

Iran Rejects War, Signals Readiness for Serious US Talks



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Tehran, December 31 — Iran has reiterated that it does not seek war with the United States but remains fully prepared to respond decisively to any act of aggression, while expressing openness to what it described as “genuine and serious” negotiations.

Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi made the remarks in a post on X, responding to recent statements by US President Donald Trump, who warned of major military action should Iran resume its ballistic missile or nuclear programs.

Araghchi emphasized that Iran has never pursued conflict with Washington, noting that the country's armed forces are on full alert purely for defensive purposes. He said Iran's restraint should not be mistaken for weakness, adding that it was the reason US military installations in the region had not been targeted despite rising tensions.

The foreign minister stressed that while Iran does not seek nuclear weapons, it will not relinquish its lawful rights under international frameworks. He said Iranians remain open to negotiations aimed at achieving a fair and balanced agreement, provided talks are conducted with sincerity and mutual respect.

Araghchi also criticized Washington's reliance on narratives shaped by Israel, arguing that such an approach has led to instability, miscalculation, and repeated strategic failures. He urged the United States to pursue diplomacy grounded in realism and respect for international norms.

In a separate letter to foreign ministers worldwide, Araghchi described recent US threats as a violation of international law and the UN Charter, calling on the international community to condemn threats of force and provocative rhetoric.

Tensions between Iran, the United States, and Israel have sharply escalated following a series of military strikes in June on Iranian nuclear and military facilities, resulting in casualties among military officials, scientists, and civilians.