

Iran Watch

Briefing

Coverage: 1 June to 10 August 2026, with developments to 4 October 2026 · October 2026

Data as of 4 October 2026 unless otherwise noted. Every entry is verified and cited to source throughout.

METHOD NOTE

This briefing combines three independently compiled monitoring streams, a per-source media review, the Iran Accountability Project's tracker, and a dated developments review, and deduplicates their overlapping reports into event clusters covering 1 June to 10 August 2026. Every item was checked against pages retrieved during the research. Sources: United Nations bodies and mandate holders; established human-rights monitors, including Hengaw, HRANA, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, CHRI, Iran Human Rights and the Kurdistan Human Rights Network; official government and intergovernmental records; and first-hand reporting by established news agencies, graded by tier. A small number of secondary corroborators are cited only alongside a qualifying source and are labelled as such where they appear. The 40 clusters that met this standard are reported below. Most appear as dated entries in Areas 1 through 4; a handful of near-duplicate or supplementary clusters are folded into the entry they support and cross-referenced; and lines of inquiry that found nothing new are logged in the closing section rather than padded into the areas below.

SCOPE

The war between the United States, Israel and Iran that began around 28 February 2026 is a separate matter from the protest crackdown that followed the unrest of 28 December 2025 to 8 January 2026, and this briefing does not let the two blend into one another. Items concerning war casualties, war-related espionage prosecutions, the Islamabad ceasefire and its sanctions relief, the Strait of Hormuz, and nuclear diplomacy are marked WAR SCOPE and confined to Area 3 as context only. They are never mixed into the casualty, detention or execution figures in Area 1, even in the cases where the same judiciary or the same sanctions authority is acting in both lanes.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The five most consequential verified developments of the window, in order of impact rather than date. A one-line rationale explains each selection.

1. UN human rights chief quantifies the post-crackdown execution wave (5 Aug 2026)

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk said Iran has executed at least 56 people on national-security charges since 19 March 2026, 27 of them linked to the January protests, with more than 100 more at risk; he cited a persistent lack of fair trial and due process, torture-tainted confessions, and one hearing in which 12 defendants were sentenced to death in a single three-hour closed session.

Sources: Reuters; Al Jazeera; UN News; Iran International.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

Why it leads: *Leads because it is the only authoritative UN casualty figure for the entire post-MOU crackdown, superseding the lower-confidence tallies logged throughout Area 1.*

2. Isfahan public executions defy the UN Fact-Finding Mission (28 Jul 2026)

Abolfazl Sepahi-Badjani, 23, and Amirhossein Safari-Hosseiniabadi, 29, were hanged at dawn in Alikhani Square, the site of the 8 January protest in which four security-force members were killed, the first public executions of the crackdown caseload. A third defendant, Alireza Sepahi, went missing after his family was summoned for a final visit.

Sources: Reuters; AP; Hengaw; Amnesty International.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

Why it leads: *Selected because these are the first public executions of the caseload, carried out five days after the UN Fact-Finding Mission's emergency call to halt exactly this class of execution, the clearest instance of defiance of a UN body in the window.*

3. General License X: fifteen days of oil-sanctions relief, then revocation (22 Jun to 7 Jul 2026)

Following the Islamabad MOU, OFAC issued General License X on 22 June 2026, the broadest Iranian oil-sector relief in over a decade. It did not survive three weeks: after Iran struck three commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, OFAC revoked it on 7 July and issued a wind-down-only license. Iranian-oil sanctions relief has been dead since, not, as widely assumed, expiring on 21 August.

Sources: OFAC; Reuters; CNN; ABC News.

Routed to: SANCTIONS TRACKER

Why it leads: *Selected because it corrects the most consequential misreading in circulation, that Iranian oil-sanctions relief runs to 21 August; it actually died on 7 July, fifteen days after it was granted.*

4. The UK proscribes the IRGC outright (13 Jul 2026)

The UK designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in its entirety as a national-security threat under the new National Security (State Threats) Act 2026, alongside the Islamic Movement of Companions of the Right and Russia's GRU Volunteer Corps. Supporting, assisting or benefiting from the IRGC is now a UK criminal offense carrying up to 14 years.

Sources: GOV.UK; Hansard; The Guardian; BBC; Reuters.

Routed to: SANCTIONS TRACKER

***Why it leads:** Selected as the single broadest legal measure of the window: a wholesale criminal proscription of the IRGC, not a designation of named individuals or entities.*

5. The EU designates five Revolutionary Court judges (24 Jul 2026)

The Council listed five regional Revolutionary Court judges, named in Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1851 (entries 276 to 280) as Mostafa Narimani, Abolfazl Ameri Shahrabi, Mehdi Rasekhi, Mohammad-Reza Amoozad and Mohammad-Reza Tavakoli, plus Nima Salehi, founder of the Ashiyane cyber group, bringing EU Iran human-rights listings to 269 individuals and 53 entities. The published grounds cite earlier cases, not explicitly the December 2025 to February 2026 crackdown.

Sources: Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1851; Reuters; IranWire; Iran International.

Routed to: SANCTIONS TRACKER / ENTITY TRACKER

***Why it leads:** Selected because it is the only new designation action of the window that reaches the judicial machinery of the crackdown itself, naming sitting Revolutionary Court judges rather than financial facilitators.*

AREA 1: CASUALTY, DETENTION, EXECUTION AND DEATH-SENTENCE REPORTS

16 entries newest first.

8 Aug 2026. 29 January protesters still held without trial in Ardabil

Hengaw reported at least 29 ethnic Turkish detainees arrested during the January 2026 protests remain in Ardabil Central Prison with no trial or resolution of legal status months after arrest; several are denied phone calls and visits, and families' bail efforts have been obstructed. All 29 identities were verified and published.

Source: Hengaw. Corroborating: IranWire and Iran International, both citing HRANA.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

7 Aug 2026. HRANA: 54 January detainees in Ardabil security ward; 25 sentenced, 29 pre-trial

HRANA verified the identities of 54 people detained in the January protests and still held in Ardabil Prison's security ward: 25 sentenced to a combined 49 years and 3 months (individual terms from 6 months to 5 years 3 months; longest to Ahmad Seifi), 29 in pre-trial detention. HRANA said Ardabil's Prosecutor General and Revolutionary Prosecutor Jalal Afaqi appealed 10 of the sentences seeking harsher penalties. Roughly 800 were arrested province-wide in January; ~500 released within 10 days and ~250 later on bail.

Sources: IranWire and Hengaw, both citing HRANA.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER / ENTITY TRACKER

7 Aug 2026. 25 Ardabil protesters sentenced to combined 49 years 3 months

Hengaw published the full sentencing list for 25 ethnic Turks arrested in the January 2026 protests and sentenced by Ardabil's Revolutionary and Criminal Courts; terms range from 6 months to 5 years 3 months (Ahmad Seifi), with at least 10 already serving in Ardabil Central Prison.

Source: Hengaw.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

6 Aug 2026. Independent UN experts flag disproportionate targeting of Kurds and Baluch

A group of UN human-rights experts said 6 Aug 2026 that at least 24 Baluch and 22 Kurdish people have been executed in 2026, with "a significant increase in arbitrary arrests" and politically motivated sentencing against both Sunni-minority communities. Hengaw and the Kurdistan Human Rights Network (KHRN) document this in near-daily detail through the window: extrajudicial killings of Baluch civilians by security/border forces (e.g., Nader Gomshadzehi and Hossein Khashi Kamalabadi shot dead late July to 3 Aug; Abdolkarim Boun, a gardener, shot dead in Rask, 1 Aug; two Baloch brothers killed in Khash, 30 Jul; a secret execution of 5 prisoners including 3 Afghan nationals at Taybad Prison, 4 Aug); and Kurdish civilian and prisoner deaths (Maryam Aslani and her daughter Somayeh Tavakkoli, plus Kurdish artist Mehdi Tavakkoli, shot by Iranian forces on the Baneh-Marivan road, 28 Jul).

Source: UN human-rights experts, via Iran International. Corroborating: Hengaw; Kurdistan Human Rights Network (KHRN).

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

5 Aug 2026. *UN rights chief: ≥56 executed since 19 March, 27 protest-linked; >100 at risk*

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk said Iran has executed at least 56 people on national-security charges since 19 March 2026, 27 of them linked to the January protests, with more than 100 more at risk. He cited a persistent lack of fair trial and due process, torture-tainted confessions, and one hearing in which 12 defendants were sentenced to death in a single three-hour closed session, and separately urged Iran to halt all executions and move toward abolition of the death penalty. HRANA's monthly reports separately record 127 executions in June 2026 alone, and Iran Human Rights (Oslo) counts 71 in July, putting 2026's cumulative total above 444.

Sources: UN News; Reuters; Al Jazeera; Iran International. Corroborating: HRANA and Iran Human Rights (Oslo) monthly tallies.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

1 Aug 2026. *Secret execution of Arvin Kheirkhah(an), 20, at Shahroud*

Executed at dawn without prior notice to his family, after arrest in the January 2026 protests, a death sentence for moharebeh from Branch One of the Shahroud Revolutionary Court, and confirmation on appeal and by the Supreme Court. Authorities kept the body until the next dawn and ordered burial at 5:00 a.m. under heavy security. The execution was not announced by state media. His family had gathered outside the prison the previous night.

Sources: Hengaw; Iran International.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

31 Jul 2026. *Hengaw: six female political prisoners face execution; two at risk of renewed death sentences*

Six women political prisoners face imminent execution, and two more are at risk of renewed death sentences after Supreme Court ordered retrials. Hengaw named 68-year-old Gilak civil-rights activist Zahra Shahbaz Tabari (death sentence 28 May 2026 for baghi, armed rebellion, via alleged PMOI membership) and Bitā Hemmati as facing imminent execution at Evin and Rasht prisons. Separately, Hengaw's July women's-rights report records two women executed that month, Satayesh Mohammadipour in Shiraz and Azam Gerami in Yasuj, and 17 women sentenced to death, prison or flogging, including a new death sentence for Mahnaz Chahardouli.

Source: Hengaw.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER / REPORT

28 Jul 2026. *Public executions of Sepahi-Badjani and Safari-Hosseiniabadi, Isfahan*

AP reports the two were among 14 people sentenced to death over the killing of four police officers; Hengaw reports security forces dispersed a crowd that gathered at the site, causing injuries and arrests, and that a third defendant, Alireza Sepahi, was missing after his family was summoned for a final visit. Bodies were not returned to families. See Executive Summary.

Sources: Reuters; AP; Hengaw. Corroborating: Amnesty International; IranWire (pre-execution warning, 27 Jul).

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

28 Jul 2026. *Amnesty International: “End escalating campaign of arbitrary executions and death sentences”*

Amnesty said at least 60 people, including three arrested as children, remain at risk of execution; that since the start of 2026 Iran has arbitrarily executed at least 26 people convicted over the January protests and 26 others on politically motivated charges; and that authorities increasingly use espionage and “collaboration with hostile states” charges against January detainees. Heba Morayef: authorities are acting “in the wake of the January popular uprising and amid ongoing attacks by US and Israeli forces,” and “the muted response from the international community emboldens” them; Amnesty urged UN member states toward coordinated diplomatic action and an independent international mechanism.

Sources: Amnesty International. Corroborating: Iran International; IranWire; AP (citing Amnesty figures).

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

27 Jul 2026. *UN experts: 12 death sentences imposed in a single closed hearing*

UN experts said all 12 Alikhani Square defendants, aged from late teens to early twenties, were condemned to death in one closed Revolutionary Court hearing without clarity on individual responsibility, with judgments unpublished, reliance on televised confessions, and reports of enforced disappearance and ill-treatment. CHRI separately published the Fact-Finding Mission’s 23 July Geneva statement in full alongside the rapporteurs’ call.

Sources: Iran International; CHRI.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER / ENTITY TRACKER

23 Jul 2026. *UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Iran: halt all protest-related executions*

UN Fact-Finding Mission calls to halt executions defied within days; On 23 July 2026 the UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Iran (OHCHR-mandated) urgently demanded Iran halt the imminent execution of 10 Isfahan “Alikhani Square” defendants (Jan. 8, 2026 protest case) and condemned the July 19 hanging of two others in the same case (Erfan Esfandiari, 18, and Gol Mohammad Mohammadi, a 23-year-old Afghan national). Iran executed two more from the same case in public on July 28 (Amir Hossein Safari and Abolfazl Sepahi), per Amnesty International, which says the convictions relied on televised forced “confessions.” Ten defendants in the case remain at imminent risk.

Sources: UN News; OHCHR. Corroborating: CHRI; IranWire; Iran International.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER / REPORT

22 Jul 2026. *Execution of Mehdi Khanki / Khaneki / Khanaki at Ghezel Hesar Prison*

Executed at dawn in Karaj after arrest on 10 February 2026 at his home by FARAJA Intelligence officers; the Revolutionary Court convicted him of “operational action in favour of the Zionist regime and the United States,” membership in opposition groups, and weapons possession, and ordered asset confiscation. Judiciary outlet Mizan announced the execution; the NCRI said he was a 26-year-old law graduate tortured over months and executed for PMOI membership and participation in Karaj protests. His arrest and death sentence had never been publicly reported before the execution. HRW called him the 24th person arbitrarily executed since 18 March in connection with the protests.

Sources: Reuters; Hengaw; Al Jazeera. Corroborating: Human Rights Watch.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

19 Jul 2026. *Executions of Erfan Esfandiari and Gol Mohammad Mohammadi (Alikhani Square case)*

The two were secretly executed at dawn at Dastgerd Prison, Isfahan, a day after Hengaw warned that 30 political prisoners, including the 12 sentenced to death in the Alikhani Square case, had been deceptively summoned and transferred. Esfandiari is reported as 18 (UN News) or 19 (Hengaw); Mohammadi was a 23-year-old Afghan national. Mizan confirmed the executions.

Sources: Hengaw; UN News; Iran International.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

9 Jul 2026. *Twelve Isfahan defendants at imminent risk after Supreme Court upholds sentences*

A defence lawyer told Iran International the Supreme Court upheld all 12 death sentences in the Alikhani Square case on 5 July 2026 and the file went to the Isfahan Revolutionary Court's enforcement branch. The lawyer said the 12 were around 17 or 18 at the time of the January protests; 59 people were initially arrested and 23 received 5 to 10 year terms. The report also cites Amnesty (Feb 2026: ≥30 facing death over January-protest charges) and CHRI (Apr 2026: ≥22 political prisoners executed in six weeks, incl. 10 January detainees).

Source: Iran International.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

5 Jul 2026. *Supreme Court upholds the 12 Alikhani Square death sentences*

The pivotal judicial act of the window: Supreme Court affirmation moved the whole Isfahan caseload into execution posture, producing the 19 July, 28 July and subsequent hangings.

Source: Iran International (defence lawyer's account, 9 Jul). Corroborating: UN News (23 Jul); CHRI.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER

7 Jul 2026. *Amnesty International: six-month impunity assessment and call for ICC referral*

Amnesty International warned that Iran's crackdown protests erupted 28 December 2025; that thousands were killed on 8 to 9 January 2026; that UN Special Rapporteur Mai Sato said in January 2026 that at least 5,000 had been killed by security forces; and that Iran's Supreme Council of National Security put the toll at 3,117 as of 21 January 2026 (the government later settled on an official figure of 3,038). Amnesty documented a follow-on pattern of mass arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, gathering bans, and attacks on victims' families, and called on the UN Security Council to refer the situation to the International Criminal Court. The statement was issued by Diana Eltahawy, Amnesty's Deputy Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa.

Source: Amnesty International, "Iran: Lack of international justice six months after January protest massacres risks further atrocity crimes," 7 July 2026, amnesty.org; statement by Diana Eltahawy, Deputy Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa.

Routed to: CASUALTY TRACKER / CONTEXT ONLY

AREA 2: SANCTIONS, DESIGNATIONS AND ECONOMIC PRESSURE

12 entries newest first.

5 Aug 2026. *Administrative de-listing of IRGC-linked aviation assets*

On 5 Aug 2026 OFAC removed counterterrorism sanctions from Iraq's Fly Baghdad Airlines and two of its aircraft (and reportedly additional airlines/aircraft in the same action), citing "major changes to operations" following administrative reconsideration; the airline's owner remains designated.

Treasury stated this is not a signal of any change in policy toward Iran or the IRGC-QF. Flagged because it runs against the campaign's otherwise one-directional escalation narrative and should be tracked for whether it recurs elsewhere.

Source: Al Arabiya English. Corroborating: Middle East Eye.

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER*

29 Jul 2026. *Hormuz "toll" extortion network targeted*

Building on the 27 May 2026 designation of the IRGC-run "Persian Gulf Strait Authority" (PGSA), Treasury designated the Persian Gulf Marine Insurance Company and HormuzSafe Marine Services Authority on 29 Jul 2026 for brokering PGSA-approved mandatory "insurance" policies that extort vessels transiting Hormuz, plus multiple shadow-fleet companies and eight oil tankers ("Treasury Disrupts Iranian Regime's Strait of Hormuz Extortion Network").

Source: U.S. Treasury (press release sb0581); OFAC recent-actions log.

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER / ENTITY TRACKER*

26 Jul 2026. *US State Department condemns the executions*

Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Riley Barnes condemned "the regime's executions of its own citizens – brave young Iranians who dared to raise their voices," called for the release of all political prisoners and an end to executions for peaceful exercise of rights, and said "the world is watching."

Source: Iran International. Corroborating: RFE/RL.

Routed to: *CONTEXT ONLY*

24 Jul 2026. *EU Council: five Revolutionary Court judges + Nima Salehi (Ashiyane)*

Named judges (Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1851, entries 276 to 280): Mostafa Narimani (Presiding Judge, Br. 3 Karaj Revolutionary Court); Abolfazl Ameri Shahrabi (Judge, Head of Branch 1191, Tehran Second Degree Criminal Court (Quds Judicial Complex); former Deputy Prosecutor of Arak); Mehdi Rasekhi (Presiding Judge, Br. 3 Rasht Revolutionary Court); Mohammad-Reza Amoozad (Presiding Judge, Br. 28 Tehran Revolutionary Court); Mohammad-Reza Tavakoli (Presiding Judge, Br. 1 Isfahan Revolutionary Court). Nima Salehi is entry 281. Measures: asset freeze, travel ban, funds prohibition. Running EU total: 269 individuals, 53 entities. The same day, Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1838 deleted Mohammad Pakpur, Hossein Salami and Amir Ali Hajizadeh from the IRGC section of the EU terrorism list. Kallas: “While the world’s attention is on the war in the Middle East, we can’t lose sight of Iran’s repression against its own people.” See Executive Summary.

Sources: Council Implementing Regulations (EU) 2026/1851 and 2026/1838 of 24 July 2026; Reuters; IranWire; Iran International.

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER / ENTITY TRACKER*

24 Jul 2026. *EU High Representative Kaja Kallas on continued accountability*

Announcing the judges package (above), EU High Representative Kaja Kallas said, “As Tehran intensifies its domestic crackdown, the EU will continue to hold those responsible to account,” adding, “While the world’s attention is on the war in the Middle East, we can’t lose sight of Iran’s repression against its own people.”

Sources: Reuters; Iran International.

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER*

24 Jul 2026. *US Treasury/OFAC: Babak Zanjani network (4 individuals, 9 entities)*

OFAC designated four individuals and nine entities across financial services, gold and precious-gem production, digital-asset trading and infrastructure; Zanjani’s Iran-based “Dot One” conglomerate and offshore companies supporting the previously designated Zedcex and Zedxion exchanges. Prior related action: 30 January 2026 designation of Zanjani, Zedcex and Zedxion.

Source: US Department of the Treasury (official record).

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER / ENTITY TRACKER*

13 Jul 2026. *UK designates Islamic Movement of Companions of the Right (asset freeze)*

On 13 July 2026 the UK designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in its entirety as a national-security threat under the new National Security (State Threats) Act 2026, alongside the Islamic Movement of Companions of the Right (blamed for the 23 March arson attack on Hatzola ambulances in Golders Green and six other UK-linked attacks on Jewish or Israeli targets) and Russia’s GRU Volunteer Corps. Supporting, assisting or benefiting from the IRGC is now a criminal offense carrying up to 14 years. London cited IRGC-directed plots to assassinate two Iran International journalists in the UK and cyberattacks on UK, Australian and Canadian infrastructure; a same-day action separately sanctioned an Iran-linked criminal group that claimed responsibility for attacks on Jewish sites.

Sources: GOV.UK (Foreign Secretary written ministerial statement); Hansard. Corroborating: The Guardian; BBC; Reuters, all 13 July 2026.

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER / CONTEXT ONLY / REPORT*

10 Jul 2026. *US State Department: Ali Ansari real-estate network and three Iranian exchange houses*

State announced designations targeting Dubai-based Iranian national Ali Ansari and a global real-estate/commercial network said to be built on behalf of Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei and other regime insiders, spanning Germany, the UK, Spain, Cyprus and the UAE; plus exchange houses Mohammad Darbani and Partners, Lavasani and Partners, and Mohsen Khandan and Partners, their managing partners and front companies. Together, the Zanjani and Ansari actions are this window's most detailed public mappings of regime financial networks, though neither is officially framed as crackdown accountability.

Source: US Department of State (official record).

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER / ENTITY TRACKER*

22 Jun to 7 Jul 2026. *The GL X arc is the central sanctions story of the window, and it runs opposite to the “relief lasts to Aug. 21” premise*

Following the 17 Jun 2026 Islamabad MOU, OFAC issued Iran General License X on 22 Jun 2026; the broadest Iranian oil-sector relief in over a decade (production, sale, delivery, offloading of Iranian crude/petrochemicals/petroleum products; USD payments to blocked Iranian entities; import into the US). Administration officials tied it to the MOU's 60-day negotiating window. It did not survive three weeks: after Iran struck three commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, OFAC revoked GL X on 7 Jul 2026 and issued wind-down-only GL X1 (all activity to cease by 12:01 a.m. EDT, 17 Jul 2026). Iran then formally suspended MOU implementation on 13 Jul 2026, accusing Washington of violating the ceasefire and ruling out a second round of Islamabad-style talks. Net effect: as of 10 August 2026, Iranian-oil sanctions relief has been dead for a month, not “expiring Aug. 21”; that expiration date is moot. Iran formally suspended MOU implementation on 13 July, accusing Washington of violating the ceasefire (see Area 3).

Source: OFAC (Treasury recent-actions log). Corroborating: Reuters, CNN and ABC News MOU-timeline reporting; Norton Rose Fulbright and Thompson Hine client alerts (secondary corroboration, commercial legal analysis, cited only for the wind-down mechanics, not as fact authority).

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER*

17 Jun 2026. *Halkbank's decade-long Iran sanctions-evasion case dismissed*

On 17 Jun 2026 (the same day the Islamabad MOU was signed), Judge Richard Berman (SDNY) granted the DOJ's motion to dismiss with prejudice the criminal case against Turkey's Halkbank, which had been accused of laundering ~\$20B for Iran via a gold-for-gas scheme. A March 2026 deferred-prosecution agreement and a clean Ernst & Young compliance review preceded the dismissal; prosecutors stated on the record that Turkey's diplomatic assistance (Gaza ceasefire/hostage negotiations) was “an important component” of the decision to resolve the matter. No fine, no admission of guilt. This is a notable enforcement rollback running counter to the “maximum pressure” messaging of Economic Fury and is worth a standalone entry in the sanctions/enforcement narrative.

Source: Reuters. Corroborating: Courthouse News Service; Banking Dive.

Routed to: *REPORT*

2 Jun 2026. *Nobitex and three more Iranian crypto exchanges sanctioned at window's opening*

On 2 Jun 2026 OFAC designated Nobitex (Iran's largest crypto exchange, >50% of 2025 Iranian digital-asset inflows), plus Wallex, Bitpin, and Ramzinex, along with Nobitex chairman Amir Hossein Rad, CEO Seyed Ali Khoee, and co-founders from the Kharrazi family (linked to Khamenei's inner circle). Treasury says Nobitex helped Iran's central bank access stablecoins to prop up the rial and moved regime wealth during the internet blackout; Elliptic estimates the four exchanges' combined flows at \$40B+.

Source: Reuters. Corroborating: OFAC/Treasury via Chainalysis and Elliptic write-ups (secondary corroboration, cited only for the flow estimate, not as fact authority).

Routed to: *SANCTIONS TRACKER / ENTITY TRACKER*

11 May 2026 (pre-window; operative throughout). *FinCEN Alert FIN-2026-Alert002 (as specifically requested)*

Issued just before this window opens, FinCEN Alert FIN-2026-Alert002 is the operative red-flag and suspicious-activity-report guidance financial institutions have worked from all summer, so it is summarized here in full. It warns that the IRGC launders illicit oil proceeds and funds weapons procurement through a shadow-banking network of front companies, exchange houses and shadow-fleet vessels, with digital assets as one leg of that network, and lists fourteen red flags across oil smuggling, front companies and shadow banking, facilitators and third-party intermediaries, and digital assets and stablecoins.

Source: FinCEN, Alert FIN-2026-Alert002.

Routed to: *ENTITY TRACKER*

AREA 3: WAR, DIPLOMACY AND THE STRAIT (CONTEXT LANE)

Context lane. Every item below is kept separate from the crackdown figures in Area 1; none of it is counted in any casualty, detention or execution total.

7 entries newest first.

5 to 9 Aug 2026. Strait of Hormuz remains a live, unresolved flashpoint as of 10 August 2026

Disruption/blockade conditions have persisted since the Feb. 28, 2026 war's start and intensified after the MOU's collapse. An Iranian missile struck an ADNOC-linked tanker on 8 Aug 2026 (UAE called it "piracy"; no casualties; ADNOC's 15th vessel hit since the war began, with one fatality and 20 injuries cumulative across those incidents); corroborated by Reuters, Al Jazeera, AP-affiliated wires, Al Arabiya, and UAE/Saudi/Qatari government statements. Iran and Oman reported themselves "very close" to a coordinated shipping-lane arrangement (inbound via a northern Iranian-waters lane, outbound via a southern Omani lane) between 5 and 9 Aug 2026, but Iran conditions any full reopening on the US lifting its naval blockade, ending strikes on Iran-aligned regional actors, and providing compensation; Washington says relief will remain "performance-based." As of August 10, 2026 no agreement has been announced; Iran's IRGC spokesman said Hormuz "will certainly" reopen once the US meets Iran's conditions, while President Trump alternated between describing progress and publicly rebuking Iran the same day. This is the single most consequential open thread from this sweep; see recommendation below. Separately, claims that an Iran-Oman Strait arrangement has been finalized or signed should be disregarded: as of the last confirmed reporting (August 9, 2026) it remained close or in a final stage, not concluded, and a low-credibility Facebook page's 9 August report of a signed Iranian list of demands does not meet this briefing's source standard.

Sources: Reuters; Al Jazeera. Corroborating: Bloomberg; ABC News; UAE, Saudi and Qatari government statements.

War scope; context only, never counted in the Area 1 figures. Routed to: *REPORT*

3 Aug 2026. Executions of Omid Behzad and Pouria Safvat (espionage/Israel)

Two men were hanged at Urmia Central Prison on espionage charges tied to alleged transmission of military-site data to Mossad during the 12-day and 40-day wars. Hengaw states Behzad, a 21-year-old Kurdish student, was arrested in March 2026 days after the outbreak of the 40-day war, and that his lawyer had secured annulment of his death sentence at the Supreme Court on 1 August, two days before he was executed anyway.

Sources: Hengaw; Iran International.

War scope; context only, never counted in the Area 1 figures. Routed to: *CONTEXT ONLY*

22 Jul 2026. Judiciary announces execution wave and warns of "infiltrators"

Iran's judiciary announced several executions in one week, tied to unrest and to a campaign against people accused of "creating divisions" during the war with the United States, alongside arrests, security prosecutions, asset confiscations and televised "confessions." Al Jazeera dates the protests' start to 28 December in central Tehran and the deadly escalation to 8 January, and the US-Israeli war to 28 February. The war-linked prosecutions announced in the same breath are context only; the executions themselves are logged in Area 1.

Source: Al Jazeera. Corroborating: Reuters (on the executions announced).

War scope; context only, never counted in the Area 1 figures. Routed to: *CASUALTY TRACKER / CONTEXT ONLY*

24 Jul 2026. *Human Rights Watch: “Iranians Face Double Peril of Gallows and Bombs”*

HRW recorded Khanaki as the 24th person arbitrarily executed since 18 March in connection with recent protests, and at least 50 people executed over four months on vague national-security charges targeting real or perceived dissidents, several of them 18- and 19-year-olds. HRW explicitly ties intensified repression to “the January 2026 massacres” while also documenting war-related harms.

Source: Human Rights Watch. Corroborating: IranWire (on the count).

War scope; context only, never counted in the Area 1 figures. Routed to: *CONTEXT ONLY*

17 Jun to 13 Jul 2026. *Islamabad MOU signed, then unravels inside a month*

The 14-point US-Iran Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding was signed 17 Jun 2026 (Pakistan-brokered, with Qatar/Saudi/Turkey/Egypt facilitating), formalizing the ceasefire, committing the US to a phased end of its naval blockade and Iran to toll-free Hormuz passage for 60 days, and opening a 60-day negotiating window toward a final deal to be endorsed by a “binding UNSC resolution.” It began fraying within a week (first violation reported 25 Jun) and effectively collapsed 7 to 13 Jul 2026: Iran struck three vessels in Hormuz (7 Jul) prompting the GL X revocation; Trump declared the ceasefire “over”; Iran formally suspended MOU implementation (13 Jul) and ruled out a second Islamabad-style round, accusing Washington of open violations.

Sources: NPR; CNN (MOU text). Corroborating: Reuters; ABC News MOU-breakdown timeline.

War scope; context only, never counted in the Area 1 figures. Routed to: *REPORT*

4 to 26 Jun 2026. *IAEA verification gap remains unresolved*

The IAEA’s 4 Jun 2026 quarterly Safeguards/Verification reports (GOV/2026/33) describe “near-total, ongoing loss of monitoring” of Iranian nuclear sites, an unaccounted-for enriched-uranium stockpile, and continued Iranian non-implementation of the Additional Protocol and modified Code 3.1. DG Grossi said 24/26 Jun 2026 that inspections under MOU paragraph 8 “will indeed take place,” but gave no timeline; Iran’s deputy FM Gharibabadi said the same week that access to attacked/sensitive sites (notably the Isfahan tunnel complex believed to hold 400kg+ of 60%-enriched uranium) would wait for a final deal and actual sanctions relief. No access has been confirmed as of 10 Aug 2026.

Source: IAEA Board Reports (GOV/2026/33). Corroborating: Reuters; ISIS (isis-online.org) analysis.

War scope; context only, never counted in the Area 1 figures. Routed to: *REPORT*

7 to 24 Jul 2026. *Snapback/UNSC deadlock blocks any path to a final deal*

The Security Council remains split on whether the Sept. 2025 E3-triggered “snapback” of UN sanctions is legally valid (US/E3/most members: yes, 1737 Committee reactivated) or whether Resolution 2231 expired in full on 18 Oct 2025 (Russia/China/Iran’s position). This is a live structural problem because the Islamabad MOU’s paragraph 14 requires any final deal to be “endorsed by a binding UNSC resolution”; a vote Russia/China could readily block or contest on procedural grounds. No resolution within this window.

Source: Security Council Report, “Iran, June 2026 Monthly Forecast.” Corroborating: Congressional Research Service (IF11583); Arab News.

War scope; context only, never counted in the Area 1 figures. Routed to: *REPORT*

AREA 4: REGIME DIRECTIVES, INFORMATION SPACE AND OTHER REPRESSION

1 entry.

Data through 6 Jun 2026. *Afghan mass-deportation campaign continues at large scale*

UNHCR's Iran-Afghanistan returns tracker (data through 6 Jun 2026) records roughly 1.26 million Afghan returns from Iran in 2026 to date, ~80% of them deportations rather than voluntary. CHRI and FIDH continue to characterize the scale and manner of the campaign (raids, family separations, denial of aid to women without a male guardian) as potentially meeting the threshold for crimes against humanity. CHRI's widely repeated figure of nearly 600,000 Afghan migrants deported carries a URL date stamp suggesting mid-2025 origin while describing the 2026 post-war crackdown, a dating inconsistency; this briefing uses UNHCR's directly dated count instead and flags the CHRI figure for re-verification before further use.

Source: UNHCR, "Iran-Afghanistan Returns Emergency Response." Corroborating: CHRI; FIDH (on the campaign's scale and manner).

Routed to: *REPORT*

AREA 5: DEVELOPMENTS, 10 AUGUST TO 4 OCTOBER 2026

6 entries newest first. War-scope items remain separate from the Area 1 figures.

30 Sep 2026. More than 40 States at the Human Rights Council: at least 31 protesters executed

A joint statement on the death penalty in Iran, delivered at the Council's 63rd session on behalf of more than 40 States, said that "at least thirty-one protestors have been executed." The same day Hengaw reported the executions of two more prisoners held in protest cases, Ali Hemmati-Sistani and Majid Nikandish; whether they fall inside the 31 is not established.

Sources: Joint statement, HRC63, 30 September 2026 ([norway.no](https://www.norway.no)); Hengaw, 30 September 2026 (hengaw.net).

5 Sep to 1 Oct 2026. Execution counts keep climbing

Iran Human Rights counted at least 532 executions from January to August 2026, 82 of them in August, up from 457 at the close of this briefing's window. HRANA recorded at least 59 executions in September 2026. The monitors count differently, and their figures are not summed.

Sources: Iran Human Rights, 5 September 2026 (iranhr.net/en/articles/9018/); HRANA, "Monthly Report: September 2026," 1 October 2026 (en-hrana.org).

14 Sep 2026. UN Fact-Finding Mission: crimes against humanity

The advance version of the Mission's report to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/63/61) finds that the crackdown's violations amount to crimes against humanity of murder, imprisonment, torture and other inhumane acts (para. 121), and records that the government settled in early February on an official toll of 3,038 deaths, below the 3,117 it announced on 21 January. In the war lane, it finds reasonable grounds to believe the United States committed the war crime of an indiscriminate attack at a school in Minab on 28 February 2026 and at Lamerd (para. 128).

Source: UN Human Rights Council, A/HRC/63/61 (advance unedited version), 14 September 2026.

20 Aug to 1 Oct 2026. US sanctions: 168 new Iran-related SDN entries

OFAC's Recent Actions from 20 August to 1 October added 168 Iran-related entries (42 individuals, 120 entities, 6 vessels). The 24 August action opened Operation Economic Outcast with 76 entries; on 29 September OFAC designated 10 procurement targets serving Iran's Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics; on 1 October Treasury determined under Executive Order 13902 that Iran's automotive and rail sectors are subject to sanctions. The Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026 (Public Law 119-111, signed 18 September), section 201, extended the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to 2031.

Sources: OFAC, Recent Actions, 20 August to 1 October 2026; US Treasury press releases [sb0613](#), [sb0614](#), [sb0637](#), [sb0643](#), [sb0644](#); govinfo.gov (PLAW-119publ111).

13 Aug to 2 Oct 2026. Allied sanctions: Canada lists 15; no new UK, EU or Australian Iran designations

Canada listed 5 targets under the Special Economic Measures (Iran) Regulations on 13 August and 10 more (5 individuals, 5 entities) on 22 September. The UK brought the Iran (Sanctions) (Amendment) Regulations 2026 (S.I. 2026/983) into force on 29 September but added no Iran designations to its consolidated list from 11 August to 2 October. The EU consolidated list showed no new Iran designations from 11 August to 22 September, and Australia made no new Iran listing.

Sources: Global Affairs Canada, SEMA consolidated list; FCDO written ministerial statement, 8 September 2026; OFSI Consolidated List, 2 October 2026; EU Financial Sanctions Files, 22 September 2026; DFAT Consolidated List, 3 October 2026.

31 Aug to 1 Sep 2026. The war resumes

Iran renewed its strikes on 31 August 2026; Iranian authorities reported at least 11 civilian deaths in US strikes on 1 September, 5 of them at a wedding. No primary source has established aggregate tolls for the renewed fighting.

Sources: Stars and Stripes, 9 September 2026; Reuters via The Defense Post, 2 September 2026.

War scope; context only, never counted in the Area 1 figures.

CLOSE

Nothing to report

Two lines of inquiry that this briefing specifically checked and found no new movement on. Their absence is reported because a summary that only shows what it found is not a complete record.

- **No new national parliamentary resolution.** No new national parliamentary resolution addressing the crackdown was located among the sources described in the method note in this window.
- **No new named-perpetrator investigation.** No investigative report newly identifying commanders or unit-level perpetrators for the December 2025 to February 2026 killings was located among the sources described in the method note between 1 July and 10 August. The named judicial figures who remain identifiable in this briefing are Prosecutor Jalal Afaqi and the five EU-designated Revolutionary Court judges in Area 2, which include Judge Mohammad-Reza Amoozad.

Routed updates

Which trackers received items from this briefing. Totals exceed the 36 published dated entries because some items route to more than one tracker.

TRACKER	ITEMS	WHAT IT RECEIVED
CASUALTY TRACKER	17	Executions, detentions, death sentences and casualty statistics feed the Iran Accountability Project casualty/detention tracker.
SANCTIONS TRACKER	9	Designations, general licenses and economic-pressure actions feed the sanctions tracker.
ENTITY TRACKER	9	Named individuals, courts, judges, prosecutors and networks feed the entity/network tracker, including one gap flag (no new named-perpetrator investigation).
CONTEXT ONLY	7	War-scope items and statements without an accompanying legal measure are recorded as context and are not counted in any tracker total, including one gap flag (no new parliamentary resolution).
REPORT	9	Analytical and reference items are logged to the narrative report rather than a structured tracker.

Tiered source register

This register lists publishers cited in this briefing that carry a tiered entry in the Iran Accountability Project's source register. The Norton Rose Fulbright, Thompson Hine and Chainalysis or Elliptic entries are secondary commercial legal or blockchain-analytics material, cited only to corroborate mechanics or magnitude alongside a qualifying official or news source, never as the sole basis for a fact. A small number of outlets named in the body text, including ABC News, Courthouse News Service, Banking Dive, Middle East Eye, the Security Council Report, the Congressional Research Service, Arab News, FIDH and ISIS (isis-online.org), are not separately tabled here. Each appears only as a named corroborator alongside a tiered source above; the Security Council Report citation in Area 3 is used for an undisputed procedural fact about UN Security Council process rather than an atrocity claim.

TIER	PUBLISHER
Tier 1, UN bodies	IAEA
Tier 1, UN bodies	OHCHR / UN News
Tier 1, UN bodies	UNHCR
Tier 2, established human-rights monitors	Amnesty International
Tier 2, established human-rights monitors	CHRI (Center for Human Rights in Iran)
Tier 2, established human-rights monitors	HRANA
Tier 2, established human-rights monitors	Hengaw
Tier 2, established human-rights monitors	Human Rights Watch
Tier 2, established human-rights monitors	Iran Human Rights (Oslo) / IHRNGO
Tier 2, established human-rights monitors	Kurdistan Human Rights Network (KHRN)
Tier 3, official government or intergovernmental record	FinCEN
Tier 3, official government or intergovernmental record	OFAC / U.S. Department of the Treasury
Tier 3, official government or intergovernmental record	U.S. Department of State
Tier 3, official government or intergovernmental record	UK Government (FCDO / Hansard)
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	AP (Associated Press)
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	Al Jazeera
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	BBC
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	CNN
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	Iran International
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	IranWire
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	RFE/RL
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	Reuters
Tier 4, first-hand reputable news	The Guardian
Tier 4-adjacent, indirect access	Al Arabiya English
Tier 4-adjacent, indirect access	Bloomberg
Secondary corroboration (commercial)	Chainalysis and Elliptic (blockchain-analytics write-ups)
Secondary corroboration (commercial)	Norton Rose Fulbright, Thompson Hine and Bracewell (legal analyses)