

June 2017

## Politics:

Iran's current president, Hassan Rouhani, was [re-elected](#) as the president of Iran for the another four years. He received 57 percent of total votes and stands significantly ahead of other candidates.

Iran's reformist party obtained [majority](#) votes across major cities in the city council election.

Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Policy and National Security of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran Alaeddin Boroujeerdi [announced](#) that Iran's new national security project will be proposed to parliament soon.

The U.S. Senate proposed legislation that would impose new sanctions against Iran. Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani ordered Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee to [immediately](#) draw up a counter-plan to submit to the legislature.

The UNESCO 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was not [adopted](#) by Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution.

## International Relations:

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani attended a [meeting](#) in Russia to address regional security challenges. Senior security officers from other countries, including China, Pakistan, Turkey and South Africa also attended.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif met with Croatian Foreign Minister Davor Ivo Stier. They discussed bilateral [cooperation](#) and regional and international developments.

Chairman of Strategic Research Center of Iran's Expediency Council Ali Akbar Velayati met with Head of Research Services of the Swedish Parliament Gunnar Fors in Tehran. They discussed [boosting](#) cooperation in the fields of research and technology.

Iranian Foreign Minister Zarif held [talks](#) with his Indonesian counterpart Retno Marsudi in Oslo. They discussed enhancing bilateral economic and political relations and regional challenges.

China declared it will support Iran's membership [request](#) to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) security bloc, led by China and Russia. The SCO refused Tehran's bid for membership last year despite Russian support.

Iranian Foreign Minister Zarif travelled to Kazakhstan to [attend](#) the SCO two-day summit and the opening ceremony of the Astana Expo 2017 'Future Energy'.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Yukiya Amano [confirmed](#) that Iran will ship 20 tons of its heavy water reserves in the near future. The location remains disclosed.

Iranian President Rouhani and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan held a phone conversation to discuss [strengthening](#) bilateral relations, particularly in the field of economics.

Austrian Federal Minister of Finance Hans Jörg Schelling met with Iranian Foreign Minister Zarif in Tehran. They [discussed](#) cooperation in the fight against terrorism and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Iranian Foreign Minister Zarif met with Norwegian officials in Oslo. They [discussed](#) bilateral economic and political cooperation.

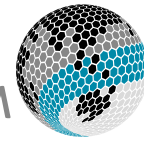
## NEW MESF IRAN PUBLICATION

### 'Rouhani's win a Victory for Reform, will Trump waste Opportunity?'

*Shahram Akbarzadeh*

This piece argues that Rouhani's re-election gives him another popular mandate to advance his agenda of normalization of relations with the west, but the Trump administration may waste this opportunity. To view click [here](#).





## Economics:

Direct flights between Adana, Turkey and the Iranian city of Isfahan were [launched](#) with one flight per week.

The National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) [announced](#) it will host the 16th International Gas Union Research Conference (IGRC) in 2020, Iran.

Iran has [exported](#) its first 35,000-ton consignment of wheat to Oman.

Iran and Turkey [signed](#) trade documents worth USD \$100 million for the construction and modernization of ship manufacturing facilities.

Iran's airline company Aseman Air [finalized](#) a deal to purchase 60 planes from the American company Boeing.

The World Bank's June 2017 'Global Economic Prospects' report [projected](#) a 4% growth rate for Iran in 2017.

Iran Air's spokesman Shahrokh Noushabadi stated that Iran has sent at least five plane loads of fruit and vegetables to Qatar. Iranian [assistance](#) comes after Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the UAE cut ties and imposed sanctions against Qatar.

Iran's Ambassador to Beijing Ali-Asghar Khaji announced that trade between the two countries [increased](#) by 31 percent in the first four months of 2017.

## TEHRAN ATTACKS

On June 7, Tehran was struck by twin terrorist attacks. Gunmen and suicide bombers attacked the Ayatollah Khomeini Shrine in the south of Tehran and Iran's Parliament in central Tehran. Iranian officials [confirmed](#) that 17 people were killed and 50 injured. The Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attacks.

The following day, the Ministry of Intelligence of the Islamic Republic of Iran released a detailed report on the attacks. Iranian officials [announced](#) that all terrorist identities were known and that 48 terror suspects had been [arrested](#) in relation to the attacks. Four days after the attacks, Iran's Intelligence Minister Mahmoud Alavi [announced](#) that the mastermind behind the attacks had been killed by Iranian security forces.

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei [affirmed](#) that the attacks would not undermine Iran's determination to fight terrorism. The Supreme Leader also sent letters of condolences to the families of all terror victims. President Rouhani declared that the perpetrators sought revenge against the rule of democracy in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Mohammad Baqeri stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran will give "unforgettable lessons" to the terrorists and their allies. Iran's Parliament held a funeral ceremony for the victims of terrorist attacks with thousands of [mourners](#) attending.

U.S. President Donald Trump said in a statement that he prayed for the victims of the attacks but added that "states that sponsor terrorism risk falling victim to the evil they promote". Trump's condolences were [rejected](#) by Foreign Minister Zarif who described the U.S. President's words as repugnant.

Meanwhile, world leaders [reached](#) out to Iran and condemned the deadly attacks. The European parliament and United Nations Security Council [held](#) a one minute silence for the terror victims. Pope Francis head of the Roman Catholic Church expressed his condolences and [condemned](#) the attacks. Foreign Minister Zarif held several talks with world leaders to discuss the attacks, including United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres and French President Emmanuel Macron, all of who reaffirmed their determination to fight terrorism.

