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Iran

Digest

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Iran and Israel engage in retaliatory missile strikes

On 1 October, Iran launched a barrage of missiles into Israel as retaliation against the killing of Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran on 31 July and death of Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah and IRGC Quds Force Deputy Commander of Operations in the Levant Gen. Abbas Nilforoushan in Israeli airstrikes in Beirut on 27 September. The missile strikes against military targets in Israel were launched without warning and saw first time operational use of Fattah hypersonic missiles, which tested the limits of Israel's air defences. On 26 October, Israel Defence Forces (IDF) carried out airstrikes on 20 military targets in Tehran, Elam and Khuzestan provinces in Western Iran. IDF spokesperson noted that Israeli fighter jets carried out 'precision strikes' on missile production facilities and air defense systems, which will give Israel broader aerial freedom of operation in Iran. Notably, the operation titled "Days of Repentance" was the first open attack by Israel on Iranian territory. Following the Israeli strikes, Iran's air defense command announced that the integrated air defense system of the country successfully tracked and countered this aggressive action, resulting in limited damage to some areas, and the extent of this incident is under investigation. Subsequently, the Iranian Army said four of its personnel serving in the military air defense had died during the attacks. Iran's mission to the United Nations noted that Israeli jets struck targets in Iran from Iraqi airspace, which remains under command and control of the US military. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, who is the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces stated that Israeli attacks should "neither be exaggerated nor downplayed." In remarks suggesting that Iran was not considering an immediate military response, he said "how to convey this power and resolve of the

Iranian nation to the Zionist regime is for our officials to determine."

President Pezeshkian attends BRICS+ Summit in Russia

President Masoud Pezeshkian, accompanied by the Minister of Economy and Finance Abdolnaser Hemmati, the Minister of Oil Mohsen Paknejad and Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi, attended the [16th BRICS+ summit](#) held in Kazan, Russia. The summit marked the accession of Iran as a new member alongside Egypt, the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia. At the summit, Pezeshkian urged that as new members join BRICS, the group must take on greater responsibility for financing initiatives that support its member countries. He said that "the implementation of BRICS decisions must be guaranteed to ensure that the level of economic cooperation among member states serves as a benchmark for the group's success." On the sidelines, Pezeshkian met with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi discussing efforts to reach a ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon and preventing escalation. Araqchi discussed similar regional issues with his Emirati counterpart Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan in addition to areas of disagreement in the wake of the [EU-GCC statement](#) urging Iran to relinquish its control of three islands in the Persian Gulf. The talks between Pezeshkian and Russian President [Vladimir Putin](#) focused on consolidating the emerging positive trends in trade and economic cooperation, including implementation of major joint initiatives such as the development of Iranian railway infrastructure as part of the INSTC and construction of the second and third power units at the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant. In his meeting with Chinese President [Xi Jinping](#), Pezeshkian noted that China is Iran's most important partner for cooperation and that the Iranian side hopes to make joint efforts with China to implement their comprehensive cooperation plan, deepen

bilateral cooperation in connectivity, infrastructure, clean energy and other fields and achieve more results. Pezeshkian in his meeting with Indian Prime Minister [Narendra Modi](#) highlighted India's potential role in de-escalating the conflict due to its good relations with all involved parties and discussed strengthening cooperation in key areas such as the Chabahar Port and the INSTC.

Terrorist Attacks in Sistan and Baluchestan Province

On 1 October, a series of [coordinated terrorist attacks](#) occurred in Sistan and Balochestan province. Four individuals, including the IRGC commander of the Bent district, were gunned down by armed terrorists in the Bent district. In a separate incident, two police officers were killed in Khash County when terrorists ambushed their vehicle. On 26 October 2024, a patrol unit of the Law Enforcement Command of the Islamic Republic of Iran (FARAJA) came under attack in the Goharkooh region of Taftan County. A total of [10 police officers](#) and soldiers were killed in the attacks. The Jaish al-Adl terrorist group, which operates from bases inside Pakistan, claimed responsibility for these attacks in the border region of adjoining Pakistan, which has been plagued by violence from terrorist groups and drug smugglers. A few days after the Taftan attacks, the IRGC announced the arrest of four people in connection with the attacks. On 31 October an [attack on a police station](#) in Sarbaz County was foiled by Iranian border guards. President [Masoud Pezeshkian](#), during the session with the Strategic Council members of Sistan and Baluchistan Province on 28 October, stated that the province, "strategically positioned along the international North-South Corridor and near the vital Makran region, holds considerable potential for national growth. Consequently, the government is actively addressing the

province's challenges every week through a dedicated working group." He stressed the importance of collaboration among security and law enforcement agencies at the borders to improve security measures and prevention of terrorist activities.

Iran and Oman carry out Joint Military Exercise

The armed forces of Iran and Oman carried out 10-day long Joint Military Exercise '[Mountain Falcons-1](#)'. Joint ground military exercise began on 30 September at Saiq Camp in the Wilayat of Al Jabal Al Akhdar with participation from Iranian Army's ground forces and Sultan of Oman Parachute Regiment. The drills were completed with Sultan of Oman's Navy hosting a [joint maritime rescue exercise](#) of the naval forces of Iran and the IRGC Navy in the Strait of Hormuz and northern Indian Ocean. Jamaran destroyer and surface combat units of the IRGC Navy and surface and flight combat units of the Oman navy participated. This exercise was held to improve combat readiness and implement agreements related to maritime security scenarios in the joint military friendship commissions of Iran and the Sultanate of Oman.

Foreign Minister Araqchi's regional tour of West Asia

Following Iranian missile strikes and amid expected retaliation from Israel, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi made a regional tour covering [Bahrain](#), Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait Lebanon, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Turkey. The tour was aimed at consultation and coordination with regional countries on reaching ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon. It was also to assure others that Iran is against escalation and seek assurances that they will not allow Israel to use their land or airspace to attack Iran. Araqchi's visit to Amman and Cairo was first by an Iranian minister in a decade.