



Press Statement No.12

14 April 2026

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Trump's Governance and the Decline of the United States

Introduction

Over the past year, the policies of the Trump administration have not only destabilized the international arena but have also accelerated the decline of the United States' global standing. The absence of a coherent grand strategy, frequent shifts in objectives and impractical measures have placed America in a position of "strategic isolation and loneliness."

Key Policies of Trump

1. Trade Wars
 - Introduction of tariffs as the primary instrument of foreign policy.
 - Imposition of heavy tariffs against China, Europe, and Asian allies.
 - Reciprocal measures led to higher import costs and reduced U.S. exports.
2. Threats Against Allies
 - Pressure on NATO to increase defense spending, coupled with threats of U.S. withdrawal.
 - Threats to cut security cooperation with South Korea and Japan.
 - Consequence: erosion of trust among allies and strengthening of alternative partnerships.
3. Venezuela
 - Support for opposition leader and attempts at regime change.
 - Undermining the legitimacy of Venezuela's official government.
 - Result: weakened U.S. credibility across Latin America.
4. Iran
 - Twice entering into direct confrontation with Iran.

- Constantly shifting objectives, from nuclear containment to regional behavior modification, and most recently blocking maritime traffic to and from Iranian ports.
 - Escalating military expenditures without sustainable achievements.
5. Israel and Gaza
- Unconditional support for the regime of Israel in its operations in Gaza.
 - Consequence: deeper U.S. isolation within the United Nations and among Islamic and European countries.
6. Greenland and Cuba
- Unrealistic proposals to purchase or occupy Greenland.
 - Threats against Cuba as a clear example of strategic incoherence.
7. Statistics and Consequences
- U.S. economic growth in 2025 was only 1.2%, down from the decade-long average of 2.5%.
 - U.S. trade deficit in 2026 exceeded \$1.1 trillion, the highest in recent history.
 - Global approval ratings of the U.S., according to Pew surveys, fell below 30% in Europe and under 20% in Latin America.
 - U.S. military expenditures in 2025–2026 surpassed \$900 billion, without yielding strategic gains.

Conclusion

Trump's policies over the past year reflect the absence of a grand strategy, repeated shifts in objectives, and America's growing strategic isolation. Trade wars, unconditional support for the regime of Israel in Gaza, futile interventions in Iran and unrealistic schemes regarding Greenland and Cuba have collectively accelerated the rapid decline of the United States

The Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hong Kong and Macao

