



Ebrahim Raisi (front-R), the late president of Iran, attends Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on September 17, 2021.

1. Tapping ideal foreign minister

Hossein Amir-Abdollahian had revolutionary and veteran credentials, along with a deep worldview, extensive experience, comprehensive and insightful perspective on developments, and an admirable personality. This left no room for doubt among then-parliamentarians that he was the most suitable choice for foreign minister. His nomination was approved with an overwhelming majority of 270 votes in favor, 10 abstentions, and a mere 6 votes against.

With Amir-Abdollahian's appointment as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the two realms of the "field" and "diplomacy", once distant, reached new heights of cooperation. Amir-Abdollahian's personality traits, such as his consultable nature, intelligence, compassion, self-control, thoughtful expression, humility, and spirit of seeking cooperation with other institutions influencing Iran's foreign policy, helped untangle the domestic knots in the country's foreign policy.

2. Multi-dimensional view on foreign policy

A defining feature of foreign policy during the tenure of the late president Ebrahim Raisi was the shift away from a one-sided approach in the international arena. The disappointing experience of attempting to engage with several Western powers, which yielded little fruit and stagnated the development of ties with other nations, prompted Amir-Abdollahian to first, carefully analyze the recurring policies of the past and then, recognize the need for a new design.

This shift in perspective led to a focus on Africa, East Asia, neighboring regions, and South America. Approval of Iran's membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and BRICS, along with signing Free Trade Agreements with Eurasian countries, during the brief presidency of Raisi, resulted from this broadened perspective.



Martyr President