

# MFA DIGEST

### CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY



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TEHRAN FOREIGN MINISTERIAL MEETING;
A ROADMAP FOR PROSPEROUS AFGHANISTAN



Iran on Wednesday (October 27) stressed the need for the formation of an inclusive government in Afghanistan as Tehran hosted a meeting of Afghanistan's neighbors plus Russia aimed at coordinating efforts to restore peace and stability to the war-ravaged country.

"Everyone needs to make efforts and encourage all parties [in Afghanistan] to form an inclusive government," Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian told a press conference.

The foreign ministers of Iran, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, as well as the Russian and Chinese ambassadors attended the meeting of Afghanistan's six neighbors plus Russia — the second of its kind — at the Iranian Foreign Ministry in Tehran. The foreign ministers of Russia and China also took part in the meeting online.

AmirAbdollahian urged the international community to help the people of Afghanistan and the government in Kabul, namely the Taliban, to get out of the current situation that has been created over the past 20 years.

He said Iran will provide "security consultations" to Afghan officials to fight the Daesh terror group. The Foreign Minister warned of a new influx of Afghan refugees if neighboring states, the United Nations and other international organizations fail to mobilize for humanitarian aid to Afghanistan ahead of the winter months.

#### US to blame for catastrophe

Speaking at the conference, AmirAbdollahian held the United States responsible for the hardships facing the Afghan people.

AmirAbdollahian blamed "foreign meddling" as the root cause of many of the problems currently facing Afghanistan and said the United States must openly accept responsibility "with a loud voice" for the catastrophe it has brought about in the country during its two-decade-long military presence following its invasion of the country.

#### **Reliance on foreigners**

Also addressing the event, Iran's First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber said the security of neighboring countries is intertwined with that of Afghanistan.

"Accordingly, we supported the initiative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to hold the first summit of Afghanistan's neighboring states, hosted the second round of the meeting, and welcome the hosting of a third round by the People's Republic of China," Mokhber added.



#### ECO'S SECRETARY GENERAL MEETS IRAN FM



Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian and the Economic Cooperation Organization's new Secretary General Khosro Nazeri have held talks over ECO's role in the region and in strengthening cooperation among member states.

AmirAbdollahian expressed satisfaction with the implementation of infrastructure and long-term projects in the fields of transportation, trade, finance and banking. He voiced hope that incomplete projects will be finished during Nazeri's tenure.

In the meeting, ECO's secretary general expressed pleasure with his trip to Iran.

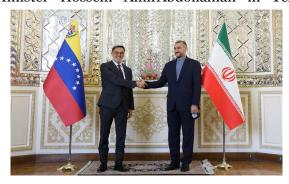
Nazeri appreciated Iran's effective help with his appointment as ECO's chief and gave a report on the activities of the body including arrangements that are afoot to hold the ECO summit in Ashgabat on November 28 with the presidents of member states in attendance.

He underlined Iran's key role in ECO and urged the Islamic Republic to continue supporting the important regional organization.

AmirAbdollahian reaffirmed Iran's continued backing for ECO and its secretary general, expressing hope that in the Ashgabat summit which is supposed be attended by Iran's president, key decisions will be made for further development of regional cooperation.

IRANIAN, VENEZUELAN FMS MEET IN TEHRAN

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Felix Placencia Gonzalez, who was leading a delegation to the Islamic Republic of Iran, met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian in Tehran.

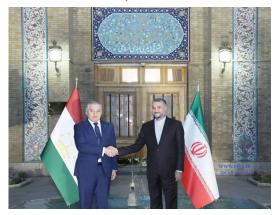


During the meeting, the foreign ministers of Iran and Venezuela discussed bilateral issues and the expansion of cooperation between the two countries.

AmirAbdollahian and Placencia decided to arrange a joint economic commission of the two countries in the near future and to compile and finalize a comprehensive roadmap for 20-year economic cooperation between the two countries. Meanwhile, the Iranian foreign minister condemned the US attempt at extradition



# IRANIAN, TAJIK FMS DISCUSS MUTUAL RELATIONS, COOPERATION



Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian and his Tajik counterpart Sirojiddin Muhriddin, who was in Iran to participate in the second meeting of Afghanistan's neighbors, have discussed the latest developments in the relations between the two countries, especially in the fields of economy, political relations and cultural cooperation.

During the meeting, Amirabdollahian thanked Tajikistan for hosting the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit with the presence of a high-level delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran chaired by President Ebrahim Raeisi, and the important agreements reached between the two presidents.

Amirabdollahian expounded on the administration's approach towards relations with neighboring countries calling it one of the most important foreign relations priorities of Iran, and described the deep cultural and linguistic

commonalities with Tajikistan as an important capacity for bilateral cooperation.

Tajik Foreign Minister Sirojiddin Muhriddin also thanked Iran for the invitation to take part in the meeting of Afghanistan's neighbors and expressed satisfaction with the presence of the Iranian president and his accompanying high-level delegation at the SCO summit in Tajikistan. He stressed the need to implement the agreements reached between the two presidents in Tajikistan, and described as important the thirty-year relations between the two countries.

The Tajik foreign minister said the volume of trade between the two countries is not commensurate with their existing capacities and expressed hope that bilateral trade would increase to an appropriate level.

Predicting mechanisms for following up and implementing the agreements reached between the two sides, especially within the framework of their joint cooperation commission, the talks between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the EU coordinator in Tehran and Brussels, scientificeducational exchanges and exchanging university professors and students and joint cooperation in the field of Persian language development were also other topics raised during the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Tajikistan.



# IRANIAN, TURKMEN FMS HOLD EXTENSIVE TALKS IN TEHRAN



Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian and his Turkmen counterpart Rashid Meredov have met and exchanged views over bilateral relations, regional issues, including Afghanistan and international developments.

In the meeting, AmirAbdollahian congratulated Meredov on the occasion of Turkmenistan's 30th independence anniversary. He said the new government in Iran is determined to expand relations with neighboring countries, expressing satisfaction with the growing relations between Iran and Turkmenistan in recent months. AmirAbdollahian also noted the importance of developing cooperation between the two nations in political, economic, cultural and other fields.

The Iranian foreign minister emphasized that the Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the promotion of cooperation and relations with Turkmenistan to a strategic level. The Turkmen foreign minister also described relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Turkmenistan as long-standing, good and very close.

"The president of Turkmenistan has always stressed the importance of developing bilateral relations between the two countries," he said. Meredov stressed that Turkmenistan attaches special importance to developing its relations with neighboring countries in designing its foreign policy and, in this regard, Iran has a special place and Turkmenistan is determined to upgrade its relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran to a strategic level.

AmirAbdollahian and his Turkmen counterpart also reviewed the latest developments related to the Caspian Sea and transport cooperation between the two countries.

The top Iranian diplomat said the cooperation between Iran and Turkmenistan and the two countries' synergy in the fields of transportation and transit, including road, rail and sea, will guarantee the benefits of both nations.

The two sides stressed that the Caspian Sea is the sea of friendship and it is non-military and belongs to all littoral states. They noted that the littoral states of the Caspian Sea should enjoy its economic benefits.



# IRANIAN, UZBEK FMS DISCUSS BILATERAL TIES, AFGHANISTAN



Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian and his Uzbek counterpart Abdulaziz Kamilov have held talks in Tehran over the latest developments in Afghanistan, economic cooperation between Tehran and Tashkent in transit and energy sectors and also Iran's interactions with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Kamilov highlighted the significance of establishing peace and stability in Afghanistan and underlined the need for talks between Iran and Uzbekistan over the matter.

Kamilov added that his country is ready to expand cooperation with Iran in various fields such as energy. He also called for speeding up a meeting of the Iran-Uzbekistan joint economic cooperation commission.

The Uzbek foreign minister said Tashkent is willing to use the transit capacities of Iran's Chahbahar Port. Kamilov also called for a three-way meeting between Iran, Uzbekistan and India to strengthen trilateral transit cooperation. Strengthening Iran's interactions with the SCO and holding its 2022 summit meeting in Uzbekistan, as the rotating president of the organization, were among other topics discussed by the two top diplomats.

The Iranian foreign minister congratulated Uzbekistan on its election as president of the SCO. He also congratulated Shukat Mirziyoyev on his re-election as President of Uzbekistan, expressing hope that the process of Iran's full membership in the SCO during Uzbekistan's presidency will be completed.

AmirAbdollahian stressed the importance of strengthening and advancing cooperation between the two countries in various fields and increasing the volume of bilateral trade. He added that Iran is ready to expand cooperation with Uzbekistan in technical and engineering services, new technologies, energy exchanges, agriculture, fisheries and tourism.



# SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE AUSTRIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MEETS WITH IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER



Secretary General of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Peter Launsky, who was in Tehran for the fifth round of political talks with the Islamic Republic of Iran, has met with Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian.

In this meeting, Amirabdollahian called the ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Austria age-old and said, "We attach great importance to these relations".

Amirabdullahian expressed hope for increased economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. He also appreciated the donation of vaccine by Austria to the Islamic Republic and called for more cooperation with Vienna on the Covid pandemic and vaccine.

The Iranian foreign minister called on the European Union to adopt a more responsible approach to the rights of displaced Afghans and condemned the terrorist attacks in recent weeks in Afghanistan. The Iranian foreign minister also described the rise of Daesh and Takfiri terror groups in Afghanistan dangerous. as Secretary General of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Peter Launsky, also praised the friendly relations between his country and Iran and expressed hope that the Iran nuclear deal will be revived with the cooperation of all parties. Launsky also condemned the recent terrorist acts in Afghanistan, noting that the Islamic Republic of Iran and Austria have common concerns about Daesh terrorists.

He also stressed Austria's support for meetings of Afghanistan's neighbors to resolve the country's problems.



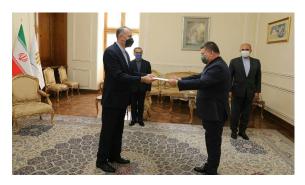


# AMIR ABDOLLAHIAN RECEIVES NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADOR CREDENTIALS



New Zealand's new ambassador to Tehran Michael Wohi has met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian to present a copy of his credentials to the top diplomat at the beginning of his tenure as his country's envoy.

# NEW VATICAN AMBASSADOR SUBMITS COPY OF CREDENTIALS TO IRAN FM



The Vatican's new ambassador to Tehran Andeji Yusovic has met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian to present a copy of his credentials to the top diplomat at the beginning of his tenure as the Vatican envoy.

#### AMIR ABDOLLAHIAN RECEIVES OUTGOING

#### ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR

Algerian ambassador to Tehran Abdul Moneim Ahriz has met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian to bid farewell to the top diplomat at the end of his tenure as Algeria's envoy.



#### **OUTGOING ARMENIAN AMBASSADOR SAYS**

#### FAREWELL TO IRAN FM

Armenian ambassador to Tehran Artashes Toumanian has met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian to bid farewell to the top diplomat at the end of his tenure as Armenia's envoy.



The meeting of neighboring countries of Afghanistan in Tehran













The meeting of neighboring countries of Afghanistan in Tehran





Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Austria (October 26)

Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Turkey (October 29)



On the occasion of the National Day of the Czech Republic, we send our congratulations to the people and the government of that country.

Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Czech Republic (October 28)

Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the Independence Day of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (October 27)





### **TWIPLOMACY**

The birth of the prophet of Islam is the beginning of a new era in humankind's life, says the leader of Islamic republic of Iran in the international Islamic unity conference

> Khamenei.ir @khamenei\_i

Coming in minutes: Statements from the Leader of the Islamic Revolution in meeting with the participants in the International #IslamicUnity Conference and a number of government officials



12:47 PM · Oct 24, 2021 · Twitter Web App

The issue of Palestine is an indicator of Muslim unity, says the leader of Islamic republic Iran in the international Islamic unity conference



An indicator of Muslim unity is the issue of Palestine. If Muslim unity is realized, the issue of #Palestine will be solved in the best way. Some Islamic govts committed a grave sin by normalizing relations with the usurping, despotic Zionist regime. They must repent & compensate.

2:43 PM · Oct 24, 2021 · Twitter for Android

296 Retweets 13 Quote Tweets 1,416 Likes

Peace will only stem from an inclusive government, says the minister of foreign affairs of Islamic republic of Iran in the international conference of Afghanistan Neighbors held in Tehran



اميرعبداللهيان H.Amirabdollahian @Amirabdolahian

Honored to have hosted very constructive #AfNeighbors2021.

Conference message is clear: Peace will only stem from inclusive govt & respect for will of Afghan people.

Future of Afghanistan & our region is at stake. Iran & 

Gamma Stand ready to assist Afghans.



"Together for peace and development"; FM Amirabdollahian outlines Iran's policy toward the region and Afghanistan



On the eve of #AfNeighbors2021, I outlined our policy toward our region & Afghanistan: Together for Peace and Development.

"Iran's hand of friendship & brotherhood is always extended towards all countries in the region, neighbors in particular."



tehrantimes.com

Meeting of Afghanistan's neighbors in Tehran: Together for peace and development



### **Society & Culture**

### HUSHANG MORADI KERMANI AMONG ALMA NOMINEES AGAIN



Writer Hushang Moradi Kermani, whose works mostly feature child protagonists from poor and deprived families, has been nominated for the 2022 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA).

Moradi Kermani, who has previously been nominated for the prestigious Swedish honor for over five times, received the new nomination from Iran's Institute for Research on History of Children's Literature.

"This institute has nominated Hushang Moradi Kermani once again for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award in 2022, because it considers him to be a writer who has added much value to reading in our society," the institute said in a press release.

Moradi Kermani is mostly known as a children's writer, but his works also appeal to adults. He is the author of numerous bestsellers such as "You're No Stranger Here", "The Water Urn" and "A Sweet Jam".

Most of his works have been translated into English, German, French, Spanish, Dutch, Arabic, Armenian, Turkish and several other languages.

## TEHRAN SHORT FILM FEST OPENS FIRST EDITION AS OSCAR QUALIFIER

The 38th Tehran International Short Film Festival (TISFF) opened on Tuesday (19 October) to organize its first edition after the Academy Awards has agreed to register the festival as an event whose awards can qualify a film for the Oscars.

"This year, the TISFF was approved by the Academy Awards so it is the third festival in West Asia and seventh in Asia that can qualify a film for the Oscars," TISFF director Sadeq Musavi said during the opening ceremony of the festival.

Thirty films from across the world will be screened in the official section of the festival. Five movies from Iranian filmmakers are competing in this category.

A highlight of the Iranian shorts is "The Fourth Wall", the winner of the Zlatko Grgic Award at the Animafest Zagreb in Croatia.





### **Society & Culture**

### "A HERO" RECEIVES FOUR NOMINATIONS AT ASIA PACIFIC SCREEN AWARDS 2021



Iranian director Asghar Farhadi's drama "A Hero" received nominations in four categories, including best film and best director, at the 14th Asia Pacific Screen Awards (APSA) as the organizers announced nominees.

The co-production between Iran and France tells the story of Rahim, who is in prison because he was unable to pay a debt. During a two-day leave of absence from prison, he attempts to have his creditor withdraw his complaint over part of the sum owed. But things don't go as planned.

Amir Jadidi was nominated for a best actor award for his portrayal of Rahim in the film, which also received a nomination for its screenplay written by Farhadi.

Thirty-eight films from 25 Asia Pacific countries and areas are competing in the APSA 2021.

Winners will be announced on November 11 during the APSA on Australia's Gold Coast.

## "CARELESS CRIME" WINS BEST NEW VIEW AWARD AT BRAZILIAN FESTIVAL

Iranian drama "Careless Crime" has won the award for best film in the New Views category of the Olhar de Cinema – Curitiba International Film Festival in Brazil.

Directed by Shahram Mokri, the film shows that protestors forty years ago, during the uprising to overthrow the Shah's regime in Iran, set fire to movie theaters as a way of showing opposition to Western culture. Forty years have passed and, in contemporary Iran, four individuals also decide to burn down a cinema. Their intended target is a theater showing a film about an unearthed, unexploded missile.

This film won the Premio Bisato d'Oro for Best Original Screenplay at the Venice Film Festival in 2020, has been nominated for the best screenplay award at the 14th Asia Pacific Screen Awards (APSA).





### **FOOD DIPLOMACY**

### Qorme Sabzi: the unique Iranian food



Qorme Sabzi is one of the most delicious and most popular Iranian cuisines in our top 10 Iranian food list, which is impossible to find someone who does not like it. This is a mixture of fresh vegetables, such as parsley and coriander, cooked with red beans and lamb.

One of the unique flavors of Qorme Sabzi is the Fenugreek vegetable, which is a new and unfamiliar taste for many European tourists.

Ghormeh sabzi is almost always served with Chelow (Persian steamed rice) or over tahdig, this magnificently crunchy rice formed at the bottom of the pot when making Chelow.

Beside rice, the most common side dishes served with Ghormeh Sabzi are Doogh (Iranian yoghurt drink) as well as Shirazi salad (diced cucumber and tomato salad).



### TRADE AND ECONOMY

# CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES REACH AGREEMENT ON TRANSIT COOPERATION WITH IRAN



After the return of relative calm to the Central Asian republics due to the concerns of their leaders about the transfer of insecurity in Afghanistan, these countries are seeking to expand trade with countries in the region and the world.

The five Central Asian republics are landlocked and do not have access to the international high waters but Iran provides the safest and most economical transit route for these countries to connect to the warm waters of the Persian Gulf, Sea of Oman, and the Indian Ocean.

## Central Asian countries want to expand transit cooperation with Iran

Some Central Asian republics have already signed cooperation agreements with Iran in this regard. Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan are two Central Asian countries that have expressed interest in cooperating with Iran in the fields of railways and rail links. Uzbek leaders have also signed an

agreement with Iran and Turkmenistan to have access to the high seas.

At the same time, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have signed memoranda of understanding on transit cooperation with Iran and have stated that they intend to export and import their goods through Iran's road and rail transit routes.

In this regard, the Presidents of Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan also agreed to expand transit cooperation through Iran.

## TRANSIT OF GOODS VIA IRAN INCREASES 81% IN 7 MONTHS ON YEAR

Transit of goods via Iran has risen 81 percent during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-October 22), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, the head of Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

Mehdi Mir-Ashrafi said that 6.948 million tons of goods was transited via the country during the seven-month period.

Iran is one of the countries that has a special status in trade and transit relations due to its strategic location and special geography, as the country is the passage of several important international corridors.

In the south of Iran is the Persian Gulf, which is home to the world's major oil-producing countries. This region is considered as the energy bottleneck of the world.



### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### IRANIAN STUDENT SNATCHES BRONZE IN 2021 WORLD SWISS INVENTION COMPETITION



An Iranian student won the bronze medal of the 2021 World Invention Competition in Geneva and registered her name as a global inventor at the permanent location of IFIA (International Federation of Inventors Assembly) in Geneva, Switzerland.

The 2021 World Swiss Invention Competition was held virtually in Geneva with the participation of 650 inventors from around the world, under the supervision of the International Federation of Inventors Assembly (IFIA).

The competitions were held for members of the International Federation of Inventors, where the students competed with each other in a variety of disciplines, including engineering, computer science, agriculture and the environment, chemistry and biology, and medicine.

The name of Fatemeh Pourhassan was registered as a global inventor with the extension INV and with a profile and a unique code at the permanent location of IFIA in Geneva, Switzerland.

### IRANIAN INVENTORS TOPPED CROATIA'S INT'L. EXHIBITION OF INVENTIONS

Iranian inventors topped the Croatian International Invention Exhibition with three individual gold medals and a silver medal in the team.

Iran Press/ Europe: The International Federation of Inventors of Iran dispatched Mahsa Hojjatoleslami, Hamed Ahari, Kambiz Larijani, Anousheh Sharifi, Ali Asadi Aria-Mehr Maleki, and Nima Naghibi Iravani and they took part in the exhibition held in Zagreb.

Ali Asadi for the 'portable machine for cleaning, drying and ironing all kinds of clothes,' Aria-Mehr Maleki for 'diagnosis of disease based on retinal OCT images, and Nima Naghibi Irvani for 'designing and building a piloting sample of regulated liquid damper set for real-use scale in high-rise buildings', achieved golds medals.

Still, the four-member team consisting of Mahsa Hojjatoleslami, Hamed Ahari, Kambiz Larijani, Anousheh Sharifan snatched the silver medal to produce a type of PLA film containing nanoneolysis to increase the shelf life of rainbow trout.





### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### IRAN STANDS 1ST IN BIOTECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS IN WEST ASIA



The Secretary of Biotechnology Development Headquarters of Iran's Vice Presidency for Science and Technology said that Iran is in the first place of biotechnology products in West Asia.

Mostafa Ghanei said: "The achievement of the first place in the production of biotechnology items and vaccines in West Asia, being placed among the 5 countries producing biotechnology products in Asia, the establishment of innovation centers, the accomplishment of the twelfth scientific rank in the world and first in the region are the achievements of the Iranian researchers in the field of biology."

"358 products worth \$ 894 million are also supported by the biotechnology development headquarters in the field of medicine, raw materials, and pharmaceutical supplies," he added.

He further said that the department supported the production of three corona vaccines worth \$ 353 million developed by the Biotechnology Development Headquarters.

### 15 IRANIAN UNIVERSITIES AMONG WORLD'S TOP 1000

Fifteen universities from Iran have been listed among the best institutions worldwide, by the U.S. News and World Report Best Global Universities rankings 2022.

The eighth annual U.S. News and World Report Best Global Universities rankings provide insight into how universities compare globally, which focus specifically on schools' academic research and reputation overall and not on their separate undergraduate or graduate programs using 13 indicators.

The overall Best Global Universities ranking encompasses 1,750 top institutions, up from nearly 1,500 last year, and spread across more than 90 countries, up from 86 last year. The first step in producing these rankings, which are powered by Clarivate™ involved creating a pool of 1,849 universities that was used to rank the top 1,750 schools.

The University of Tehran is ranked first nationally, 58th in Asia, and 353rd in the world with a score of 57.2. Islamic Azad University and Tehran University of Medical Sciences came the second and third after the University of Tehran among Iranian institutions.



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#### **SPORTS**

#### Sadeghzadeh crowned as Iran's Pahlevan



Jaber Sadeghzadeh became the Pahlevan of Iran for the seventh time and received the 1400 Bazouband (championship armband).

President Ebrahim Reisi, who attended the ceremony to honor Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic athletes, watched the finals of the Iranian heavyweight wrestling competitions.

President Raisi crowned Jaber Sadeghzadeh in the competition as "Pahlavan Bashi," the champion of Iranian heavyweight wrestling.

In the final match of +100 kg weight, Jaber Sadeghzadeh from Mazandaran defeated Amir Mohammadi from North Khorasan.

"Pahlevan of Iran" is an annual Pahlevani Wrestling competition held in Iran, in which athletes from across the country compete. The champion earns the title of Pahlevan and the right to wear the Bazouband.

Though the competition has ancient roots, its modern form has been held only since 1944.

#### Iran marks 14th National Paralympic Day

Iran's National Paralympic Committee (NPC) celebrated the 14th National Paralympic Day on Oct. 16.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the NPC this edition of the National Paralympic Day was symbolically celebrated in Tehran's Olympic and Paralympic Academy.

The main goals of the National Paralympic Committee are to introduce the Paralympic Movement to the Iranian society, contribute to the inclusion of people with disabilities, change attitudes towards people with disabilities and provide them with social opportunities.

"We celebrated the National Paralympic Day for the 14th time and want to register it as an International Day," Iran's NPC president Mahmoud Khosravi Vafa said.

"The National Paralympic Day can be an inspiring day for all people with disabilities. Due to coronavirus restrictions, the Day has been held symbolically in the previous two years but we will hold the ceremony with more participants when COVID-19 lockdown ends," he added.

Iran first celebrated the National Paralympic Day in 2003 and was included in the National Calendar by a Presidential order in 2016.

At the Paralympic Games in Tokyo, Iran ended 13th in the medals table with 12 golds, 11 silvers and one bronze.



### **FOREIGN MISSIONS IN IRAN**

Russian Embassy in Tehran says the meeting of the officials of Afghanistan's neighboring countries was a success



The new ambassador of Finland presented his credentials to the president of Islamic republic of Iran

Finnish Embassy TEH @



The new ambassador of Switzerland presented his credentials to the president of Islamic republic of Iran



Embassy of Spain in Tehran highlights the presentation of the special jury prize to a Spanish film in Tehran's international film festival for children and youth



Swiss Embassy Iran 🤣



### **DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES**

### Pomegranate harvest in Alamut gardens

As Autumn nears its mid, the harvesting of pomegranates from gardens of the Alamut region in Qazvin province has started.

