

August 2017

## Politics:

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei formally [endorsed](#) Hassan Rouhani as Iranian President for the second term.

President Rouhani was [sworn](#) in as Iran's 12th President. Delegations from over 100 countries [attended](#) his inauguration ceremony.

President Rouhani [submitted](#) to parliament his list of proposed ministers for his new cabinet. Iran's parliament is set to [commence](#) the voting process.

The head of a women's parliamentary group Parvaneh Salahshouri [called](#) for the formation of a special committee on Iranian women's rights in Iran's parliament.

157 Iranian law makers from Iran's parliament [wrote](#) a letter to President Rouhani calling for the appointment of more women politicians in his new cabinet.

Farzaneh Sharafbafi was appointed head of Iran's national airline Air Iran by Iran's Minister of Roads and Urban Development Abbas Akhoundi. Sharafbafi is the [first](#) woman to be selected for the position.

President Rouhani's brother Hossein Fereydoun was [imprisoned](#) over financial charges.

In response to the latest sanctions imposed by the United States against Iran, Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani announced that Iran had [submitted](#) a complaint to the joint commission responsible for supervising the nuclear deal's protocols.

Senior commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) General Amir Ali Hajizadeh [stated](#) that Iran will never allow Western countries to visit Iranian military sites.

Iran's Intelligence Ministry announced that 27 individuals linked to the Islamic State were [arrested](#) in the lead up to President Rouhani's inauguration ceremony.

An Iranian conscript killed four others and injured eight in an [insider](#) attack at an Iranian military base in Kahrizak.

## International Relations:

President Rouhani met with Oman's Foreign Minister Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah in Tehran. During the meeting, Rouhani [criticised](#) the policy measures imposed by the Saudi-led bloc of states against Qatar.

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani met with Deputy Secretary General of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan Kosrat Rasul Ali in Tehran. Shamkhani [stressed](#) that the Kurdish independence plan stands only to weaken Iraq.

Russia's Ambassador to Iran Levan Dzhangaryan [announced](#) that in the near future, tourist visas will no longer be required for Iranian nationals to visit Russia.

US Senators [passed](#) a bill that will enable Congress to strengthen sanctions against Iran, North Korea and Russia. The new law will limit President Trump's ability to lift the sanctions.

President Rouhani [declared](#) that Iran will respond to the United States' recent decision to impose new sanctions on Iran.

President Rouhani [warned](#) against the United States' violations of the nuclear agreement during a meeting held with the European Union's Foreign Policy Chief Federica Mogherini in Tehran.

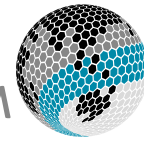
Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif attended an emergency meeting held by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Istanbul. The [primary](#) agenda focused on Israel's aggression towards Palestinians.

President Rouhani and Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani [met](#) with the Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of North Korea. The two sides advocated stability in the Korean Peninsula and the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

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Kuwait has shut down Iran's cultural office and expelled several Iranian diplomats. Kuwait's actions follow a court ruling last year that [implicated](#) several Iranians in an espionage case.

Iran's Defence Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan and his Iraqi counterpart Major General Erfan al-Hiyali [signed](#) a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen defence and military cooperation.

Iran's Minister of Culture Reza Salehi Amiri announced that Saudi Arabia [issued](#) visas to an Iranian diplomatic delegation for the Hajj pilgrimage. Tehran boycotted the annual pilgrimage last year in response to a diplomatic rift with Riyadh over the 2015 Hajj incident that resulted in the death of thousands, including many Iranians.

The first convoy of Iranian pilgrims were [welcomed](#) by Saudi Hajj authorities after arriving in Medina.

President Rouhani met with Pakistan's Senate Chairman Raza Rabbani in Tehran. Rouhani [affirmed](#) that Iran views Pakistani security as an extension of its own.

## Economics:

The Secretary of Iran's Cabinet Mohsen Haji Mirzaei announced that Iran's cabinet has [approved](#) a bill to switch Iran's national currency from rial to toman.

The Industrial Development and Renovation Organization of Iran (IDRO) and Partov Negin Naseh holding company signed a landmark deal with France's car manufacturing company Renault. Under the contract, Renault will [sponsor](#) all phases of the joint project inside Iran, including investment, technology transfers, engineering and export.

Iran's government spokesman Mohammadd Baqer Nobakht announced that Iran's supreme committee of monitoring oil resources [approved](#) the agreement signed last month between Iran's National Oil Company (NIOC) and French major oil company Total.

Turkey's Economy Minister Nihat Zeybekci announced that Turkey intends to [establish](#) a land route via Iran for trade with Qatar. Qatar has relied on both Iran and Turkey for food sources since Saudi Arabia and several other states severed diplomatic and economic ties with Qatar in June this year.

President Rouhani met with Bolivian President special envoy Héctor Enrique Arcé Zaconeta. Rouhani affirmed that Iran is ready to [enhance](#) cooperation in the fields of technology and engineering with Bolivia.

Iran and South Korea [signed](#) a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to process fuel oil at a refinery in Iran's north-western city of Tabriz.

Director-General of Iran's Airports Holding Company Rahmatollah Mahabadi stated that Iran's air traffic has increased by 10 percent since Iran [authorised](#) Qatar to use its airspace.

President Rouhani's first Vice President Eshaq Jahangiri met with India's Minister of Transport, Highways and Shipping Nitin Gadkari. Jahangiri announced that Iran is eager to [strengthen](#) economic relations with India and assist with the country's energy needs.

Russia's railway manufacturing firm CJSC Transmashholding signed an agreement with the Industrial Development & Renovation Organization of Iran (IDRO) for [joint](#) production in railway transport.

Iran's Minister of Labour Ali Rabiee and Ghana's Vice President Mahamudu Bawumia met in Tehran. Both parties [signed](#) several Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) agreements on LPG gas production, dam construction, medical factory production and mining production.

Iran and China signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on economic [cooperation](#), with a particular focus on the export and import of food products.

