

Demonstration on March 21, 2026

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The Iranian Canadian Congress, a democratically-elected organization defending the rights of Iranian-Canadians and encouraging their participation in Canadian society, condemns our Prime Minister's duplicitous support for the US-Israeli aggression on Iran.

Since the start of these unprovoked attacks, Prime Minister Mark Carney has not once condemned the aggressors and continues to solely condemn Iran for its U.N.-enshrined right to self-defense.

Carney has also remained silent on the "double-tap" bombing that killed over 165 schoolchildren in Minab, and thousands of additional strikes on Iranian civilians and civilian infrastructure.

Following public pressure, on March 10th, Carney clarified that Canada "will never participate" in the US-Israeli offensive against Iran.

Since, Iran has exercised strategic control of the Persian Gulf, closing the Strait of Hormuz to belligerents, and Israel and the US have bombed the Pars Gas field, jointly operated by Iran and Qatar, prompting proportionate response from Iran on other oil and gas infrastructure in the Persian Gulf.

This has been Iran's approach from the beginning: the US and Israel bomb Iran's military leadership and bases? Iran bombs US and Israeli military leadership and bases. The US and Israel bomb oil and gas infrastructure? Iran bombs oil and gas infrastructure.

But not once has Iran bombed a school.

Despite this, on March 19th, in a joint statement with six other of the so-called "middle powers," Carney condemned the "recent attacks by Iran", with no mention of the US-Israeli escalation, expressing "readiness to contribute to appropriate efforts to ensure safe passage through the Strait" of Hormuz.

Prime Minister Carney, I thought you said we would never participate?
It's clear to everyone here that Carney has more concern for the continuation of "business as usual" than for Iranian lives.

Iran's control of the Strait of Hormuz has given us in the West a mere taste of the suffering caused by decades of U.S.-led economic sanctions imposed on the people of Iran, and only when Western capitalists are affected does our government call foul.

This war did not start on February 28th. It started with maximum pressure sanctions—economic warfare—which hinder all aspects of daily life for Iranians. The punishing effects are borne by the Iranian working class, who struggle to put food on the table and access life-saving medical care, let alone get their legitimate grievances met.

The current war is an intensification of this decades-long economic war led by the U.S. and supported by Canada.

We now bear witness to the barbaric conclusion of this economic siege, and our Prime Minister's "regretful support" of the murderous foreign policy of the U.S.

Canadians are dismayed by the economic threats against Canada by the current U.S. president. Yet, the Canadian government repeats the U.S. line on Iran when it comes to sanctions and freezing diplomatic relations.

There is much we can do at home to resist. Stand up for Canada restoring diplomatic relations with Iran. Stand up against sanctions, which hurt working people. Stand up against lies, propaganda, and repression of anti-war voices. Stand up against those who divide us.

Thank you.