

**BRAZEN ATTACK ON INTERNATIONAL LAW**  
**BY THE ISRAELI REGIME**  
**VIS-À-VIS THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**  
**SINCE THE BEGINNING OF ITS ACT OF AGGRESSION**  
**ON 13 JUNE 2025**  
**INITIAL REPORT<sup>1</sup>**

**Introduction**

1. On the early morning of 13 June 2025, the Zionist regime led by a criminal Prime Minister under arrest warrant of the ICC, in an egregious act of aggression launched unprovoked and large-scale armed attacks against the Islamic Republic of Iran in blatant defiance of the Charter of the United Nations and several tenets of international law.
2. As a result of deliberate targeting of, and directing attacks against, civilians in densely populated areas, hundreds of civilians including women, children, scientists, elites, and university lecturers as well as senior military officers of State outside active hostilities lost their lives, and thousands of civilians were injured.

**Part I. IRAN'S RIGHT TO SELF-DEFENSE IN RESPONSE TO THE ONGOING AGGRESSIONS**

3. The Israeli regime's acts of aggression in such a scale is an egregious crime of aggression. The Israeli armed attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructures including but not limited to hospitals, houses, residential areas, media centers, nuclear installations, oil refineries, and oil and gas depots are a flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter, including Article 2(4) thereof and the UN General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 1970 which prohibit the threat or use of force. According to Article 5(2) of the previously mentioned resolution, a war of aggression is a crime

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<sup>1</sup> The present report is prepared with the aim of illustrating instances of the ongoing violations of international law by the Zionist regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran since 13 June 2025.

against international peace, for which there is responsibility under international law.

4. The invasion of Iran by the armed forces of the Israeli regime, the bombardment and the use of weapons against the territory of Iran, attack on its land and air forces, as well as agents, which carry out acts of armed force against Iran of such gravity amounting to the aforesaid acts, or its substantial involvement therein, are act of aggression listed in Article 3 of the UN General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 1974.<sup>2</sup>
5. Lane justifications for aggression against a State under any fabricated nomenclature, such as the so-called "preemptive self-defense",<sup>3</sup> has no place in international law, and Article 51 of the United Nations Charter limits the right to self-defense to situations where an armed attack has occurred against another State.
6. The armed attack by the Israeli regime against Iran constitutes an "act of aggression" and is considered a violation of the peremptory norm of "prohibition of aggression", which is strictly prohibited under any circumstances. Moreover, under the law of State responsibility – which will be further addressed hereinunder - third States are not allowed to recognize as lawful a situation created by breach of this peremptory norm nor render aid or assistance in maintaining such a situation.
7. In the exercise of its inherent right to self-defense, as reaffirmed in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Islamic Republic of Iran has conducted defensive operations directed at military objectives and associated infrastructure within the occupied territories under the illegal control of the Israeli regime.
8. The exercise of this inherent right will continue until the UN Security Council takes the necessary measures to maintain international peace and security.

## **Part II. VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW**

9. Wanton, reckless and indiscriminate attacks launched by the Zionist regime against civilians and civilian infrastructure in Iran constitute grave breaches of the well-established principles and rules contained in the corpus of international humanitarian law (IHL) and as crystalized into custom, and therefore, must be prosecuted as "war crimes". These include the following:

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<sup>2</sup> It is understood that the aforementioned resolution clarifies that the definition of aggression therein applies regardless of questions of recognition or UN membership. Hence, it is not contradictory to the long stance of Iran regarding not recognizing the Zionist regime's legitimacy as a State. The resolution further clarifies that no political, economic, military, or other consideration can serve as a justification for aggression

<sup>3</sup> <https://abcnews.go.com/International/israel-military-action-iran-coming-days-sources/story?id=122776202>

## **A) Prohibition of attacks on civilians and civilian objects**

10. Numerous attacks have been directed against civilians and civilian objects, since the start of aggression to the Iranian territory, a few instances of which are addressed hereunder.
11. Following the Israeli regime's attack on the Shahid Chamran residential area in Tehran on 13 June 2025, 60 residents of a 14-story building were martyred, 20 of whom were children. The attack resulted in the complete destruction of the building.
12. On 13 June 2025, in a missile attack on buildings affiliated with the State Welfare Organization of Iran (a.k.a the Behzisti Organization) and the Arbaeen Headquarters at the Khosravi border in Ghasr-e-Shirin City of Kermanshah Province, 1 civilian was killed and 24 others were injured.<sup>4</sup>
13. Ever since, similar deliberate attacks have been directed against other residential buildings,<sup>5</sup> State TV station with journalists at work inside, five hospitals and relief vehicles leading to the death and injury of several protected persons.
14. From the early morning of 14 June 2025, Mehrabad International Airport in Tehran, a civilian airport, has been frequently targeted by the Zionist regime.<sup>6</sup> On the following day, another civilian airport, Shahid Hasheminejad International Airport in Mashhad<sup>7</sup> were targeted by the Zionist regime. Also on 18 June 2025, Payam Airport in Karaj was targeted by Israeli regime's missile.
15. On 14 June 2025, the Martyr Monument of Shahid Tondgooyan in Abadan was targeted by the Zionist regime.<sup>8</sup>
16. On 15 June 2025, an Israeli regime's drone hit the dormitory of students in Keshavarz Boulevard of Tehran.<sup>9</sup> On the same day, missile attacks were launched against two oil fields in Bushehr province, namely, the Phase 14 platform of South Pars gas field and the Fajr Jam gas refinery,<sup>10</sup> as well as oil and gasoline depots in south and west of Tehran, with the latter resulting in electricity power cut in Shahrn neighborhood.<sup>11</sup>
17. With regard to the attacks on oil fields, it should be added that these attacks constitute a flagrant violation of international obligations under the 1974 International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, which require States Parties to ensure the security of port facilities and take preventive

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.mashreghnews.ir/news/1722947/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://donya-e-eqtesad.com/62/4188400>; <https://www.irna.ir/news/85864169>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.tabnak.ir/fa/news/1311555>.

<sup>7</sup> <https://donya-e-eqtesad.com/62/4188574>.

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.irna.ir/news/85862525/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://borna.news/009LyQ>

<sup>10</sup> <https://donya-e-eqtesad.com/62/4188400>.

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.nournews.ir/fa/news/228477>.

measures against external threats. Article 1 of the SOLAS Convention further underscores the obligation of States to maintain safe conditions for ships and port infrastructure.

18. On 14 June 2025, Israeli regime's missiles also targeted Malek Ashtar University of Tehran. On 15 June 2025, one of the buildings of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was targeted which inflicted injuries to the civilians at site and the building itself.<sup>12</sup>
19. Zionist regime's deliberate attacks have also targeted commercial and industrial facilities as well. On 15 June 2025, missile attacks on a carpet shopping mall in Isfahan (Shahr-e-Farsh),<sup>13</sup> a private automobile manufacturing factory in Boroujerd (Farda Motors),<sup>14</sup> and a pharmaceuticals factory in Tehran (Kimidaroo).<sup>15</sup>
20. On the morning of 15 June 2025, Zionist regime's missile attacks on two stables in a horse racing breeding center in the Olympic village of Kermanshah, resulted in the killing of around 50 horses which were mainly used in breeding programs, national training, as well as national and international competitions.<sup>16</sup>
21. On 17 June 2025, an Israeli regime's rocket hit a checkpoint in Kashan, killing three people and injuring four others.<sup>17</sup> On the same day, the Israeli regime struck a residential building in Tehran, leaving three civilians injured.<sup>18</sup>
22. Despite the preposterous slogan of the Zionist regime that "it has nothing to do with the Iranian people and its targets are only military", according to the Iranian Ministry of Health, only 65 hours after the Zionist regime's aggression, 1,481 were injured and martyred, of whom more than 90 % were civilians. According to the same authority, as of June 22, 2025, the number of injured civilians have passed 3000, with 500 hospitalized and 450 undergoing surgeries.<sup>19</sup> These abhorrent assaults have also resulted in the tragic loss of many innocent civilian lives – including women and children – and members of medical staff of hospitals as well as medical and relief forces of Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS). On 16 and 18 June 2025, two pregnant women with their unborn babies were killed.<sup>20</sup>
23. Rayan Ghasemian, a two-months-old baby, was among the martyrs of the Zionist regime's indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks on 13 June

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.tabnak.ir/fa/news/1311879>.

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.mehrnews.com/news/6500677>.

<sup>14</sup> <https://nournews.ir/fa/news/228394>.

<sup>15</sup> <https://snn.ir/005Ldj>

<sup>16</sup> <https://nournews.ir/n/228561>

<sup>17</sup> <https://aje.io/gn5i1t?update=3780681>

<sup>18</sup> <https://aje.io/gn5i1t?update=3780747>

<sup>19</sup> <https://tn.ai/3338831>

<sup>20</sup> <https://snai.ir/1232232>; <https://donya-e-eqtesad.com/fa/tiny/news-4189318>

2025, whose family members are hospitalized due to severe 40% to 80% TBSA burn.<sup>21</sup>

24. Nevertheless, manslaughter of children is the profession and established practice of the Zionist regime, as the world is still merely witnessing the ongoing genocide in Gaza mostly against children.



**Rayan Ghasemian, a two-months-old baby, and his family members**

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<sup>21</sup> <https://irna.ir/xjTS2n>



**Innocent children martyred in the Zionist strikes against the Chamran residential area on 13 June 2025**







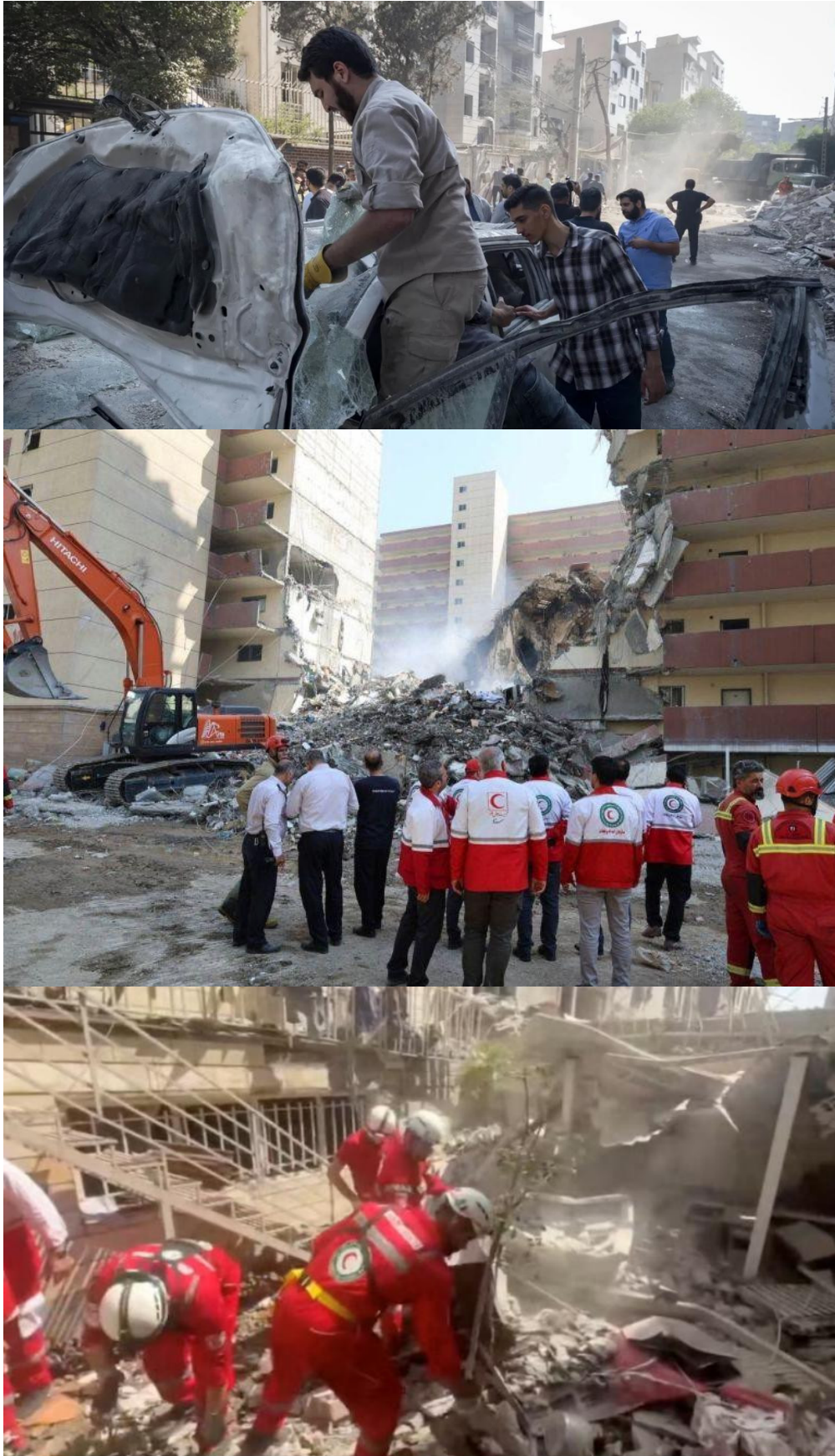


**Instances of attacks against civilians**











**Instances of attacks against civilian objects**



**Attacks against the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran**



25. It should be recalled that, the ICJ, in its Advisory Opinion on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons (1996), held:

*The cardinal principles contained in the texts constituting the fabric of humanitarian law are the following. The first is aimed at the protection of the civilian population and civilian objects and establishes the distinction between combatants and non-combatants; States must never make civilians the object of attack and must consequently never use weapons that are incapable of distinguishing between civilian and military targets.*<sup>22</sup>

26. It must be emphasized that "willful Killing" of civilians (i.e. women, children, non-combatants including scientists and university lecturers) as well as "extensive destruction or appropriation of property, not justified by military necessity and carried out unlawfully and wantonly" (i.e. homes, hospitals, energy grids, media studios) as described hereunder constitute grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and thus, are considered war crimes.<sup>23</sup>
27. The ICRC confirms that state practice has established such prohibitions as rules of customary international law.<sup>24</sup> An interestingly relevant example is the adoption of resolutions by consensus in 1982 and 1983 by the UN Commission on Human Rights whereby it declared, "Israel's continuous grave breaches of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War ... and of the Additional Protocols ... are war crimes".<sup>25 26</sup>

## **B) Attacks on Medical Facilities and Personnel**

28. According to the Iranian Red Crescent Society, since the start of Zionist regime's indiscriminate attacks, five hospitals and medical facilities, namely, Hakim children hospital in Tehran, Farabi hospital in Kermanshah, Healthcare center in Mianrahan city, a rehabilitation center in Ghasr-e-

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<sup>22</sup> Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons (Advisory Opinion) [1996] ICJ Rep 226, para. 78.

<sup>23</sup> Art. 50 GC I, Art. 51 GC II, Art. 130 GC III and Art. 147 GC IV.

<sup>24</sup> Rule 1: "The parties to the conflict must at all times distinguish between civilians and combatants. Attacks may only be directed against combatants. Attacks must not be directed against civilians"; Rule 10: "Civilian objects are protected against attack, unless and for such time as they are military objectives".

<sup>25</sup> UN Commission on Human Rights, Res. 1982/1, 11 February 1982, § 3; Res. 1983/1, 15 February 1983, § 3.

<sup>26</sup> Jean-Marie Henckaerts and Louise Doswald-Beck, Customary International Humanitarian Law, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), Vol. I, Rule. 156, p. 572; *ibid*, Vol. II, p. 3874.

Shirin, central building of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) in Tehran, as well as six ambulances, have been damaged.<sup>27</sup>

29. The Zionist regime targeted Hakim Children's hospital in Tehran on 13 June 2025, and two days later on 15 June 2025, it launched a direct attack against an ambulance. The following day, the Zionist regime targeted another hospital in Kermanshah called Farabi hospital. As a result of the latter attack, most of hospital's equipment were damaged and windows were shattered, which led to injuries to patients hospitalized including at the CCU and ICU.<sup>28</sup>
30. During the attacks on 13 June in the East Azerbaijan province, one member of the Iranian Red Crescent Society was martyred.<sup>29</sup> On 16 June 2025, two members of Iran's Red Crescent Society were killed after Israeli regime's forces targeted relief and rescue teams engaged in emergency operations in District 22 of Tehran.<sup>30</sup>



<sup>27</sup> <https://www.tasnimnews.com/fa/news/1404/03/30/3338657/>

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.tabnak.ir/005VP0>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/live/c93ydeqyq71t?post=asset%3A40553cc9-cac4-4c27-80d30419a7a7a#post>.

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514522>



**Instances of attacks against medical facilities and personnel**

31. As per the established practice of States found by the ICRC, "Medical units" as well as "Medical transport exclusively assigned to medical purposes must be respected and protected in all circumstances".<sup>31</sup> These customary rules are also codified in various treaty provisions as contained in the 1949 GCs (Arts. 24-27, 36, & 39-44 GC I; Arts. 42-44 GC II; and Arts. 18-22 GC IV).

### **C) Attacks on Journalists and Media**

32. On 16 June 2025, the building of the Iranian State TV station was bombarded by the Zionist regime during a live broadcast; the reckless unlawful attack led to the death of three journalists and injury of several others. The State TV station had obviously no part in the armed conflict.



**Iran State TV Building on Fire, on 16 June**

<sup>31</sup> Jean-Marie Henckaerts and Louise Doswald-Beck, Customary International Humanitarian Law, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), Vol. I, Rules 28-29, pp. 91-102.





**The aftermath of the Israeli strike on Iran's State TV station in Tehran on 19 June**

33. Civilian journalists engaged in professional missions in areas of armed conflict must be respected and protected. According to the ICRC, state practice establishes this rule as a norm of customary international law.<sup>32</sup>

#### **D) Unlawful Attacks against Objects Indispensable to the Civilian Population's Survival**

34. On 15 June, two air strikes hit Tehran's Tajrish neighborhood. One struck a building, while the other hit one of northern Tehran's busiest intersections, rupturing a main water pipe. These strikes resulted in the deaths of 17 people, injury of 50 people including 35 women and children.<sup>33</sup>
35. Moreover, on 17 and 18 June 2025, there have been cyber attacks on two banks, Sepah and Pasargad, as a result of which the functioning of the

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<sup>32</sup> Jean-Marie Henckaerts and Louise Doswald-Beck, Customary International Humanitarian Law, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), Vol. I, Rule 34, p. 115.

<sup>33</sup> <https://aje.io/auoxkc?update=3771379>.

systems where disrupted for a few days.<sup>34</sup> A cyber attack was carried out against an online private exchange platform (NOBITEX) leading to at least 60-70 million US dollars loss of civilian investment.<sup>35</sup>



**Targeting of water pipeline led to flooding in Tajrish neighborhood**

36. Another established rule of customary international law which is confirmed by state practice is the prohibition of "Attacking, destroying, removing or rendering useless objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population".<sup>36</sup>

### **E) Violence aimed at Spreading Terror among the Civilian Population**

37. On 15 June 2025, along with the airstrikes five car bombs detonated across Tehran, with explosions taking place next to government and nuclear-related sites. These operation was executed by the agents recruited by the Zionist regime.<sup>37</sup>
38. So far, several agents affiliated to the Israeli regime were arrested by Iranian intelligence agencies in different cities. A significant amount of explosives,

<sup>34</sup> <https://fararu.com/fa/news/876655/>

<sup>35</sup> <https://fararu.com/fa/news/877350/>; [www.mehrnews.com/news/6504138](http://www.mehrnews.com/news/6504138).

<sup>36</sup> Jean-Marie Henckaerts and Louise Doswald-Beck, Customary International Humanitarian Law, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), Vol. I, Rule 54, p. 189.

<sup>37</sup> [www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/iran-reports-5-car-bomb-explosions-in-tehran-by-israel/3599545](http://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/iran-reports-5-car-bomb-explosions-in-tehran-by-israel/3599545).

micro-drones equipped with targeting systems, advanced weapons of war, advanced communications equipment, and remote control systems were seized from these terrorist groups before they could carry out attacks on crowded areas. In some cases, the terrorists were in possession of sensitive digital material on bomb-making, drone mechanics, and surveillance technologies.

39. As per ICRC, "acts or threats of violence the primary purpose of which is to spread terror among the civilian population are prohibited". The prohibition of acts or threats of violence aimed at terrorizing the civilian population is codified in Article 51(2) Additional Protocol I as well as the wider prohibition of "all measures of intimidation or of terrorism" in Article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

### **Part III. ACTS OF TERRORISM**

40. As a result of acts of terrorism carried out by the Zionist regime against Iran, on 13 June 2025, Major General Mohammad Bagheri, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran (and his family members),<sup>38</sup> Major General Hossein Salami, Commander-in-Chief of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC),<sup>39</sup> Major General Gholam Ali Rashid, Commander of the Khatam-al Anbiya Central Headquarters,<sup>40</sup> General Mehdi Rabbani, Deputy Head of Operations for the Armed Forces General Staff (and his family members),<sup>41</sup> were assassinated and martyred while outside active hostilities.
41. On the same date, General Amir Ali Hajizadeh, Commander-in-Chief of IRGC Aerospace Force, as well as seven other commanders of the IRGC Aerospace Force, namely, Mahmoud Bagheri, Davoud Sheikhan, Mohammad Bagher Taherpour, Mansour Safarpour, Masoud Tayeb, Khosrow Hassani, Javad Jursara, and Mohammad Agha Jafari<sup>42</sup> as well as and General Gholamreza Mehrabi, Deputy Head of Intelligence for the Armed Forces General Staff<sup>43</sup> were assassinated and martyred during the Israeli terrorist attacks.
42. Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani (Iran Supreme Leader's top advisor) who survived the Zionist regime's terrorist attacks on 13 June has been seriously injured and remains hospitalized under medical care.<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> <https://irna.ir/xjTPyf>.

<sup>39</sup> <https://irna.ir/xjTPvG>.

<sup>40</sup> <https://irna.ir/xjTPvG>.

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.entekhab.ir/003eg0>.

<sup>42</sup> <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233170/IRGC-releases-names-of-7-Aerospace-commanders-martyred>.

<sup>43</sup> <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233120/Iran-confirms-martyrdom-of-2-more-senior-military-officials>.

<sup>44</sup> <https://donya-e-eqtasad.com/fa/tiny/news-4188705>.



43. Three Generals of IRGC Intelligence Organization, Mohammad Kazemi (Commander-in-Chief), Hassan Mohaghegh (Deputy) and Mohsen Bagheri were assassinated and martyred on 15 June 2025.
44. In addition to the aforesaid high ranking military commanders, 12 Iranian scientists were martyred due to the Zionist regimes attacks from 13 to 15 June 2025, including Abdolhamid Minouchehr, (the head of the Nuclear Engineering Faculty at Shahid Beheshti University), Ahmad-Reza Zolfagari Dariani (member of the Nuclear Engineering Faculty at Shahid Beheshti University), Amir Hossein Feqhi, (former Vice President of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI)), Fereydoun Abbasi, (former Head of the AEOI and a former member of the Iranian Parliament), Mohammad Mehdi Tehranchi, (the president of the Islamic Azad University of Iran), Akbar Motallebizadeh (expert in chemical engineering) and his wife<sup>45</sup>, Saeed Borji, (expert in materials engineering), Ali Bakaei Karimi (expert in mechanical engineering), Ali Bakoei Katrimi (Faculty member of Tarbiat Modarres University and Director of the Atomic and Molecular Physics Department), Mansour Asgari (Faculty member of Imam Hussein University),<sup>46</sup> Seyyed Mustafa Sadati (Lecturer at Shahid Beheshti University)<sup>47</sup> as well as his family members and Mohammad Reza Zakerian (expert in mechanical engineering) as well as his family members.<sup>48</sup>



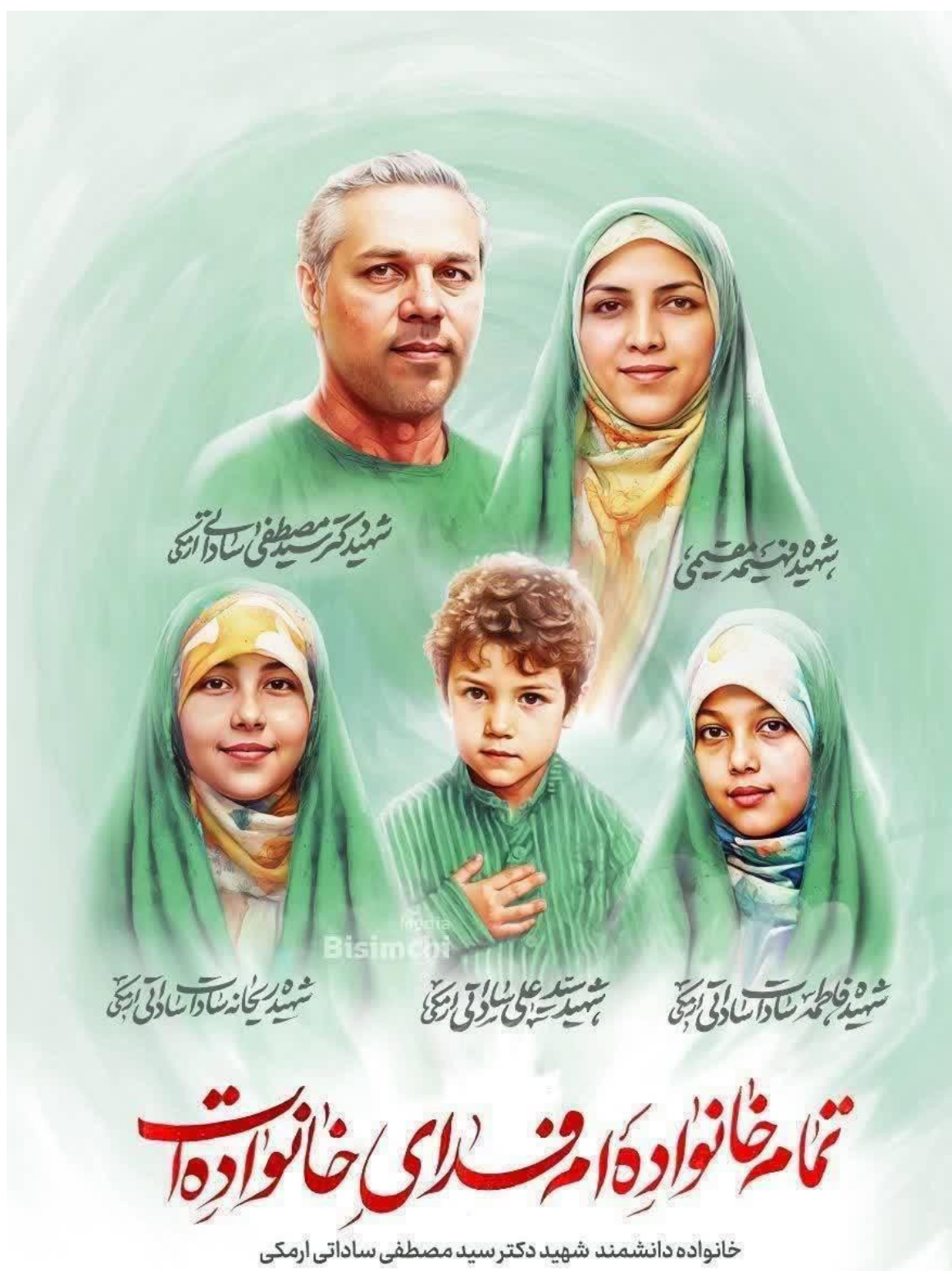
**Some prominent Iranian scientists martyred due to the terrorist attacks of the Zionist regime**

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514339/Iranian-scientists-martyred-in-the-Israeli-strikes>.

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.irna.ir/news/85861533>.

<sup>47</sup> <https://www.bultannnews.com/003eMQ>

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.irna.ir/news/85863696>.



Seyyed Mustafa Sadati, a scientist who was killed and martyred along with his wife, three children, and his wife's parents in the brutal Israeli attacks in Tehran. on 14 June 2025

45. As a consequence of these indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks many civilians including women and children, were killed and martyred; their guilt? Being a civilian!<sup>49</sup>



**Baran, just only a 9-years-old Iranian girl killed with his father**



**Mahya, just only a 7-years-old Iranian girl**



**Tara, just only an 8-years-old Iranian gymnast girl**

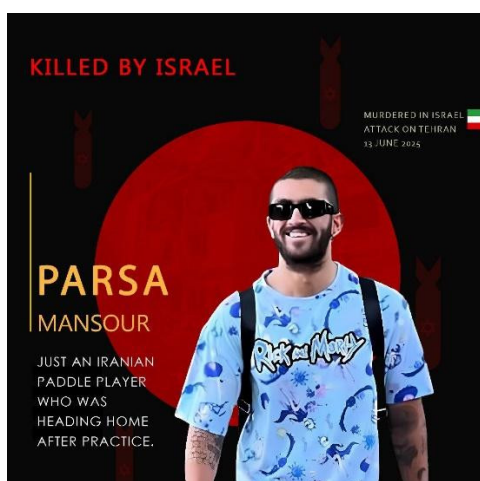


**Niloufar, just an Iranian pilates instructor who was killed with her parents**

<sup>49</sup> <https://donya-e-eqtasad.com/62/4187928;>  
[https://sharghdaily.com/6/1021312.](https://sharghdaily.com/6/1021312)

<https://khabaronline.ir/news/2077793;>

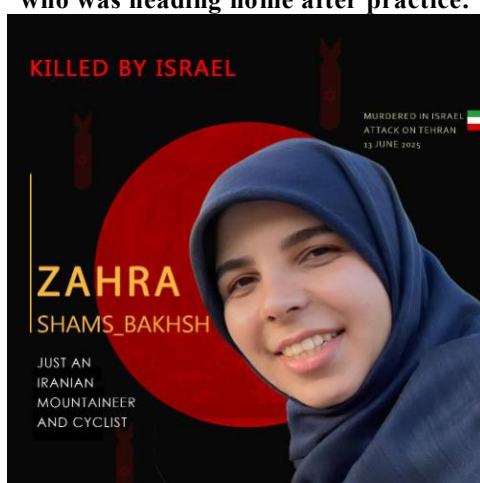




**Parsa, just an Iranian paddle player who was heading home after practice.**



**Mehdi, just a member of the Iranian national equestrian team**



**Zahra, just only an Iranian Mountaineer and cyclist**



**Mansoureh, just an Iranian painter and artist**

## **Part IV. UNLAWFUL ATTACKS AGAINST NUCLEAR FACILITIES**

46. In the course of the continued aggressive attacks of the Zionist regime against Iranian infrastructure since 13 June 2025, direct military attacks were carried out almost each day, against several nuclear facilities in Iran. This is against well-established principles of IHL and existing international law as described below.
47. The Iranian facilities are under safeguards of the IAEA in full compliance with the NPT, CSA, IAEA Statute and other relevant instruments in force, therefore there has remained no doubt, let alone any superfluous justifications that would pose any slightest threat. On top of that, the said aggression occurred while negotiations were being held between Iran and US regarding the Iranian nuclear activities and the lifting of unlawful sanctions.
48. Needless to say, the Zionist regime is not a party to key disarmament instruments, including most notably the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

(NPT). The Israeli regime has neither signed NPT, nor has it respected any of the relevant UN Security Council and IAEA resolutions concerning nuclear activities. In other words, the IAEA has no way to monitor or verify Israeli regime's nuclear arsenal. This is while the Zionist regime's stockpile is estimated to range between 75 and 400 nuclear warheads. This situation raises concerns about nuclear proliferation in the region, as Israeli regime's nuclear program is not subject to the same level of international oversight as other countries' programs.

49. Amongst other key disarmament treaties, which this criminal regime has blatantly disregarded, one can refer to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). The Zionist regime goes to such length as to consistently vote against any adoptions within the systems created by the said instruments, such as the annual UN General Assembly resolutions supporting the TPNW.
50. The peaceful nature of nuclear program of Iran has also repeatedly been confirmed by the IAEA, which has conducted the highest numbers of inspections in this relation. Iran has been the sponsor of the proposal for the establishment of a Middle East nuclear-weapon free zone in 1974 and since then has remained as a strong advocate thereof, which has been meaningfully opposed solely by the Zionist regime with the support of the US.

### **A) Special Protection of Nuclear Facilities under IHL**

51. While international humanitarian law dictates distinction between civilian and military objects including peaceful nuclear facilities (Article 52(1) of the Additional Protocol I of 1977 and Rule 1 of the ICRC findings, the latter enjoy special protection. Codified IHL dictates that works and installations containing dangerous forces shall not be made object of attacks and ICRC likewise calls for particular care if installations such as dams, dykes and nuclear electrical generating stations, and other installations are located at or in the vicinity of military objectives.
52. It is worth noting that according to the ICRC "in the conduct of military operations, all feasible precautions must be taken to avoid, and in any event to minimize, incidental damage to the environment". Furthermore, according to the ICRC "the use of methods or means of warfare that are intended, or may be expected, to cause widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment is prohibited. Destruction of the natural environment may not be used as a weapon".<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>50</sup> Jean-Marie Henckaerts and Louise Doswald-Beck, Customary International Humanitarian Law, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), Vol. I, Rules 42-45, pp. 139-158.

53. The attacks of the Zionist regime against nuclear facilities in Iran, including at Natanz, Qom, Arak and Isfahan have been carried out as a grave violation of well-established principles of IHL.<sup>51</sup>

### **B) UN Security Council Resolution 487**

54. The UN Security Council Resolution 487, issued in 1981, while condemning the Israeli regime's attack on the Osirak reactor in Iraq, explicitly calls upon the regime, in its Paragraph 2, to "refrain in the future from any such acts or threats thereof"; the Israeli regime's attacks on Iranian nuclear facilities therefore constitute a blatant violation of the binding Resolution 487 issued by the Security Council in 1981.
55. The UN Security Council is responsible for monitoring and follow-up of its resolutions on the UN Member States including the said resolution. In this particular case, it lies with the UN Security Council to make the Zionist regime accountable for the breach of the UN Security Council resolution, the failure of which seriously undermines its credibility.

### **C) IAEA Statute**

56. Armed attacks against nuclear facilities undermine establishment or adoption of "standards of safety for protection of health and minimization of danger to life and property" as one of the functions of the IAEA under Article III.A.6.
57. The Iranian nuclear facilities attacked by the Zionist regime were all under Iran's Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (CSA) under the NPT (INFCIRC/214, 1974) to have Iran's activities monitored by the IAEA.
58. The attacks hamper, hinder and undermine IAEA's mandate and compromise Iran's efforts in carrying out its commitments in full transparency, cooperation and bona fide with the IAEA. At the time of the attacks, IAEA inspectors were present in Iran, which demonstrates the degree of the recklessness of the unlawful aggressive attacks by the Zionist regime.

### **D) IAEA Resolutions**

59. Numerous resolutions adopted at the General Conferences of IAEA in consecutive years have been devoted to safety of nuclear facilities. Resolution No. GC(XXIX)/RES/444 dated 27 September 1985 on "Protection of Nuclear Installations Devoted to Peaceful Purposes against Armed Attacks" and resolution No. GC(XXXIV)/RES/533 dated 21 September 1990 on "Prohibition of All Armed Attacks against Nuclear

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<sup>51</sup> [www.irna.ir/news/85860939/](http://www.irna.ir/news/85860939/); [www.irna.ir/news/85862072/](http://www.irna.ir/news/85862072/); <https://donya-e-eqtesad.com/fa/tiny-news-4189512>;



Installations Devoted to Peaceful Purposes Whether under Construction or in Operation"; these have been unequivocal in declaring that "any armed attack on and threat against nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes constitutes a violation of the principles of the United Nations Charter, international law and the Statute of the Agency".

60. The aggressive attacks of the Zionist regime against the safeguarded Iranian nuclear facilities therefore violate IAEA resolutions as well.

## **Part V. OBLIGATIONS OF THIRD STATES UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW WITH REGARD TO THE ONGOING BREACHES**

61. Non-recognition of a breach of international law by third States is a principle whereby States refuse to acknowledge situations created by serious violations of international law, particularly those involving peremptory norms (*jus cogens*). This obligation, outlined in the 2001 ILC's Draft Articles on State Responsibility (ARSIWA), prohibits States from legitimizing unlawful acts and situations, such as aggression or genocide. This principle is a significant aspect of both the law governing the resort to force (*jus ad bellum*) and the law of armed conflict (*jus in bello*).
62. The act of aggression of the Israeli regime against Iran is a violation of the peremptory norm of "prohibition of aggression", and as such third States are not allowed to recognize it as lawful, nor render aid or assistance in maintaining such a situation. The same is analyzed hereunder.

### **A) Obligations of Third States under Jus ad bellum**

63. The principle prohibiting the use of force enshrined in Article 2 (4) of the United Nations Charter prohibits any support to the military action against other States as well. Third States have specific obligations under international law when an aggressor State violates international law on the use of force. In the *Military and Paramilitary activities in and Against Nicaragua* (*Nicaragua v. United States of America*), the ICJ stated that the prohibition of the use of force also includes indirect support such as supply of arms, military training, advice, equipping of the force, logistics support and the operational support provided to the aggressor State. Thus, any expressed or implied recognition by certain western States of the aggression of the Israeli regime against Iran and providing any assistance whatsoever is tantamount to the violation of the peremptory norm of the prohibition of aggression and entails international responsibility of those States.
64. The ARSIWA outlines obligations for third States in situations involving serious breaches of international law. The ARSIWA, specifically Article 41,

addresses the consequences of serious breaches of peremptory norms (*jus cogens*). These breaches, which are considered violations of fundamental principles of international law, trigger specific obligations for all States, not merely the State directly responsible for the breach.

65. These obligations, found in Article 41, include a duty to cooperate to end such breaches through lawful means and a duty not to recognize as lawful a situation created by the breach, or to render aid or assistance in maintaining the same.

**i) Duty to Cooperate:**

66. Third States are obligated to cooperate with each other to bring to an end the serious breach through lawful means. This includes resort to the UN Charter and action through the UN Security Council in case of existence of any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression, as in the present case recommendations, or decisions under Articles 41 and 42 to maintain or restore international peace and security, and should be complemented, where necessary, by recourse to Article 51 concerning collective self-defense.
67. Since the trigger of the act aggression of the Zionist regime against Iran, despite three emergency sessions of the Security Council, no concrete measurer has been taken with a view to ending the ongoing breach and the aggression continues in the face of inaction of the UN Security Council.
68. In this context, diplomatic pressure remains the least expectation on the part of all member States of the UN; regrettably, as of the time of writing, the cart is being put before the horse by exerting pressure upon Iran to negotiate rather than the Zionist regime to cease its ongoing aggression.

**ii) Duty of Non-Recognition:**

69. No State shall recognize as lawful a situation created by a serious breach. This is a crucial aspect of upholding the integrity of international law and preventing the normalization of illegal actions.
70. The duty of non-recognition is not just a matter of formal declarations, rather according to advisory opinions of ICJ on South West Africa (1971) and the Wall (2004), non-recognition involves isolation and active abstention, prohibiting acts implying recognition.
71. Nonetheless, many countries including European States have failed to demonstrate non-recognition of the situation resulting from Zionist regime's aggression in defiance of well-established international law.

**iii) Duty of Non-Assistance:**

72. Third States are prohibited from rendering aid or assistance to the responsible State in maintaining the situation created by the breach of the *jus cogens* norm of prohibition of aggression.
73. It goes without saying that the abovementioned obligations highlight the collective responsibility of States to uphold international law and prevent the normalization of egregious violations. They reinforce the idea that certain fundamental norms of international law are of concern to the entire international community and require a collective response to ensure their protection.

## **B) Obligations of Third States under jus in bello**

74. States and other parties to armed conflict have an obligation to "respect and to ensure respect for" IHL "in all circumstances" (Art. 1 common to the 1949 GCs). They must use their influence to prevent and end violations of IHL and refrain from encouraging violations by other parties. The ICRC also declared this obligation as a rule of customary international law.
75. This can involve diplomatic efforts, political pressure, or even the imposition of UN sanctions on parties that are violating IHL. Third States must not take actions that would encourage or enable violations of IHL. This includes not providing weapons or other forms of support to parties known to be using them in violation of IHL.
76. The ICJ has affirmed that the obligation to ensure respect for IHL applies to all obligations under common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions. In the Case concerning Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua (1986), the ICJ held that the United States had, by virtue of the duty to ensure respect for IHL, an obligation not to encourage violations of IHL by the contras:

*[T]here is an obligation on the United States Government, in the terms of Article 1 of the Geneva Conventions, to "respect" the Conventions and even "to ensure respect" for them "in all circumstances", since such an obligation does not derive only from the Conventions themselves, but from the general principles of humanitarian law to which the Conventions merely give specific expression. The United States is thus under an obligation not to encourage persons or groups engaged in the conflict in Nicaragua to act in violation of the provisions of Article 3 common to the four 1949 Geneva Conventions. (Para. 220.)*



77. This is while some States have violated their respective international obligations to not cooperate, recognize or assist the Zionist regime as an aggressor. Iran considers this as a violation of international law and a contribution to the ongoing threat to international peace and security and aggravation of crimes being committed by the Israeli regime. This is evident in the public statements made by certain countries and entities, which are considered by the Islamic Republic of Iran as endorsement of breaches of the Israeli regime, as follows:
78. **USA:** Apart from openly supporting the Zionist regime in its aggression against Iran, according to reports the US has also delivered approximately 300 Hellfire missiles to the Zionist regime just days before the attacks.<sup>52</sup>
79. Although Secretary of State Marco Rubio claimed that the Zionist regime acted independently, stating the U.S. was not involved, there are facts to the contrary. President Donald Trump praised the Israeli regime's strikes as "excellent" and "very successful,"<sup>53</sup> and warned that Iran must "make a deal now" over its nuclear program or face "even more destructive and deadly military action". He said there had already been "great death and destruction" and cautioned that future strikes would be "even more brutal". Trump criticized Iran for refusing multiple chances to reach an agreement, telling them "to just do it," but they "just couldn't get it done". He pledged continued military support for Israel, stating, "Israel has a lot of it, with much more to come – and they know how to use it".<sup>54</sup> He suggested that the attacks were coordinated with the talks he was conducting: "we gave Iran 60 days to make a deal and today is 61, right?"<sup>55</sup> While Trump authorized US forces to assist in intercepting the initial Iranian missiles, the US warned Iran against attacking American interests or personnel, emphasizing it would respond militarily if such attacks occurred.<sup>56</sup>
80. Following the attack, US forces moved closer to the Middle East.<sup>57</sup> On 16 June 2025, it was reported that the US was moving forces to the Middle East over the Atlantic Ocean, including at least 31 air tankers to Europe; an

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.mizanonline.ir/en/news/1520/middle-east-eye-us-secretly-supplied-hellfire-missiles-to-israel>; <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/exclusive-us-quietly-sent-hundreds-hellfire-missiles-israel-iran-attack>.

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/live/c93yde> qyq71t?post=asset%3A3961f086-cd38-49f5-a7f9-fca4245b12a8#post.

<sup>54</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-urges-iran-make-a-deal-after-israeli-strikes-nuclear-sites/>.

<sup>55</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/trump-tells-reuters-its-unclear-if-iran-still-has-nuclear-program-2025-06-13/>.

<sup>56</sup> <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/israel-strikes-iran-initial-assessments-washington-institute-experts>.

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/antoniopequenoiv/2025/06/13/israel-strikes-iran-us-moves-military-resources-in-middle-east-live-updates/>.

unusually large number.<sup>58</sup> On 17 June 2025, reports claimed the aircraft carrier, USS Nimitz, was on the way to the Middle East.<sup>59</sup>

81. On 17 June 2025, U.S. President Donald Trump called for the complete evacuation of Tehran.<sup>60</sup> He also declared "we now have complete and total control of the skies over Iran" and called for Iran's "unconditional surrender," while threatening to assassinate Iranian Supreme Leader Grand Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.<sup>61</sup> On the same date, his Vice President JD Vance indicated that the United States might join the war against Iran.<sup>62</sup>
82. On 22 June 2025, President Donald Trump officially declared that US has "completed a successful attack" at Fordo, Natanz and Isfahan nuclear facilities.<sup>63</sup>
83. The active and consistent aid and assistance of the Zionist regime by the US incurs its responsibility, under international law, and has to cease immediately.
84. **Others:** On 17 June 2025, in a joint statement issued at their summit in Canada, the G7 leaders were clear in declaring that "we affirm that Israel has a right to defend itself. We reiterate our support for the security of Israel".<sup>64</sup> How is it possible to express support for an aggressor regime and call the aggression "defense" and close one's eyes on very terms of the United Nations Charter and well-established principles of international law?
85. On 15 June 2025, the European Commission chief, Ursula von der Leyen, said she spoke to the Zionist regime's prime minister and underlined that "Israel has the right to defend itself" and attributed false accusations to Iran.<sup>65</sup> This is again in blatant defiance of the law of state responsibility as regards the breaches of *jus cogens*.
86. Friedrich Merz, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, praised Israeli regime's "courage" in doing the "dirty work for all of us."<sup>66</sup> Merz also stressed that "the aim must remain that Iran not develop any nuclear weapons", and reaffirmed Israel's "right to protect its existence and the

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<sup>58</sup> <https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2025-06-16/exclusive-us-bolsters-military-options-for-trump-with-refueling-aircraft-officials-say>; <https://time.com/7294985/iran-israel-trump-us-war-powers-congress-massie-khanna-kaine/>.

<sup>59</sup> <https://english.ahram.org.eg/News/548099.aspx>.

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/israel-iran-conflict-everyone-should-immediately-evacuate-tehran-says-donald-trumpamid-fierce-fighting-8686429>; <https://www.reuters.com/business/aerospace-defense/trump-urgestehran-evacuation-iran-israel-conflict-enters-fifth-day-2025-06-17>.

<sup>61</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/live/2025/06/17/world/israel-iran-trump>; <https://search.worldcat.org/issn/0362-4331>.

<sup>62</sup> <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2025/06/17/israel-iran-latest-news-missile-strikes-donald-trump/>; <https://search.worldcat.org/issn/0307-1235>.

<sup>63</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/world/middle-east/live-blog/israel-iran-conflict-rcna214241>

<sup>64</sup> <https://g7.canada.ca/en/news-and-media/news/g7-leaders-statement-on-recent-developments-between-israel-and-iran/>

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.thejournal.ie/how-israels-attack-on-iran-quickly-changed-the-tune-of-its-recently-critical-allies-in-europe-6734210-Jun2025/>

<sup>66</sup> <https://p.dw.com/p/4w2xN/>

security of its citizens".<sup>67</sup> This is an egregious violation of the duty not to recognize the situation resulting from the breach of the peremptory norm of prohibition of aggression.

87. In the United Kingdom, Prime Minister Keir Starmer recognized Israel's "right to self-defense"<sup>68</sup> while announcing the deployment of additional fighter jets and refueling aircraft to the West Asia as "contingency support."<sup>69</sup>
88. On 13 June 2025, finance Minister of UK, Rachel Reeves is said to have suggested that the UK will assist in the Israeli regime's protection.<sup>70</sup> In addition, the UK on 14 June 2025, began relocating fighter jets to the Middle East as a "contingency" measure, according to PM Starmer, who also hinted it could involve defensive support for Israel.<sup>71</sup>
89. The above could not be clearer as evidence of rendering aid and assistance to the aggressor Zionist regime.
90. On 13 June 2025, the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron reaffirmed what he called "Israel's right to defend itself and ensure its security."<sup>72</sup>
91. France has also failed to respect its duty of non-recognition of the aggression by the Israeli regime.
92. Certain other countries have likewise declared support for the acts of aggression of the Zionist regime against Iran. These include Canada, Argentina, Czech and Paraguay.
93. On 13 June 2025, Prime Minister Mark Carney of Canada called for "maximum restraint" while reaffirming Israeli regime's "right to defend itself and ensure its security."<sup>73</sup>
94. On 13 June 2025, President Javier Milei of the Argentine Republic backed the Zionist regime's military actions against Iran, and condemned the Iranian defensive strikes against the Zionist regime expressing support for Israel's previous military actions.<sup>74</sup>
95. Jan Lipavský Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic on 13 June 2025, against extensive evidence regarding the peaceful nature of the Iranian

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<sup>67</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/germanys-merz-says-netanyahu-informed-him-attack-iran-2025-06-13/>; <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/Indy34vio>.

<sup>68</sup> <https://www.bloomberg.com/features/2025-keir-starmer-weekend-interview/>

<sup>69</sup> <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-857705>

<sup>70</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/business/media-telecom/britains-finance-minister-signals-possible-support-israel-iran-conflict-2025-06-15/>

<sup>71</sup> <https://www.ft.com/content/fdd3a198-23f6-4e48-90a7-76a21825da17>.

<sup>72</sup> [https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2025/06/13/macron-says-israel-after-its-strikes-on-iran-has-the-right-to-defend-itself\\_6742315\\_4.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2025/06/13/macron-says-israel-after-its-strikes-on-iran-has-the-right-to-defend-itself_6742315_4.html)

<sup>73</sup> <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/liveblog/2025/6/13/live-explosions-reported-in-iran-amid-israel-tensions?update=3773533>.

<sup>74</sup> <https://radiomitre.cienradios.com/politica/javier-milei-cuestiono-el-contrataque-de-iran-a-israel-estamos-peleando-contra-el-mal/>.



nuclear program, called the Israeli aggression a "reasonable reaction" to Iran's threat of a nuclear bomb, among others.<sup>75</sup>

96. On 14 June 2025, the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Paraguay also issued a statement urging regional peace while reaffirming its strong support for the Zionist regime and its right to self-defense.<sup>76</sup>
97. The above statements, all in support of the aggressor and in defiance of international law, undermine the credibility of the stances taken in terms of international law and will have a cascading effect, targeting their producers as a boomerang.

## CONCLUSION

98. In view of the facts and assessments provided hereinabove, the Islamic Republic of Iran, once again, urges the UN Secretary General as well as the Security Council to shoulder their primary responsibility under the UN Charter to maintain international peace and security, and to:
  - a. Unequivocally condemn the Israeli regime's act of aggression against Iran, including the attack on civilians, civilian infrastructures, including Iranian nuclear facilities;
  - b. Hold Israel and its accomplices fully accountable for this serious breach of international law;
  - c. Take immediate and effective measures to prevent the recurrence of such acts and to uphold the authority of international law.
99. The Islamic Republic of Iran, also requests every UN member State to act responsibly to stop the ongoing aggression and to further tap the full potentials of the UN to effectively restore international peace and security. The UN system and the international community at large are being put to test, failure at which would seriously jeopardize the future of international relations.
100. It must be reiterated that the exercise of Iran's inherent right to self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations will continue until the Security Council takes the necessary measures to maintain international peace and security.

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<sup>75</sup> [https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog\\_entry/czech-republic-israeli-strikes-on-iran-a-reasonable-reaction-to-tehrans-nuclear-program-terror-support](https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/czech-republic-israeli-strikes-on-iran-a-reasonable-reaction-to-tehrans-nuclear-program-terror-support)

<sup>76</sup> <https://www.gob.pe/institucion/rree/noticias/1187204-gobierno-del-peru-se-pronuncia-sobre-los-bombardeos-en-iran>.