilitate trade and investment. He also held consultations with Jamshid Khojaye, Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan.

“Basij Power” military drill held in Tehran

Mohammad Rasulullah Corps of Greater Tehran, the largest provincial corps of Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) organised “[Basij Power](#)” military drill at Imam Hussein Officer and Guard Training University in Tehran. The event marking the National Basij Week was attended by IRGC Commander-in-Chief Maj. Gen. Mohammad Pakpour and Ahmad Vahidi, Deputy Chief of the Armed Forces General Staff. The exercise focused on demonstrating the operational readiness, coordination and mobilisation capacity of Basij units in the capital. Addressing the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Pakpour praised the performance of Basij forces during the recent 12-day conflict, saying their presence at checkpoints and across major roads played an important role in maintaining security. He recounted the historical circumstances that led to the creation of the Basij in 1979, noting that the country was facing widespread separatist unrest in Kurdistan, West Azerbaijan, and regions in the north, south, and southwest. Pakpour highlighted the role of local Sunni Basij forces—who make up roughly 80% of Basij members in some border areas—in countering terrorist groups operating from outside Iran. The [Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces](#) Maj. Gen. Abdolrahim Mousavi, in his message, noted that “amid intensified media, economic, and psychological warfare waged by the enemies of the Islamic Republic, Basij remains the symbol of the Iranian nation’s awareness, resistance, and intelligence.