

Week 7 of the war against Iran

Introduction

This is my analysis of week 7 of the war against Iran. I argue that we are witnessing 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 past week showed a tectonic shift in the military and economic power of Iran, that impacts not only the region, but the world.

The US succumbs to Iran's military power

Forget all the boasting of Trump about the might of the U.S. army. The facts on the ground count. Despite an initial failure of the negotiations between Iran and the U.S. in the negotiations it is clear that the U.S., more than Iran, need a peace deal. I explained the reasons in my analysis of [week 6](#). The U.S. saw that a military victory over Iran is impossible. Their most important military bases in the region have been destroyed. The mission to capture Iran's uranium failed miserably. The U.S. is isolated internationally and cannot get any support from other countries for its war. Within the US and his own party there is growing frustration with the war. So resuming the war is not an option for Trump.

His so called blockade of the Strait of Hormuz is a joke. Iranian and Chinese tanker move around freely without any U.S. objections. Iran has its fingers on the trigger, in case the U.S. navy would actually block their ships.

What does this new military might of Iran implicate for the future? We can see this in Lebanon.

The ceasefire in Lebanon

Israel and Lebanon agreed on a ceasefire. Why? Iran has put pressure on Trump. If he wants a peace deal with Iran, then Israel must be reigned in and the bombing of Lebanon must stop. In fact, Iran issued a direct warning to the United States that if a ceasefire was not enforced in Lebanon, it would strike the Israeli regime. This message was given to Trump through Pakistan. And unwillingly Netanyahu agreed. According to Israeli media reports, cabinet ministers were not informed of the ceasefire during the meeting and only learned of it from the media after the meeting ended. Why? They would refuse to follow his lead.

The conservative news site Jerusalem Post reported that Israel's security cabinet did not vote on the ceasefire during a meeting held shortly before Trump made the announcement.

The "liberal" news site Haaretz writes that Trump dictates the terms in Lebanon leaving Netanyahu boxed in. Haaretz: *"Netanyahu can't convince the Israeli public that the war's goals were achieved, with Hezbollah not disarmed and the Iranian regime still largely intact."*

Opposition leader Yair Lapid criticized Netanyahu's agreement with Lebanon, saying it was not the first time that all of his regime's promises had collapsed. Itan Davidi, head of the illegal settlement of Margaliot, told Israel's Channel 12 that the agreement was not a victory but *"a disgrace and a complete surrender to Iran and the United States."*

Hassan Fadlallah, a member of the Lebanese parliament, said that Iran will monitor US compliance with its commitments under the agreement.

Before the start of the war this was inconceivable. Iran now is going to dictate how Israel should behave in Lebanon. If it breaches the ceasefire, the response will be the bombing

of Israel. Before the war Iran did not have the power. With its victory in the war, now it has the power to directly intervene when Israel commit heinous acts.

The ambiguous role of Pakistan might end

Pakistan plays an ambiguous role in Western Asia. On the one hand its army works closely with the Americans. The Pakistan-Saudi Arabia defense agreement is a landmark "Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement" signed In September 2025 Pakistan and Saudi Arabia signed a "Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement". It says that any aggression against either country will be considered an aggression against both. It was a defense agreement against Iran.

On the other hand, Iran has gained enormous sympathy across broad sections of the population of Pakistan because of its stand against the U.S. and Israel in the war. When Iran bombed Saudi Arabia the defense agreement could not be effectuated. Pakistan would not dare to attack Iran, because its population would rise up against the government and its army would split.

Pakistan is now becoming a partner of Iran, not of the U.S., in shaping the military power structure in Western Asia.

The economic power of Iran

Paradoxically, the war is strengthening the economy of Iran. Iran's nominal GDP was approximately \$ 437 billion in 2024. Iran has been selling its oil at a much higher price without middlemen and without discounts. Iranian tankers on the sea carried 200 million barrels (worth US\$ 20 billion), of which they sold half since the war.

Around 20 million barrels of crude oil and oil products pass through the Strait of Hormuz each day). Iran now asks a fee of \$2 million per tanker. Iran would earn around \$ 20 million a day, or about \$ 600 million a month (\$ 7,2 billion a year), 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.

The war has strengthened economically. It also provided Iran with a powerful economic instrument that can be used politically: the closing or opening of the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran is going to use that power when it demands reparations.

Since 1979 the US has frozen Iran assets and continued to freeze more assets. These assets are in the U.S., China, India, Japan, Iraq, EU countries and Qatar. The total amount is \$ 100 billion. Part of the peace negotiations is about the release of these frozen assets.

Apart from new revenues from fees from the Strait of Hormuz and the release of frozen assets Iran could have another source of revenues. Iran says that damage caused by US-Israeli aggression is estimated at \$ 270 billion. Iran now demands compensation from five Arab countries (Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Qatar and Jordan) over participating in the US-Israeli war against Iran.

Conclusion

The economic and military changes are not accidental, but structural. They are the expression of fundamental underlying changes that are taking place in a new world order.

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