

IRAN News

Norbert Röttgen, Member of the German parliament and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs expressed his refusal of the sanctions on Iran

Norbert Röttgen, Chairman of the German Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, visited Iran on the weekend. On Sunday, he called for reducing anti-Iran sanctions. During a meeting with Mansour Haqiqatpour, deputy head of Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, he announced that the German parliament is moving in the direction of decreasing sanctions. Röttgen also emphasized the willingness of German companies to take part in Iran's great market, the sooner, the better. He made clear that a resolution of the dispute over the nuclear program of Iran, which would come into effect immediately, would be the basis of the extension of ties between Tehran and Berlin and would also prepare the ground of the presence of German firms in Iran.

Ashton declares that Europe is seeking to expand ties with Iran

Catherine Ashton, EU Foreign Policy Chief, announced on Monday that Europe is seeking to expand its economic and cultural cooperation with Iran. She made the remarks on Monday in a meeting with Rasoul Zargarpour, Isfahan Governor General. Ashton arrived on Sunday night in Isfahan and already visited different places in the famous city. In the meeting she also referred to the negotiations between the P3+3 and Iran and the visits of several European delegations to Iran. Catherine Ashton said that "the recent round of talks should be considered as a sign that the fruitful negotiations will provide more opportunities", according to IRNA. Ashton is the head of a politico-economic delegation and has several meetings with officials of the Islamic Republic.

President Rouhani wants to have constructive ties with Europe

On Sunday, Iran's President Hassan Rouhani expressed the willingness of the Iranian government to establish constructive ties with the European Union and to develop economic collaboration with the countries of the EU. He said this during a meeting with Catherine Ashton, EU Foreign Policy Chief, on the last weekend. Iran sees the visit of and the meeting with Ashton as an evidence of the resolve of the EU to follow a new "approach", Rouhani declared according to Iran Daily.

Japan expresses its interest in Iranian petrochemical sector

Japanese Ambassador to Tehran Koji Haneda made a tour at Ilam petrochemical complex in Western Iran during which he expressed the interest of Japanese firms in this sector of Iranian economy. They are seeking for the opportunities to establish joint ventures with the Iranian petrochemical firms. He also stressed that the government will encourage the Japanese companies to invest more in the sector. Japan sees the Geneva talks in a positive way and believes that the agreements reached during the talks will boost the economic relations between two countries.

Tehran again destination of Austrian Airlines

From today, Austrian Airlines has the Iranian capital Tehran as destination again, after a year break due to the political and economic situation. Five flights per week are planned from Vienna to Tehran and back. Since 1984, Tehran is one of the destinations of the Austrian Airlines, but the flights had to be discontinued in early 2013.

South Korea expands cooperation with Iran

During the meeting with Deputy Head of Trade Development Organization of South Korea Kiman Nam in Tehran on March 9, Mohammad Saeednejad, Managing Director of Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization, expressed Iran's willingness to enhance the cooperation with South Korea in maritime sector by establishing new shipping line agreement. The Managing Directors of main South Korean shipping lines, such as Hyundai, Pan Ocean and Hanjin also attended the meeting and pointed out their readiness to expand the cooperation on ports, sea and shipping lines.

Moreover, starting next week South Korea is going to allow transactions with Iran in the service sector. 11 types of service sector businesses including management consulting and designing will be allowed to perform transactions between two countries.

Rise in Iran-Dubai trade transactions

Despite the US sanctions against Iran, trade transactions between Iran and Dubai have increased by 7.6% in 2013, according to Dubai custom's authorities. The economic relations between Iran and the UAE have been severely hurt by the sanctions, particularly by sanctions against banking sector, and merchandise volume dropped by 31% in 2012. However, the ease in geopolitical tensions in August, 2013, has improved the situation and resulted in an increase of trade volume in 2013.