

# *Iranian foreign minister says U.S. needs to adapt to new global realities and stop isolating itself*

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Tehran, August 4 (RHC)-- Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif says the U.S. cannot change the fact that global power is shifting in favor of Iran, Russia and China by resorting to sanctions and killing deals, advising Washington to, instead, adapt to the new realities on the world stage and “stop isolating itself.”

The Iranian foreign minister made the comments in two successive tweets on Friday, hours after the U.S. officially withdrew from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty with Russia — a landmark Cold War-era arms control agreement signed between the two sides in 1987.

This came shortly after the U.S. imposed a new set of sanctions against Russia over its alleged role in the poisoning of an ex-spy in the United Kingdom in 2018. On Thursday, U.S. President Donald Trump also announced plans to impose an additional 10% tariff on \$300 billion worth of Chinese imports starting next month as part of an ongoing trade conflict with China.

Washington has likewise abandoned a multilateral deal on Iran’s nuclear program and unleashed harsh economic sanctions against the Islamic Republic.

Zarif said in one of the tweets on Friday that the “US should stop isolating itself & adapt to new global realities. International commerce & power are shifting: neither economic terrorism against China & Iran nor exiting INF Treaty with Russia will reverse that.”

In a follow-up tweet, the top diplomat criticized the US for its anachronistic practice of attempting to contain what it perceives as “Great Powers” — now through sanctions.

Along with the tweet, Zarif provided a screen shot of a Daily Telegraph news item dating back to April 19 about US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo’s appeal to the NATO military alliance for unity against what he called “great power” challenges from Russia, China and Iran.

Pompeo was using the classic concept of great-power competition — which refers to a specific pattern of relations between rival powers in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

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