

# DECOLONIAL INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

## Week 5 of World War III

### Introduction

This is my analysis of week 5 of World War III. In my article on the logic of the war between Iran and the West I argue that we are about to witness a dramatic transformation in world history that can be compared to the transformations that occurred because of World War I and World War II. The article was written on Friday February 20, 2026. The next day the war started.

I recommend to follow the analyses of Mohammad Marandi, professor at the University of Tehran who provides excellent analysis of the war and developments in Western Asia. I administer his website, where I publish all his YouTube videos that I can find.

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### Economic transformation

The past five weeks have revealed a new economic power that will determine the future economic order: Iran and Yemen are going to control the flow of energy in the future and determine the economic performance of the Gulf States. Some 20% goes through the Strait of Hormuz and 15% through the Red Sea.



When Iran laid out a list of demands to end the war started by the United States and Israel, it added an item that hadn't been on Tehran's list before: recognition of Iran's sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz. See my analysis of [week 4](#). The country is moving ahead to establish the new economic system. It has established a registration system for approved vessels and this system is now already used by major insurance companies.

Around 20 million barrels of crude oil and oil products pass through the Strait of Hormuz each day). At a reported fee of \$2 million per tanker, that Iran would earn around \$20 million a day, or about \$600 million a month, from oil alone.

If LNG shipments are included, that figure could rise to more than \$800 million a month, equivalent to about 15%-20% of Iran's monthly oil export revenue in 2024. Egypt earns between \$700 and \$800 million a month from the Suez Canal, although revenues have dropped sharply over the past year due to Red Sea disruptions.

The war is increasing the economic performance of Iran. Iran sells more oil with prices three times higher than before the war.

Before the war Iran could not move to close the Strait of Hormuz without alienating its partners China and Russia. Now its claim on the sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz might be supported by these allies.

There is a power dimension in the claim of sovereignty. If countries keep insisting on boycotting Iran, Iran can block their ships from the Strait of Hormuz. Previously, these countries only faced the wrath of the U.S.. In the future they will pay a price for their boycott.

Before the war the Gulf States operated on the premise that their economic system and performance was solely dependent on their policies and the support of the American empire. The war has shown that they now have to take into account the fact that a conflict with Iran can easily result in bombing their key economic infrastructure.

Furthermore, Western companies that form the backbone of their economic performance are now vulnerable to Iranian bombs.

The IRGC has published a list of 18 prominent American corporations that will be attacked for participating in espionage that supported US-Israeli terrorist operations within Iran. Their regional offices and assets are targeted. The list includes major technology firms such as Apple, Google, Meta, and Microsoft, alongside hardware providers like HP, Intel, IBM, and Cisco. Other well-known brands on the list are Tesla, Nvidia, Oracle, JP Morgan, and Boeing.

After the war, the Gulf States will have to deal with a new economic reality. Their economy can only develop when they have a good relation with Iran, otherwise they will live in a perpetual fear of a new war.

## **The Islamic awakening**

The longer the war continues, the broader a new Islamic awakening will become. What are Muslims discussing every Friday in their mosques? I believe that the genocide of Gaza and the possibility of a final defeat of Israel and US imperialism is on their mind, now it has become clear that Iran is holding ground and is even on the offensive. It is possible to conquer Al Quds (Jerusalem) from the Zionists as Saladin did from the Crusaders in 1187?

We see some actions among the Ummah (the global Muslim community) taking shape. Pashtun tribal leaders in Pakistan voiced their support for Iran during a gathering at the Iranian consulate in Peshawar. Pashtuns are Sunni Muslims. They told the Iranian officials that they were ready to mobilize fighters in support of Iran in the event of further escalation involving Israel. Their leaders said: *"If you give the order, we millions of tribal Pashtuns stand ready to wage jihad alongside Iran against Israel. We will arrange our own weapons and rations."* Iran has in the past cultivated relationships with a range of non-state actors across the region as part of its broader security strategy. However, any direct coordination with tribal fighters from Pakistan would mark a significant expansion of that approach.

Chechen military units, loyal to Ramzan Kadyrov, the head of Russia's Chechen Republic, have announced their readiness to deploy to Iran to support the Iranian armed forces in

the event of a US ground invasion. They describe the ongoing American-Israeli war as a jihad in defense of the Islamic Republic of Iran against American and allied forces. What other forces will come to the fore if the war rages on? How will the leaders of Islamic countries such as Pakistan react to the pressure from below to support Iran, while their allegiance has been to the U.S.?

## **To conclude**

Keep in mind that this war will transform the structure of the global economic order in which Iran and Yemen will have a leverage to steer global economic development. Nobody could foresee this before February 21st. Watch closely what is going on in the mosques of two billion Muslims across the globe every Friday. What is brewing there and when will we see the results of it?

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