

*In the name of God*  
UNIVERSITY OF JUDICIAL  
SCIENCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



توقضائیه  
دانشگاه علوم قضایی و خدمات اداری

**Date:** 30 March 2026

**Ref No:**

**Attachements:** \_\_\_\_\_

**To:** The Presidents and Chancellors of Universities and Judicial Training Institutions  
Worldwide

**From:** The President of the University of Judicial Sciences and Administrative Services of  
the Islamic Republic of Iran

Dear Sir,

The University of Judicial Sciences and Administrative Services of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as an academic institution whose particular mission is to educate judges and help to develop legal knowledge, considers it necessary — in light of recent developments and with the aim of strengthening scholarly dialogue in the field of international law — to share certain legal observations with the academic community and judicial training institutions around the world.

From the perspective of legal analysis of developments in recent years, it is important to note that at several critical junctures, actions have occurred while diplomatic processes and international negotiations have been underway. This situation raises serious concerns from the standpoint of fundamental principles of international law, particularly the principle of the peaceful settlement of disputes and the principle of good faith in the implementation of international obligations.

In this context, three significant events are worthy of note:

First: The withdrawal of the United States from Iran Nuclear Agreement or the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) which was concluded in 2015 between the Islamic Republic of Iran and several states and was also endorsed by United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231, represents one of the most significant examples of multilateral agreements aimed at the peaceful resolution of nuclear-related disputes. Nevertheless, the administration of Donald Trump withdrew from this agreement—an action that occurred while the diplomatic and monitoring mechanisms of the agreement were still in operation and which was widely criticized by many analysts of international law as inconsistent with the spirit of international commitments and diplomatic efforts.

Second: Escalation of military tensions during negotiations and the occurrence of armed conflicts.



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At another point, while diplomatic efforts to manage disputes were underway, the region witnessed an escalation of military tensions and the occurrence of armed confrontations that resulted in the martyrdom of a number of Iranian higher-ranking military commanders and ordinary citizens. The occurrence of such incidents within the context of political and diplomatic negotiations raises serious questions, from the standpoint of international law, regarding the extent of adherence to the principle of the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Third: Military actions and aggression during subsequent rounds of dialogue

At another stage of political interactions and negotiations, Americans took some aggressive and unscrupulous military actions that resulted in the martyrdom of the Supreme Leader of Iran, a number of officials and military commanders, and innocent citizens, including 168 schoolgirls and some of their teachers in Minab. These events also took place while diplomatic channels remained on the agenda.

In light of this historical context, examining the legal dimensions of recent developments requires attention to the fundamental principles of international law:

1. The principle of the prohibition of the use of force in international relations

According to Article 2 (4) of the Charter of the United Nations, states are obliged to refrain in their international relations from making threats or using force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state. This principle constitutes one of the fundamental pillars of the contemporary international legal order.

2. Conditions for the exercise of the right of self-defence

Pursuant to Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, in the event of an armed attack against a state, the state under attack possesses the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence. In the doctrine of international law and in international judicial practice, the exercise of this right is considered to entail compliance with conditions such as necessity, proportionality, and immediacy.

3. Respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states

The principle of the sovereign equality of states and respect for their territorial integrity constitute fundamental principles of international law, and violations of these principles may have far-reaching consequences for international stability and order.



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#### 4. The definition of aggression in international law

According to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3314 (1974), the use of armed force by a state against the sovereignty or territorial integrity of another state may constitute an act of aggression.

#### 5. The crime of aggression in international criminal law

In international criminal law, the crime of aggression—alongside genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes—is considered one of the most serious international crimes. This crime was defined on the basis of the Kampala Amendments of 2010, which introduced Articles 8 bis, 15 bis, and 15 ter into the Statute of the International Criminal Court, and the Court’s jurisdiction over this crime became active in 2018.

#### 6. Obligations under international humanitarian law

In the event of an armed conflict, the parties involved are obliged to observe the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law, including the principle of distinction between military and civilian objectives, the principle of proportionality, and the principle of precaution in military operations. Accordingly, attacks on educational institutions, hospitals, humanitarian relief centers, facilities affiliated with national Red Crescent and Red Cross societies, as well as cultural and historical heritage sites are prohibited. All of these illegal actions occurred manifestly in the aggression against Iran.

#### 7. International responsibility of states

According to the rules governing the international responsibility of states, as reflected in the International Law Commission’s Draft Articles on Responsibility of States for Internationally Wrongful Acts (2001), the commission of an internationally wrongful act entails the responsibility of the state concerned and gives rise to obligations including the cessation of the unlawful conduct and reparation for damage.

#### 8. The necessity of scholarly dialogue on interpretative disagreements in international law

The academic community of international law can contribute to clarifying certain fundamental issues through joint research and scholarly dialogue, including:

- the theory of pre-emptive and preventive self-defence;
- the theory of peace through power;

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- the scope and conditions for the exercise of the right of self-defence under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter;
- restrictive or expansive interpretations of the concept of pre-emptive self-defence;
- international judicial practice concerning the prohibition of the use of force and the responsibility of states;
- the protection of civilians and of educational and medical institutions in armed conflicts;
- the Responsibility to Protect.

The University of Judicial Sciences and Administrative Services of the Islamic Republic of Iran declares its readiness for academic and research cooperation with universities and judicial training institutions in various countries proposing to hold joint scholarly meetings and programs in which universities and research centers should have active participation and negotiations in the fields of international law and international humanitarian law.

It is hoped that the academic community of the world, through careful and impartial examination of the legal dimensions of these developments, will play an effective role in strengthening the rule of law in international relations and in advancing a shared understanding of the fundamental principles of international law.

**Yours Sincerely,**

**Professor Dr. Farid Mohseni**

**President**

**University of Judicial Sciences and Administrative Services**

**Islamic Republic of Iran**