In the Name of God
Greetings to the guardians of Iran's water, soil, and sky

Caspian International Maritime Law Center (CIMLAC) at the University of Tehran, as a specialized institute in the field of Maritime Law and as part of Iran's academic community, condemns in the strongest terms the "naval blockade" operation declared and enforced by the United States Navy against the Iranian southern ports started from April 13, 2026.

The aforementioned naval blockade—preceded by the aerial bombing of Iranian vessels and maritime installations by the Zionist Israeli regime in the Caspian Sea, carried out with the aim of rendering the U.S. naval blockade of the southern ports more effective—not only violates the most basic moral principles, but also stands in complete contradiction to the United Nations Charter, the principles of Public International Law, Law of Armed Conflicts, and Law of the Sea.

According to Article 3 of Resolution 3314 by the General Assembly of the United Nations regarding the "Definition of Aggression", a naval blockade is a clear and recognized instance of military operation and armed aggression against states, and its imposition without prior authorization from the United Nations' Security Council or in the absence of legitimate self-defense is absolutely prohibited. The United States, in coordination with the Zionist regime, had already—prior to the naval blockade—launched a surprise full-scale military aggression against Iran under the false pretext of preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, in violation of the UN Charter and all recognized international conventions and customs, and at a time when Iran and the United States were engaged in negotiations in Oman. Having failed to achieve its objectives in that initial military aggression, the United States proceeded to impose a naval blockade on Iran, thereby completing an unlawful war it had already begun through the illegitimate act of naval blockade.

Considering that the naval blockade operation was carried out during a two-week truce agreed between the United States and Iran, this naval blockade constitutes a material breach of the agreed truce. Accordingly, Iran enjoys the legal right, in the exercise of legitimate self-defense, to respond appropriately without being bound to observe the ceasefire for the remainder of the two-week period.

While reiterating its condemnation of the naval blockade operation against Iran's southern ports by the United States of America, the Center calls upon all individuals, organizations, associations, and international legal and academic bodies to take every possible measure to condemn this unlawful act.

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