



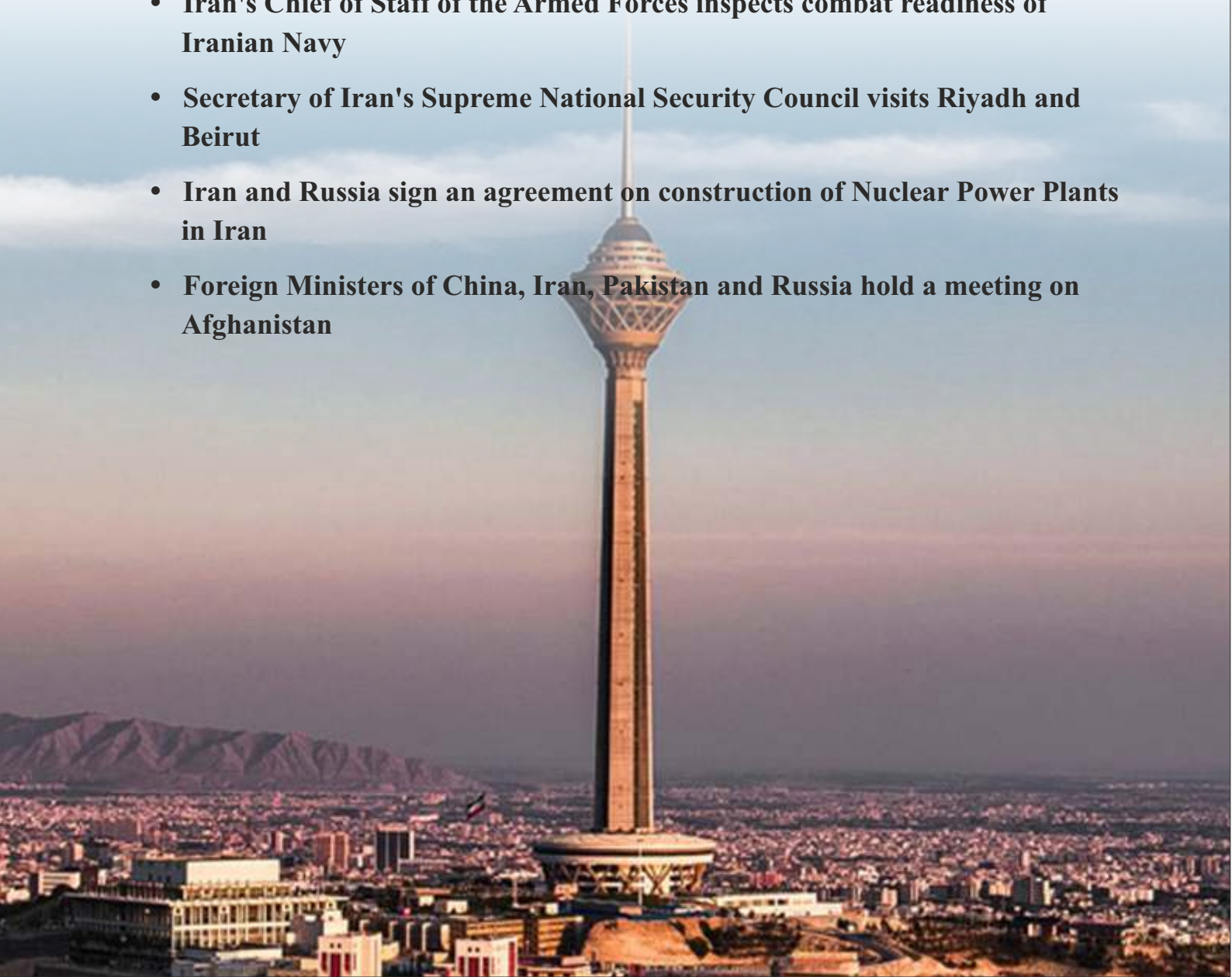
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Iran

Digest

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E3 triggers ‘Snapback’ of the UN Sanctions on Iran

On 28 September, Britain, France, and Germany—a group known as the E3—triggered the [“snapback” of UN sanctions](#) on Iran. The snapback mechanism, enshrined in UN Security Council Resolution 2231, allowed any participant to restore pre-2015 UN sanctions on Iran without the possibility of veto. [Six UN Security Council resolution](#) from 2006-2010 as part of the international efforts to address Iran's nuclear program will be reinstated, which call on states to prevent the supply, sale, or transfer of designated nuclear and ballistic missile-related goods to Iran, embargo the export of conventional arms to Iran, travel bans and global asset freezes on listed individuals and entities. Tehran rejected E3 offer to delay reinstating sanctions for up to six months if Iran restored access for UN nuclear inspectors, addressed concerns about enriched Uranium, and engaged in talks with the US. However, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi reached an [agreement in Cairo](#) allowing IAEA inspectors back into the country. Under the arrangement, any IAEA inspections would require approval from Iran's Supreme National Security Council. Tehran had suspended cooperation with the IAEA in the aftermath of the Israeli-US attack on its nuclear sites. In a last minute effort, Tehran offered the IAEA inspectors immediate access to the Natanz facility and clarification of the stockpile of highly-enriched Uranium, if the E3 supported a Russian-led draft resolution to extend Resolution 2231 for six months. Following the snapback, Araghchi stated in a meeting with foreign diplomats that "the [Cairo](#)

[agreement](#) can no longer serve as the basis for our cooperation with the agency." Iran also recalled its ambassadors from Germany, France and the UK.

Iran’s Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces inspects combat readiness of Iranian Navy

On 30 September, Iran’s Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, Major General Seyed Abdolrahim Mousavi, during an inspection of the country’s Armed Forces and Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) naval forces in the southern province of [Hormozgan](#) commented on the combat readiness of the forces. “Our forces in the South are prepared to execute their missions, and all defensive and offensive plans to counter the enemy are being continuously updated and practiced,” he said. Mousavi added that significant improvements have been made in the Navy based on experiences gained during the 12-day “Sacred Defense,” referring to the Israel-Iran war. During his stay in Bandar Abbas, the top general toured various naval units, including surface, subsurface, and airborne forces. On 28 September, speaking in a meeting with the IRGC Commander [Major General Mohammad Pakpour](#), General Mousavi stressed that “coordination, synergy, and unity of the Armed Forces, especially between the Army and the IRGC”, are the main guarantees of national security and independence

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council visits Riyadh and Beirut

Ali Larijani, the Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, met [Saudi Arabia's Minister of Defence](#) Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz in Riyadh on 16 September 2025. The two officials discussed

bilateral ties and regional developments, focusing on efforts to enhance security and stability. Larijani's visit was widely framed in the Iranian media as an effort to [strengthen relations](#) at a strategic level amid Israel's strike on Qatar and the ongoing US pressure on Hezbollah to disarm. As leaders from Arab and Muslim countries gathered in Doha following Israeli air strikes on Hamas leadership in Doha, Larijani took to social media platform X to issue a “warning to Islamic governments” and said they must “form a ‘[joint operations committee](#)’ against the madness” of Israel instead of resorting to mere statements. On 27 September, Larijani [travelled to Beirut](#) to attend ceremonies commemorating Hezbollah’s fallen leaders, including Hassan Nasrallah and Hashem Safi al-Din. Larijani held talks with Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam and Nabih Berri, Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament. At a press conference, Larijani noted that the interval between his previous visit to Beirut in August and this one has seen significant developments in the region. “The behaviour of the Zionist regime has become much clearer to all nations. What Martyr Nasrallah warned about decades ago is now evident to everyone.” He further stated “What Hassan Nasrallah understood decades ago is now visible across the region. He foresaw the danger posed by Israel and put a plan into action that produced a strong, resilient generation.” Larijani also welcomed [dialogue between Saudi Arabia and Hezbollah](#), describing it as a “positive and necessary step” given shared regional threats. On 19 September, after Israel’s fresh attacks in south Lebanon, [Hezbollah’s Secretary-General](#) Naim Qassem appealed to Saudi Arabia to mend relations with the Lebanese armed group and build a common front against Israel.

Iran and Russia sign an agreement on construction of Nuclear Power Plants in Iran

On 26 September, Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesperson for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, stated that Iran and Russia have finalised an agreement on the construction of [five nuclear power plants](#) larger than the one in Bushehr. AEOI head Mohamad Eslami was leading an Iranian delegation to participate in Russia’s World Atom Week (WAW)’s Atom Expo 2025 exhibition in Moscow. The two sides signed a [\\$25 billion agreement](#) to construct the Hormoz Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) in the southern province of Hormozgan. The plant is planned to consist of four power units with a capacity of nearly 5,000 megawatts. The first unit is scheduled to be commissioned by 2031.

Foreign Ministers of China, Iran, Pakistan and Russia hold a meeting on Afghanistan

On the sidelines of the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the fourth quadrilateral meeting of the foreign ministers of Iran, China, Pakistan and Russia was held at the invitation of Russia. The meeting focused on recent developments in Afghanistan and coordination on regional positions. The [joint statement](#) reaffirmed their support for Afghanistan as an independent, united, and stable state, and called for continued regional cooperation to help strengthen its political, economic, and security stability. At a time when Iran and Pakistan have been deporting undocumented Afghan refugees, the statement urged Afghan authorities to facilitate conditions for the safe and dignified return of refugees. The four countries stated that the US and NATO must bear primary responsibility for Afghanistan’s current situation. They called for lifting unilateral sanctions, releasing frozen Afghan assets, and opposed any attempt to re-establish foreign military bases in or around Afghanistan.