



Asian Mayors Forum

AMF Quarterly

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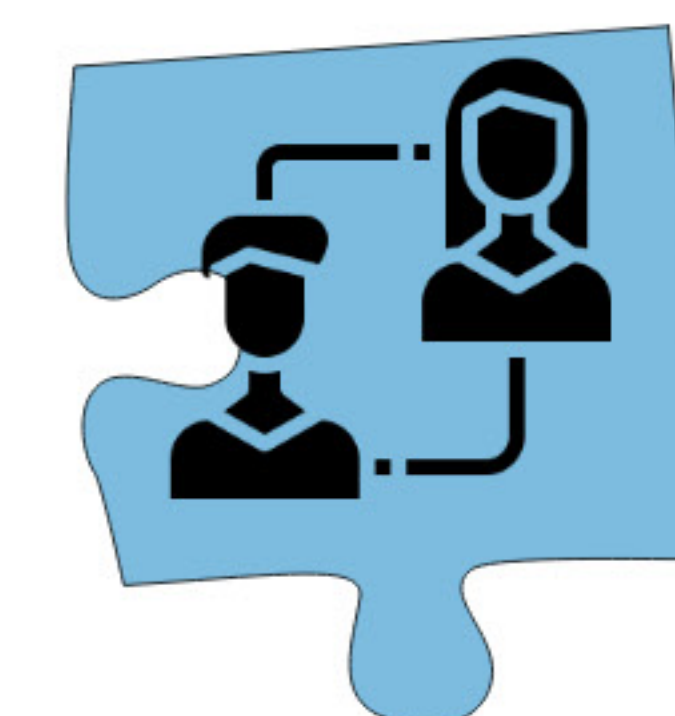
International Affairs



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Interns

& Asian Capitals Activity Report 2025

International Affairs



Official Statement by AMF in Condemnation of US-Israel

Aggression against Iran



Asian Mayors Forum

Asia For Citizens, Integration For Better Life

Secretary General

Date: 12 March 2026

REF: 850/2026

Permanent Secretariat

Add: Vali-e-Asr st, Bagh Ferdos,
Ghalamestan Park, Tehran, Iran

Zip Code: 1961813355

Official Statement by Asian Mayors Forum in Condemnation of US-Israel Aggression against Iran

The Asian Mayors Forum, as an international organization committed to the defense of human rights, justice, and freedom, expresses its extreme revulsion at the initiation of the imposed war and the blatant aggression by the Zionist-American regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran. We strongly condemn these hostile actions, which have targeted the vital infrastructure and urban centers of the proud Iranian nation, resulting in widespread destruction across numerous cities.

This unacceptable assault has not only disrupted the security and peace of our people but has also challenged the collective conscience of the global community.

The great nation of Iran has historically been a steadfast defender of peace, justice, and its legitimate rights, resolutely standing against any form of aggression or threat. At this critical juncture, the Islamic Republic of Iran, drawing upon its faith, national unity, and defense capabilities, is exercising its clear right to self-defense and will resist these hostilities until its very last breath.

Emphasizing the fundamental principles of international law, respect for national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of nations, the Asian Mayors Forum and all Iranian member cities declare their unwavering support for the positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran in defending its sovereignty and its people. We call upon all Muslims and freedom-lovers across Asia and the world to unite and stand in solidarity against such acts of aggression.

It is our fervent hope that through wisdom, resilience, and the pursuit of justice, we will witness the establishment of lasting peace and security in the region and across the globe.

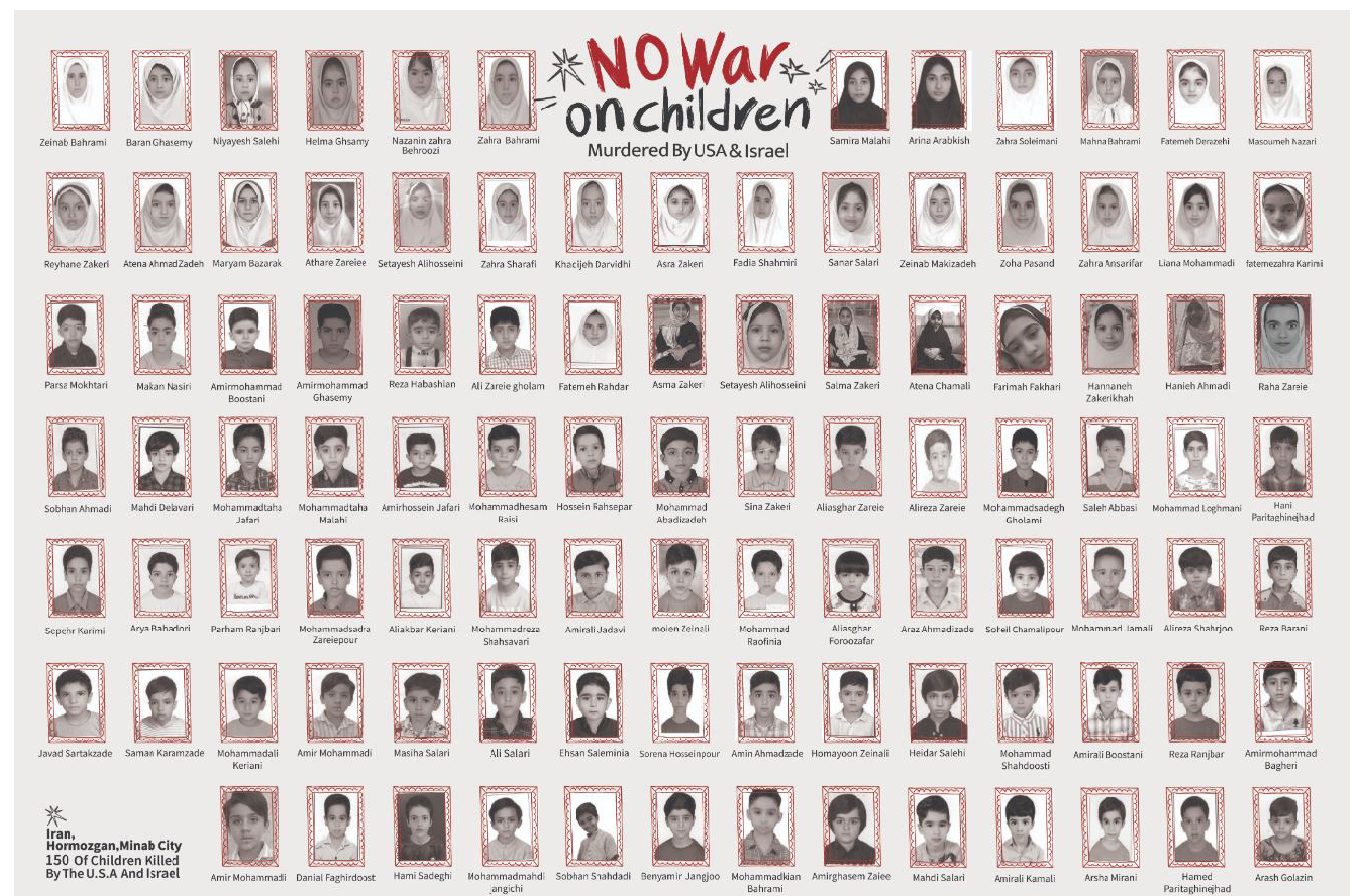
Asian Mayors Forum

March 2026

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The Asian Mayors Forum and all its members strongly condemn the US-Israeli aggression against the Iranian nation.

In an official statement, the Forum has called upon all Islamic communities and freedom-seeking nations to stand beside Iran in face of this blatant violation of international and humanitarian law.



Municipalities and international organizations condemn the US-Israeli war of aggression against Iran



THE BRICS+
ASSOCIATION OF CITIES
AND MUNICIPALITIES

JOINT STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE ESCALATION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

We, representatives of cities and unions of municipalities from BRICS+ countries, express our deep concern over the dangerous escalation of the conflict in the Middle East.

Our cities are home to people of diverse cultures and faiths, and the unfolding events resonate with anxiety in the hearts of our residents.

We strongly condemn aggressive actions that destabilize the region, undermine the foundations of international law, and threaten the sovereignty of states.

The use of military force to settle disputes is unacceptable.

Aggression, by whomever it is committed, brings civilian casualties, destroys infrastructure, and triggers humanitarian crises.

Cities should never become battlegrounds – they are meant for peace and development.

We urge those who have chosen the path of escalation to renounce violence and return to the fold of diplomacy.

The members of our Association are convinced that crisis situations can only be resolved through political and diplomatic means.

Lasting peace and security in the region can only be achieved through inclusive dialogue grounded in mutual respect and the consideration of all parties' legitimate interests.

We offer our sincere condolences to all those affected by these tragic events.

We share the pain of loss and stand in solidarity with everyone whose lives have been touched by this conflict.

metropolis ●

Dear colleagues,

We hope this message finds you safe and as well as possible under the circumstances.

We have been following the recent developments in the region with deep concern, particularly the reports of violence affecting cities and communities across Iran and the wider Middle East since the Israeli and US attacks started on February 28, 2026.

We want to express our sincere concern for you, your families, and your colleagues.

It is distressing to see the impact that conflict is having on everyday lives, and we are especially mindful of the fear, uncertainty, and loss that many people are experiencing in Iran, Lebanon, and beyond. Our thoughts are with all those affected.

At times like these, we are reminded of the importance of maintaining human connection, empathy, and mutual respect across borders and perspectives. Metropolis remains a place of cooperation and shared learning, where cities work together fostering dialogue, strengthening ties and demonstrating tangible solidarity - indispensable contributions to a more peaceful future.

We see that role as particularly valuable at this time of heightened international conflict.

We hope for a swift de-escalation of the situation and for conditions that allow communities across the region to recover and rebuild. Until then, please take care of yourselves, and know that you remain in our thoughts.

We look forward to staying in touch and to continuing our collaboration with you as valued members of our global community.

Sincerely,

Jordi Vaquer
Secretary General



Câmara Municipal de São Leopoldo
Estado do Rio Grande do Sul

MOTION OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE IRANIAN PEOPLE

The Workers' Party (PT) Caucus, a political body within the City Council of the Municipality of São Leopoldo, Brazil, in response to the document entitled "Message of Conscience" sent by the Asian Mayors Forum and signed by its Secretary-General and Vice Mayor of Tehran, Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh Natanzi, hereby makes public this motion of solidarity with the Iranian people:

The United States and Israel have decided to attack Iran, for the second time and in a cowardly manner, while the country was still engaged in a negotiation process.

The pretext, as always, is the alleged threat of Iran producing nuclear weapons (the same weapons these countries already possess), despite the United States having previously claimed that it had destroyed Iran's capacity to produce them following the first attack in June 2025.

The destruction observed in the first days of this war initiated by the U.S./Israel alliance demonstrates an indiscriminate offensive, striking numerous civilian targets and characterizing an aggression against the Iranian people:

- a) 69 schools damaged or destroyed, including one where 168 girls were killed and 96 injured;
- b) 77 healthcare institutions, as well as 17 ambulances and other rescue vehicles, affected;
- c) 13 Red Crescent (Red Cross) centers destroyed;
- d) 2,000 people killed and 12,000 injured;
- e) 16,191 residential buildings and 3,384 commercial buildings damaged or destroyed;
- f) 174 cities and towns affected.



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Câmara Municipal de São Leopoldo
Estado do Rio Grande do Sul

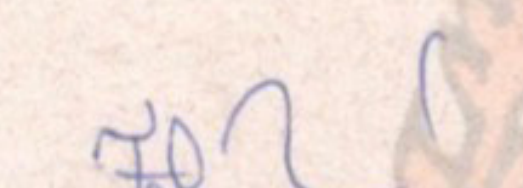
These are initial figures presented in the aforementioned "Message of Conscience" document, which by now have likely increased exponentially.

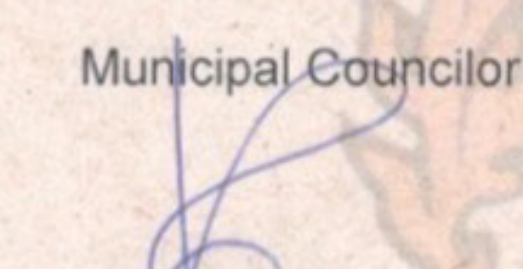
Beyond this particular tragedy affecting the Iranian people, this war is causing severe harm to humanity as a whole, impacting the global economy and generating insecurity for nations in the Middle East.

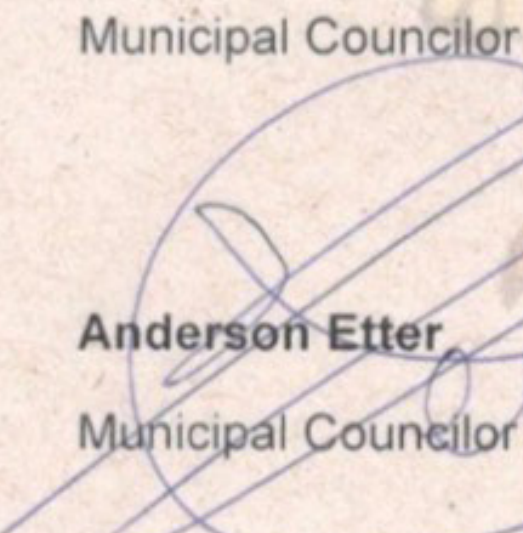
This is the result of the imperialist policies of the United States, which seeks to subordinate other peoples to its interests, and of Israel's Zionist project, which has long abandoned its legitimate right to exist as a state in favor of expansion through the genocide of the Palestinian people and the illegal invasion of neighboring territories.

In light of the above, we express our full solidarity with the Iranian people and join all those who call for an end to hostilities in the Middle East and to the war carried out by the U.S./Israel alliance against Iran.

Signed:


Fábio Bernardo
Municipal Councillor


Karina Camillo
Municipal Councillor


Anderson Etter
Municipal Councillor


Ricardo da Luz
Municipal Councillor



26.03.2026

Dear Yaghoub Houshyar,
Mayor of Tabriz

We would like to express our deep sorrow regarding the recent developments in our region, particularly the attacks directed at Iran. It is our sincere hope that our peoples, who share deep-rooted historical ties, will continue to live in peace and security.

Erzurum and Tabriz are two important cities connected throughout history by cultural, economic, and humanitarian relations. Our shared past, good neighborly relations, and bonds of brotherhood have always kept our communities close.

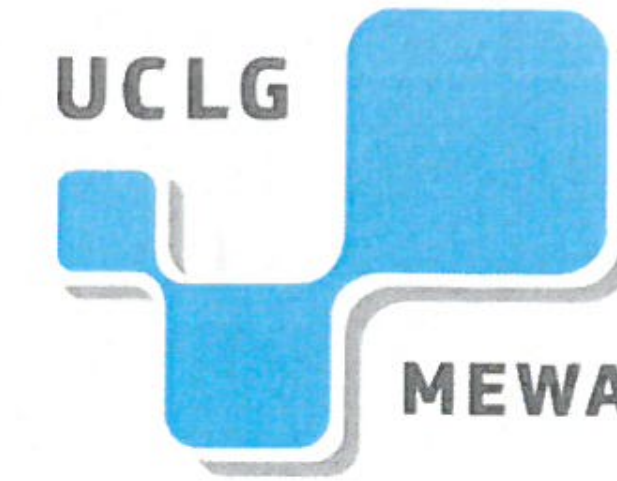
We are closely and with concern following the negative impact of the conflicts on civilians. Our greatest wish is for innocent people not to suffer and for peace and stability to be preserved in the region. We strongly believe that disputes should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy.

As Erzurum Metropolitan Municipality, we would like to express that we stand in solidarity with the people of Iran during these challenging times. We sincerely hope that peace, security, and stability will soon be restored, and we share our feelings of friendship and solidarity.

On this occasion, we extend our heartfelt greetings to the people of Iran and wish for lasting peace in our region.

Respectfully,


Mehmet SEKMEN
Mayor of Erzurum



UNITED CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS MIDDLE EAST AND WEST ASIA SECTION

Date: 12.03.2026

Ref: UCLG-MEWA-2026/122-2

Subject: Letter of Condolence

Dr. Hamidreza GHOLAMZADEH
AMF Secretary General
Tehran, IRAN

Distinguished Secretary General,

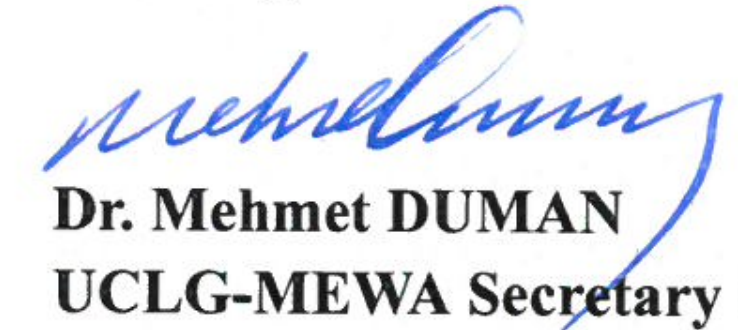
In light of the recent tragic developments, we would like to express our deep concern and solidarity with our community in Iran. UCLG-MEWA strongly condemns the recent bombing of Iranian territories, including attacks on schools, heritage sites, hospitals, residential buildings, and government offices, which have resulted in the tragic loss of innocent lives and injured thousands. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of those who lost their lives and express our deepest sympathies to all citizens affected by these attacks.

We also express our profound sorrow and mourning upon the passing of the Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Hosseini Khamenei. We extend our sincere condolences to his family, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the noble people of Iran. We pray for eternal peace to his soul and for patience, strength, and steadfastness upon the Iranian nation during this period of deep grief.

UCLG-MEWA reaffirms its unwavering solidarity with the people of Iran and underscores the importance of peace, stability, and mutual respect among nations, particularly within our region. We sincerely hope that the resilience and courage of the Iranian nation will guide them through these tragic circumstances and lead toward a future marked by peace, security, and prosperity.

Please accept our highest heartfelt condolences.

Sincerely,


Dr. Mehmet DUMAN
UCLG-MEWA Secretary General



His Excellency Alireza Zakani

Hon'ble Mayor of Tehran

Your Excellency,

I write to you to express my unequivocal solidarity with the people of Tehran at a time of grave suffering and uncertainty.

The ongoing situation has caused deep anguish among ordinary citizens, and there is a palpable sense of grief and outrage here in Srinagar at the toll this conflict is taking on innocent lives. The outpouring of empathy from our people reflects a shared human bond that transcends borders.

The scale and nature of the reported actions raise serious concerns regarding violations of international law and the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. The protection of civilian life must remain paramount, and any such actions that undermine this principle warrant clear and principled condemnation.

Srinagar stands with Tehran in this difficult hour. The suffering of your people is felt deeply here, and my thoughts and prayers are with all those affected.

I hope that a just peace prevails.

March 25th, 2026, Srinagar.

With respect and solidarity,

(Junaid Azim Mattu)
Former Mayor of Srinagar
Jammu & Kashmir, India

АПСНЫ АХӘЫНТҚАРРА

АҚӘА АҚАЛАҚЬ
АХАДАРА



РЕСПУБЛИКА АБХАЗИЯ

АДМИНИСТРАЦИЯ
ГОРОДА СУХУМ

REPUBLIC OF ABKHAZIA SUKHUM ADMINISTRATION

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www.sukhumcity.org

Исх.№ 22/479

“ 06 ” 03 2026г.

Dear Seyed Mohammad Hajjar Hosseini
Director-General of Communications and International Affairs
Qom Municipality
Islamic Republic of Iran

The Administration and citizens of the city of Sukhum follow the evens in the Islamic Republic of Iran with a feeling of deep sympathy and compassion.

We hope for a speedy stabilization of the situation and the establishment of a peaceful life for all citizens of your country. We pray for the well-being of nation.

We wish to express our concern for the welfare of the people of Iran. It is our hope that any difficulties your nation encounters will be overcome and that peace and stability will prevail in every home.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration and our sincere wishes for peace and prosperity to the land of Iran.

Best Regards,
T. M. Agrba

Head of the city of administration of Sukhum



United Cities and Local Governments
Cites et Gouvernements Locaux Unis
Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos
Eurasia Regional Section

8/1 Mislavsky st, Kazan, Russia, 420111; Tel./fax: +7 843 292 09 34, uclg@yandex.ru www.euroasia-uclg.ru
Hes.№ 51 om 16.03.2026

Mr.Hamidreza Gholamzadeh,
Secretary General of
the Asian Mayors Forum

Dear Mr.Hamidreza Gholamzadeh!

On behalf of UCLG-Eurasia, I would like to extend our deepest condolences and sincere sympathy to the people of Iran and to the families who have suffered loss and hardship as a result of the recent attacks carried out by the United States and Israel against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We are profoundly saddened by the tragic loss of life and the destruction that have affected cities and communities across the country, including the capital. In times of such difficulty, our thoughts are with the residents of Iran, all those who continue to work tirelessly to serve and protect their communities under extraordinary circumstances.

Local governments are the closest institutions to the people, and their responsibility becomes even more vital during periods of crisis. We recognize the dedication of the municipalities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its staff who continue to provide essential services, support affected citizens, and maintain the resilience of the city despite the immense challenges posed by the ongoing situation.

UCLG-Eurasia stands in solidarity with the people of Tehran and all Iranian local governments striving to safeguard their communities. We sincerely hope that peace, stability, and security will soon be restored, allowing the people to rebuild, recover, and continue their development in safety and dignity.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration and our heartfelt sympathy during this difficult time.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary General

Rasikh Sagitov

ŞBB | ŞANLIURFA BÜYÜKŞEHİR BELEDİYESİ

BAŞKAN GÜLPINAR'DAN DİPLOMATİK ÇABALARIN GÜÇLENDİRİLMESİ ÇAĞRISI

Şanlıurfa Büyükşehir Belediye Başkanı, Birleşmiş Kentler ve Yerel Yönetimler Ağı Yönetim Kurulu Üyesi ve UCLG MEWA Eşbaşkanı Mehmet Kasım Gülpınar, İran'a yönelik gerçekleştirilen son saldırılar ve bölgede giderek artan gerilim dolayısıyla bir mesaj yayımladı. Başkan Gülpınar mesajında diplomatik çabaların güçlendirilmesi çağrısında bulundu.

Başkan Gülpınar mesajının devamında "İran'a yönelik gerçekleştirilen son saldırılar ve bölgede giderek artan gerilim karşısında derin endişe ve üzüntü duyuyoruz. Bu gelişmelerin, hâlihazırda hassas bir dengede seyreden bölgesel güvenlik ortamını daha da kırılgan hâle getirme riski taşıdığı açıktır.

Bu kritik süreçte tüm tarafları azami itidal göstermeye, tek taraflı adımlardan kaçınmaya ve Birleşmiş Milletler Şartı başta olmak üzere uluslararası hukuka ve evrensel ilkelere riayet etmeye davet ediyoruz. Gerilimi artıracak her türlü eylemin, yalnızca bölge ülkelerine değil, küresel barış ve istikrara da zarar vereceği açıktır.

Türkiye'nin güçlü diplomasi geleneği doğrultusunda, ihtilafların çözümünde yegâne yolun diyalog ve müzakere olduğuna inanıyoruz. Çok taraflı diplomatik mekanizmaların etkin şekilde işletilmesi ve yapıcı temasların sürdürülmesi büyük önem taşımaktadır.

Bölgemizde daha fazla istikrarsızlığa mahal verilmemesi adına sağduyunun hâkim olmasını; tansiyonun düşürülmesine ve kalıcı barışın tesisine yönelik diplomatik çabaların güçlendirilmesini temenni ediyoruz." İfadelerine yer verdi.



X f @ /sanliurfabld | www.sanliurfa.bel.tr



REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
ANKARA METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

The Honorable Alireza Zakani
Mayor of Tehran
Tehran – IRAN

Ankara 17/03/2026 / E-07

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the citizens of Ankara and the Municipal Council of Ankara Metropolitan Municipality, I would like to present my sincere greetings to you and the esteemed citizens of Tehran.

First of all, I would like to inform you that we have been closely following the latest developments on the front lines and your country's struggle from day one. I wholeheartedly hope that these difficult times will pass as soon as possible, and the Iranian people will return to peace and prosperity as soon as possible. Highlighting people of Ankara continuous support for the people of Tehran once again, especially condemn the attack on civilians that caused the deaths of 168 children. We share the sorrow of the friendly and brotherly people of Iran and express our profound sympathy and condolences to the bereaved families and wish a speedy recovery to the injured.

In this regard, while extending our whole-hearted sympathies and condolences to the bereaved families of the victims once again, I wish you and your esteemed city peace, prosperity, and long lasting-success.

Yours Sincerely,

Mansur YAVAŞ
Mayor of Ankara

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تاریخ: 2026/04/08

شماره: 3526

پست:

بسمه تعالی



Statement by Seyed Hassan Ahmadi ,

Secretary of the Technical Committee on Public Participation and Social Responsibility of the Asian Mayors Forum ,

Condemning the Crimes Committed by the United States and International Zionism

Once again, the arrogant and inhumane nature of the United States and the Zionist regime has been revealed to the world. Through their blatant aggression against the sacred soil of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the true face of those who falsely claim to defend human rights has been exposed. These brutal attacks, carried out in violation of all international protocols and the national sovereignty of states, constitute clear examples of war crimes and state-sponsored terrorism.

The targeting of civilian areas, vital national infrastructure—including railways, bridges, and transportation routes—municipal facilities, hospitals, and even academic and educational centers such as universities, research institutes, and schools, including the *Shajareh Tayyebah School in Minab*, reflects the enemy's frustration and fear of the faith, awareness, and progress of the Iranian nation. These actions not only contravene the laws governing warfare but also violate the foundations of urban life and the basic rights of citizens.

I, Seyed Hassan Ahmadi, Secretary of the Technical Committee on Public Participation and Social Responsibility of the Asian Mayors Forum, strongly condemn these heinous crimes. Attacks on urban infrastructure and public institutions are a direct breach of international conventions, and global bodies must not remain silent in the face of such brutality.

Moreover, I firmly believe that the remarkable public presence in the streets represents a clear manifestation of social responsibility during a critical moment in our nation's history. This conscious and responsible participation reflects the people's commitment to the future of their country and their determination to defend its legitimacy against aggressors.

Undoubtedly, this exemplary form of social participation demonstrates national unity, a deep understanding of current circumstances, and a profound sense of responsibility toward the nation and its future.

In conclusion, I extend my sincere gratitude to the esteemed member cities of the Asian Mayors Forum that have condemned the American-Zionist aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran. I also express my appreciation to the noble people of Iran for their heroic, vigilant, and steadfast presence—guided by the Leader's directives—whose forty days of resistance in the streets led to the triumph of truth over falsehood .

ساری : بلوار آزادی میدان شهید قاسمی تلفن : ۳۳۵۱۶۰۰۰-۲ فاکس : ۳۳۵۱۶۰۷۰ کد پستی : ۴۸۱۴۸-۹۶۶۴۶

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تاریخ: 2026/04/08

شماره: 3526

پست:

بسمه تعالی



You, the insightful people of Iran, have once again shown that you will never hesitate in supporting the Islamic Republic and denouncing the falsehoods of the United States and the Zionist regime. This national solidarity remains the strongest response to the enemy's rhetoric and a firm guarantee of the security and strength of this nation.

Seyed Hassan Ahmadi

Secretary of the Technical Committee on Public Participation and
Social Responsibility of the Asian Mayors Forum

امضاء

ساری : بلوار آزادی میدان شهید قاسمی تلفن : ۳۳۵۱۶۰۰۰-۲ فاکس : ۳۳۵۱۶۰۷۰ کد پستی : ۴۸۱۴۸-۹۶۶۴۶

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Webinar on “Leading Women in Science and the Future of Public Decision-making”

The webinar “Leading Women in Science and the Future of Public Decision-making” was held in collaboration with DiploHouse, on 25 February 2026.

During the session, attended by experts and specialists — including Ladan Ranjbar AMF Coordinator of Women, Youth, Family Network; Fauzia Viqar, Pakistan’s Federal Ombudsman for Protection Against Harassment of Women at Workplace; Fatemeh Ghasempour, Advisor to the Mayor of Tehran on Social Affairs; and Garineh Keshishyan Siraki, Associate Professor of Political Science & International Relations at Azad University the role of women in public policymaking was discussed.

The importance of relying on science and knowledge in the field of policymaking, creating the necessary platforms for women’s active participation in this sphere, and advancing inclusive decision-making at local and international levels were among the key topics addressed during the webinar.

Member Cities



AMF Proposes Ramsar to Host Coastal Cities Working Group

The AMF Secretary General has hosted the Mayor of Ramsar, Mr. Mostafa Goljari-Moghadam, and his accompanying delegation on January 7. During the meeting, Hamidreza Gholamzadeh pointed to the shared areas of cooperation at the national and international levels, introduced the Forum's specialized-committees and working groups, and proposed that Ramsar host the International Working Group on Coastal and Port Cities. The Mayor of Ramsar welcomed the proposal and emphasized the importance of expanding interactions with the Forum and its Asian member cities in various fields of urban management.



New Member!

AMF is pleased to welcome Qom as a new member. Situated in central Iran, Qom is a city of deep spiritual and cultural importance, known worldwide as a center of religious learning and pilgrimage. With its rich heritage, vibrant urban life, and enduring influence beyond its borders, Qom holds a distinctive place in the region.

AMF looks forward to collaborating with Qom to support sustainable urban development, strengthen city-to-city cooperation, and protect its unique cultural and social assets for a resilient future.



Interns



AMF Closes 8th Internship, Opens 9th Cohort

The AMF Secretariat today hosted the closing ceremony of its 8th Internship Program while welcoming the 9th cohort of interns.

At the event, Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, AMF Secretary General, and Alireza Hedayatpour, Deputy for Cultural and NGO Cooperation at the Center for Public Diplomacy of Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, emphasized the vital role of youth in urban diplomacy and regional development.

The ceremony also highlighted the achievements of the 8th internship period, including the successful hosting of the Tehran Urban Summit 2025.

International certificates and commemorative gifts were presented to the interns, while the 9th internship officially began with a focus on youth empowerment and urban experience exchange.



AMF Holds First Internship Workshop on Organizational Behavior



The first workshop of AMF's new internship program was held under the theme of "Organizational Behavior." The session explored topics such as personality recognition and behavioral types, emotional intelligence, conflict management, teamwork, organizational culture and structure, and indicators of professional conduct in the workplace. The importance of behavioral maturity, effective interaction, and the role of leadership in achieving organizational success were also emphasized in the session. The workshop is aimed at enhancing the individual and organizational skills of the new group of interns and empowering human capital to play a professional role in the field of urban management.

AMF Interns Produce and Present Video Clips

As part of AMF training programs, the interns took their first practical step by producing and presenting video clips on Forum's activities.

During the session, the works were screened and their strengths and pitfalls were reviewed. Discussions also focused on teamwork dynamics and the overall production process.

The program was held as a hands-on component of the training course, providing a valuable opportunity to strengthen participants' communication skills, teamwork, and professional capabilities.



Asian Capitals Activity Report 2025

General Introduction of Asian Capitals

Last year, for the first time, the Secretariat of the Asian Mayors Forum introduced a framework under the title of “Asian Capitals” across three domains: urban tourism, environment, and culture. Within this framework, three cities: Hamedan and Shiraz from Iran, and Ghobeiry from Lebanon, have succeeded in receiving the titles of Asian Capitals in the aforementioned three areas of urban governance for the year 2024.

This initiative seeks innovative, knowledge-based ideas concerning the environmental, cultural, and tourism dimensions of Asian cities.

Among the essential justifications for this initiative, based on the permanent slogan of the Forum “Asia for Citizens: Convergence for a Better Life,” are creating a platform for the mobility and activity of cities, addressing the most significant challenges facing cities in the aforementioned fields, and increasing cooperation to improve the living conditions of citizens.

Environment

Cities experience greater dynamism when intelligent urban growth and development consider the well-being of human life across various dimensions. Therefore, considering humans as the focal point of urban development, the importance of their quality of life becomes increasingly evident. Indeed, one of the primary objectives of urban planning is to create a high-quality urban living environment, which can be achieved through the implementation of smart growth indicators.

Quality of life refers to the capacity of the environment to provide for and respond to the material and spiritual needs of individuals within a society. As such, one of the most important goals of urban planners and managers is to enhance the quality of life in cities and to increase the level of satisfaction among citizens.

The criteria used to assess the state of urban environmental quality include indicators such as greenery, land surface temperature, air pollution, and noise pollution.

Urban Tourism

Urban tourism development is one of the most important industries for sustainable development and a major activity of city executive management in the present era. Urban tourism with a sustainable development approach can boost the economy and businesses, attract investment, and so on

Culture

Urban culture shapes the urban environment and is in turn influenced by it. Therefore, all actions carried out within a city bear a meaningful relationship with that city’s culture, which can also play a role in enhancing the quality of life and the satisfaction of its citizens.

Isfahan: Asian Capital of Tourism 2025

Section 1: Introduction

Location: Heart of the Central Plateau of Iran

Population: Approximately 2 million people

Area: Approximately 550 square kilometers

Ranking: Third most populous city in Iran | Ninth largest city in Western Asia

Section 2: A Treasure of History and World Heritage

Three UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

Naqsh-e Jahan Square (inscribed 1979)

Jameh Mosque of Isfahan (inscribed 2012)

Chehel Sotoun Garden (inscribed 2011)

"Isfahan is not merely a historical city; it is a living museum."

Section 3: Capital of Iranian Handicrafts

Numerous active handicraft disciplines

A bridge between culture and economy, engaging thousands of artisans in small and large workshops

Section 4: Modern Isfahan and Events

International Festival of Films for Children and Young Adults

Music and theater events

Tourism and cultural industries exhibitions

Urban diplomacy and cultural exchange

"This is not only history; here, life is in full flow."

Section 5: Performance Report for the Capital Year 2025

1. Key Actions (Umbrellas)

Secretariat: Established at the Historical Ezhei House

Strategic Council: Participation of elites and managers

Policy Communication: Engagement with tourism stakeholders

Documentation: Recording experiences for the future

2. Categorization of Events

International Introduction: Documentary films, specialized maps

Domestic Promotion: Special programs for children and citizens

International Events: Film festival, Museum Day

Specialized Tours: For journalists and artists

Section 6: Sustainable Development (A Look to the Future)

Projects:

Water resource management

Development of green spaces

Renewable energy

Urban environmental education

Isfahan: Asian Capital of Tourism 2025

Section 7: Message from the Mayor

"Recognize Isfahan not only as a travel destination but as a cultural and economic partner for building the future of Asian cities."

"This designation is an opportunity for synergy and shared experience among urban managers on the path to sustainable tourism development. Tourism is a force for peace and friendship among nations."



Kermanshah: Asian Capital of Culture 2025

Section 1: Introduction and Cultural Background of Kermanshah

Event Title: Kermanshah, Cultural Capital of Asian Cities 2025

Proposed Slogan: Ancient Culture, Modern Diplomacy

Civilizational Background: Kermanshah Province boasts over 4,200 historical artifacts from various eras.

Cultural Distinction: Possession of a rich culture, diversity of ethnic groups, and unique customs and traditions.

Section 2: Global Standing and Event Objectives

Kermanshah: From UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy to Cultural Capital of Asia

Selected from among 100 Asian cities to receive this title.

Previously registered as a Creative City of Gastronomy within the UNESCO Creative Cities Network.

Key Objectives: Introducing Kermanshah to the world, establishing cultural diplomacy, attracting tourists, and fostering synergy among ethnic groups and professional guilds.

An Unparalleled Opportunity: After many years, the chance to introduce Kermanshah to the people of the world has been made possible.

Section 3: Cultural and Artistic Features

A Treasury of Cultures and Ethnic Groups

1. Tangible and Intangible Heritage

Historical Artifacts: Over 4,200 artifacts from various eras, including Taq-e Bostan, Bisotun, and the Anahita Temple.

Cultural Diversity: Coexistence of various ethnic groups with diverse customs and traditions.

Gastronomy: Registered as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy, offering an unparalleled capacity for traditional cuisine.

2. Cultural and Artistic Events

International Painting Competition "Seasons": Held in partnership with the cities of Foshan and Shunde in China. A total of 31 works were submitted, and 21 individuals were named as top winners. The secretariat of the competition is the Balut Gallery, in collaboration with the Cultural, Social, and Sports Organization of the Kermanshah Municipality.

Section 4: Sustainable Development and a Culture-Centered Urban Vision

Culture as the Driving Engine of Sustainable Development in Kermanshah

Community Events and Citizen Participation

Celebratory Ceremony held in honor of Kermanshah's selection as the Cultural Capital

Location: Eastern Park of Kermanshah

Attendees: Directors of the Asian Mayors Forum and thousands of citizens of Kermanshah Entertainment Programs for the general public

Kermanshah: Asian Capital of Culture 2025

Recognition of Exemplary Citizens

Taxi and bus drivers, emergency medical technicians, Red Crescent rescuers, firefighters, and police officers

Recognition of Artistic Figures

Attendance and honoring of actors from the popular TV series “Noon_khe” (aimed at linking culture and media)

Symbols and Commemorative Items

Unveiling of a commemorative stamp for “Kermanshah, Cultural Capital of Asian Cities.”

Section 5: Special Report – Year of the Capital: Key Actions

1. Main Conference of the Cultural Capital

Duration: 3 days

Host: Kermanshah Municipality

2. International Guests and Participants

Ambassadors of Malaysia, Brunei, and Bangladesh

Cultural attaché of Bangladesh, Chargé d'affaires of Sri Lanka, Consul General of Mongolia

Cultural attaché and Director of the Technical and Vocational School from Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Deputy Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)

Project Management Director, Tourism Director, Secretary-General, and accompanying delegation of the Asian Mayors Forum

Deputy of Foreign Relations, Head of Associations and Clubs Affairs, Head of the Social and Human Sciences Department at UNESCO, Head of the Cultural and Social Commission Head of the Research Center, Cultural Deputy of Isfahan Municipality

3. Side Events of the Conference

Meetings with senior provincial officials of Kermanshah

Meetings and consultations with the Mayor of Kermanshah

Visits to historical and tourist sites in Kermanshah, including Taq-e Bostan, Bisotun, and others

4. Receipt of Certificate

Official presentation of the Cultural Capital certificate to Kermanshah during the ceremony

Section 6: Revisiting Urban Systems, Benchmarking, and Legislation

Cultural Diplomacy as a Bridge to Sustainable Cooperation

Research and Diplomatic Actions:

Direct consultations with ambassadors and representatives of Asian countries

Exchange of experiences with Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in the field of technical and vocational schools

Collaboration with international institutions: Asian Mayors Forum, UNESCO, ECO

Utilization of cultural capacities for the development of tourism and urban economy

Kermanshah: Asian Capital of Culture 2025

Section 7: Information Dissemination, Branding, and the Message to the World

The voice of Kermanshah has resounded across Asia.

Communication Products and Tools:

Commemorative Stamp exclusively issued for “Kermanshah, Cultural Capital of Asian Cities” (unveiled during the main ceremony)

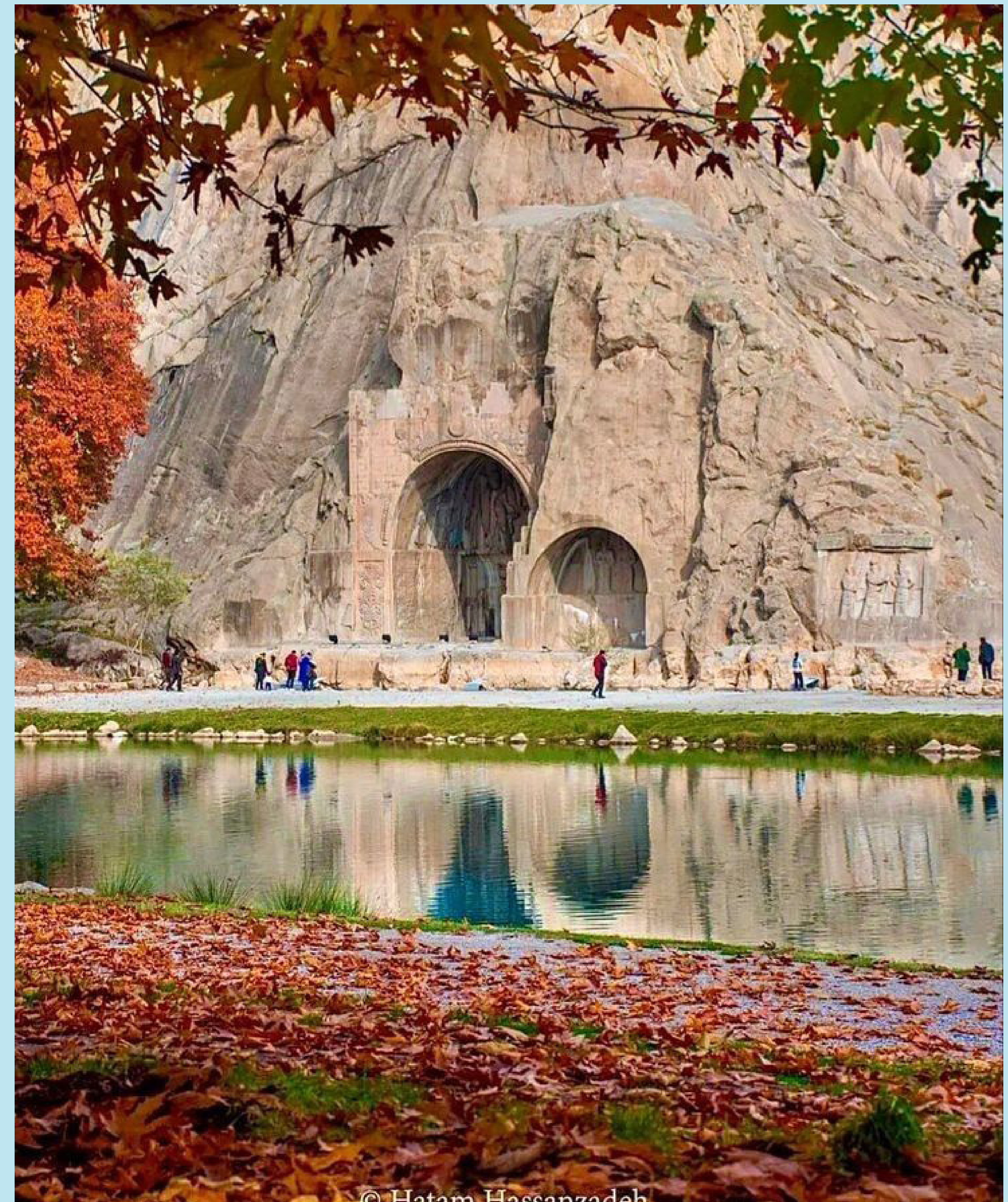
Extensive media coverage of the presence of actors from the TV series Noon (to engage the general public)

Production of visual content documenting the conference, the celebratory ceremony, and the visits of foreign guests

News dissemination through domestic and international media outlets

Message from the Mayor of Kermanshah, Dr. Norouzi, regarding the historic opportunity ahead and an invitation to all guilds, artists, and citizens to cooperate:

“After many years, Kermanshah has been granted the opportunity to introduce itself to the world. This significant achievement can only be realized through the collective empathy and collaboration of all the people of Kermanshah including guilds, artists, poets, and all those involved in culture and the arts.”



Tabriz: Asian Capital of Environment 2025

Section 1: Introduction and Background of the Event

Event Title: Tabriz, Environment Capital of Asian Cities 2025

Proposed Slogan: Environment, Urban Diplomacy, a Sustainable Future

Secretariat Launch Date: April 5, 2025

A Brief Overview of Tabriz: A city with a rich historical heritage in northwestern Iran, which today, with a modern approach, has become a standard-bearer for sustainable development and environmental protection in the ancient continent.

Section 2: Global Standing and Event Objectives Tabriz: Asia's Green Model

The first city in Iran to receive the title of Asian Capital of Environment

Setting a precedent for regional cooperation in the field of the environment

Key Objectives:

Promotion of green technologies, pollution reduction, and enhancement of environmental diplomacy

Leveraging Previous Experience:

Utilizing the capacities of "Tabriz 2018 – Capital of Tourism for Islamic Countries"

Section 3: Scientific Features and Academic Participation

The University and the City: Bridging Knowledge and Action for the Environment

1. International Congress on "Green City, Green University"

Date: December 2–3, 2025

Scientific Partner: University of Tabriz

Achievement: 663 papers submitted to the congress secretariat

Main Thematic Axes (8 Axes):

Water management, wastewater, and recycling

Air, soil, and water pollution

Biodiversity and urban ecosystems

Education, cultural development, and public participation

Environmental economics and governance

Resilience and sustainable development

Emerging technologies and artificial intelligence

Environmental law and intergenerational justice

2. Pre-Events and Idea Generation

Two pre-events under the title "Green Discourse" at Tabriz universities

National call for top environmental ideas: 175 registered ideas

Tabriz: Asian Capital of Environment 2025

Section 4: Sustainable Development and an Environment-Centered Urban Vision

Practical Actions: A Green Transformation on the Path to Development

Clean and Intelligent Transportation

Fivefold increase in passenger transportation capacity over three years

Renovation of 2,000 taxis – equivalent to the total of all metropolitan areas in the country

Procurement of 500 new buses

Installation of 2,000 traffic control cameras

Launch of electric scooter stations in various districts of the city

Waste Management and Circular Economy

50% reduction in landfill waste by the end of 2025

Smartification of waste management and compost production

Launch of a recycling line for end-of-life tires

Green Space and Urban Environment

Development of fruit orchards and garden lands

Excavation of 1,000 absorption wells

Replacement of 50,000 tons of annual salt spreading with de-icing liquid spray

Mandating industries to establish green belts around their premises

Use of treated wastewater from treatment plants for green space irrigation

Smart and Digital City

Expansion of the fiber optic network

Launch of the “Tabriz Up” application for smart transportation services

Operation of the “Sara 10” system for smart urban development services

Holding an exhibition of environmental innovations and start-ups on the sidelines of the congress

Implementation of pilot projects using artificial trees (air purification)

Section 5: Special Report – Year of the Capital (Key Actions)

1. Management Structure and Planning

Strategic Council: Chaired by the Mayor, with membership from 15 key institutions (City Council, Environmental Protection Organization, State Broadcasting Corporation, universities, Chamber of Commerce, etc.)

Central Secretariat: Located within the Deputy for Coordination of Districts of the Tabriz Municipality

Specialized Committees: Five committees – Executive; Scientific; Cultural and Social; Information and International Affairs; Industry, Mining, and Trade

2. Meeting Performance Statistics (Counter format)

22 meetings of the Strategic Council

Tabriz: Asian Capital of Environment 2025

45+ expert and executive meetings

6 “Knowledge-Based Wednesdays” sessions – attracting 30 innovative ideas and start-ups

3. Events and Exhibitions

Holding an exhibition of environmental innovations and start-ups on the sidelines of the congress

Implementation of pilot projects using artificial trees (air purification)

Section 6: Revisiting Urban Systems (Laws and Standards) A View to the World: Formulating New Urban Standards

Research and Legislative Actions:

Comparative study of laws and standards of Tokyo, Seoul, Dubai, and Istanbul

Drafting of environmental criteria for urban development, including sustainable architecture, green facades, energy consumption reduction, and urban lighting – to be submitted to the City Council
Preparation of an operational plan for reducing pollution from power plants (in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Organization and the Regional Electric Company), with the aim of eliminating heavy fuel oil (Mazut)

Section 7: Information Dissemination and Branding (Message to the World)

Tabriz’s Voice in the Language of the World

Communication Products and Tools:

Design and registration of the official event logo, displayed on buses, billboards, and promotional items

Launch of an official four-language website: Tabriz eco-urban (tabrizcourban.tabriz.ir) featuring news, scientific articles, performance reports

Production of media content: teasers, podcasts, reports, and various videos (broadcast on provincial networks and digital media)



Antalya: Asian Capital of Environment 2025

Section 1: Introduction

Location: Southern coast of Turkey, on the Mediterranean Sea

Population: Over 2 million people

Area: Approximately 1,417 square kilometers

Distinctive Feature: One of the most important centers for tourism and agriculture in the region

Section 2: Climate Change Challenges and Solutions

Combating climate change is the primary priority of urban management.

Integrated management of urban water resources

Developing solutions to protect plants from environmental damage

Preventing drought through the use of treated wastewater in agricultural irrigation

"Antalya is not merely a tourist destination; it is a model for sustainable resource management."

Section 3: Green Economy and Recycling Cycle

Turning Waste into Wealth: A Smart Approach

Energy generation from solid waste recycling (fermentation)

Production of natural fertilizer from recycled materials

Prevention of recyclable material waste through source separation of waste

Establishment of 4 biogas plants for clean energy production

Section 4: Renewable Energy and Infrastructure

Moving Toward a Clean and Sustainable Future

Creation of 22 solar power plants and provision of free energy for farmers

Establishment of the first public building that produces solar energy

Construction of a power plant generating energy from waste heat

Production of clean energy for 145,000 households

Section 5: International Awards and Certifications

Licensing for environmentally friendly companies

A unique developed credit card in Turkey

Obtaining TSE and ISO 50001 certification

Receiving 28 international environmental awards

Coastal clean-up and acquisition of 233 international Blue Flags along 630 kilometers of coastline

Section 6: Sustainable Development and a Vision for the Future (2026)

Planting approximately 3 million seeds to expand green areas

Reducing carbon emissions through investment in electric transportation and smart intersections

Strengthening citizen education through innovation centers and practical workshops

Hosting the COP31 international conference in 2026

Antalya: Asian Capital of Environment 2025

Section 7: Message from Urban Management

"Recognize Antalya not only as a leisure destination but as a pioneer in environmental protection and sustainable development."

"These achievements are the result of a commitment to nature and efforts to build a healthy future for generations to come."

"The environment is our shared heritage."



• About us

Asian Mayors Forum (AMF) is an international non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to developing friendly relations and technical, economic, and cultural cooperation between mayors and city managers in Asia. The main goal of AMF is strengthening the integration of Asian cities to have a better life for their citizens through City Diplomacy, the exchange of knowledge and experiences, and specialized cooperation. The motto of the Forum is Asia for Citizens, Integration for a Better Life. Over a decade of its activity, AMF has been influential in managing local and urban affairs in Asia. While paving the way for the exchange of information and experiences between mayors and city managers, it has held successful meetings, including six rounds of the General Assembly plus specialized conferences and nine rounds of the Executive Board meeting in Tehran, Istanbul, Bangkok, Haiku, Gaziantep and Dushanbe. As an active urban network in Asia, in line with its defined mission and tasks, AMF launches various annual programs with the participation of world-renowned specialized organizations, such as UN-Habitat, at local and international levels dedicated to cities and urban startups.



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