

English

Message No. 79 – SHAMA
Addressed to His Excellency Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America

Your Excellency,

In light of reported surprise regarding the continued defiance of Iran's leadership despite extensive military signaling, the National Council for the Iranian Revolution wishes to respectfully convey the following considerations:

1. The effectiveness of President John F. Kennedy's 1962 warning during the Cuban Missile Crisis owed much to the prudence and diplomatic mindset of his counterpart. Political outcomes depend not only on pressure but on the nature of the interlocutor.
2. The current Iranian leadership has demonstrated a longstanding reliance on internal repression rather than compromise. Recent tragic events illustrate the regime's prioritization of survival over national welfare.
3. Ideological rigidity—particularly when intertwined with personal legacy and historical symbolism—reduces the likelihood of conventional diplomatic responsiveness.
4. Any escalation involving Iran risks regional entanglement and prolonged instability. The history of Middle Eastern conflicts demonstrates that such confrontations rarely remain limited in scope.
5. Demands perceived domestically as unconditional surrender risk strengthening hardline narratives and undermining moderate or civic forces within society.
6. U.S. officials have correctly observed that the Iranian government does not fully represent the will of the Iranian people. Agreements concluded under coercive conditions or without popular legitimacy risk long-term instability.
7. International law—including the UN Charter and established principles prohibiting the threat or use of force—remains the cornerstone of global order. Durable agreements must rest on mutual consent rather than pressure.
8. Military confrontation with a country of Iran's size, population, and geopolitical position would carry unpredictable and potentially severe costs for all parties.
9. Historical experiences—including 1953 and subsequent geopolitical interventions—continue to shape Iranian public perception. Any external pressure that appears to weaken indigenous civic movements may inadvertently empower hardline elements.
10. Genuine Iranian civil opposition voices have often struggled for international media access. Supporting open platforms for diverse Iranian civic perspectives would strengthen democratic legitimacy.
11. The Council's publicly articulated framework calls for a secular, democratic system grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and peaceful coexistence with all nations, including the United States.
12. The Iranian people have historically expressed strong cultural goodwill toward the American people. Military confrontation would irreparably damage this reservoir of goodwill.

13. De-escalation, restraint, and avoidance of direct military intervention would significantly reduce the risk of regional destabilization and empower peaceful civic transformation within Iran.
14. Dr. Ghasem Sholeh-Saadi, spokesperson of the Council, currently in Paris, stands ready for dialogue and exchange of views within a diplomatic framework.

With respect,

National Council for the Iranian Revolution
March 2026