



"The path traced by President Raisi in foreign policy and economic and diplomatic relations is such that its impact will be lasting and it is unlikely that the (next) government of Iran would abandon these achievements," he stated.

He said the process to elect successors for President Raisi and Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian will likely be influenced by the country's commitment to continue on their path.

"The successors to Raisi and Amirabdollahian will be chosen based on their desire to pick up where the late Iranian president and foreign minister left off."

Katz emphasized the importance of this continuity, especially considering the potential return of former US President Donald Trump to the American presidency later this year.

The stark contrast between the foreign policies of Biden and Trump towards Iran, with the latter's camp exhibiting greater hostility, underscores the importance of maintaining and advancing Iran's military capabilities as a deterrent, Katz asserted.

"There is essentially nothing to choose between Biden and Trump in terms of US foreign policy, but it is a fact that the Trump camp is decidedly more hostile to Iran than even the Biden administration. There have been instances in the past where Biden has warned Israel against attacking Iran. Trump will feel less constrained to prevent Israel from such a course of action," he noted.

"What this means for Iran is the necessity to continue the successful advancements in its military capacity as a warning to a potentially hostile Trump administration. It also translates to Iran's need to continue reinforcing its economic, diplomatic and military ties with China, Russia and Syria and consolidating its improving relations with Saudi Arabia."

The decline of the Israeli regime's global standing, juxtaposed with Iran's ascent, further solidifies Iran's resolve to adhere to the successful policies implemented by Raisi and Amirabdollahian, Katz added.

"What that means in terms of Iran's foreign policy regarding West Asia, is not to change one iota of the foreign, economic and diplomatic policies undertaken by Ebrahim Raisi and Hossein Amirabdollahian. One does not mess with success," he asserted.

Architect of 'Look East' policy

Reflecting on the achievements of Raisi's administration, the Canadian analyst hailed the late president's 'look East' policy, which he said led to a massive expansion of Iran's diplomatic and geopolitical ties.

"A series of economic ententes and development of diplomatic and geopolitical ties have thrust Iran into its position as a strategic pivot for both China and Russia in West Asia," he said.

"Raisi has been the architect of turning Iran from looking to the West for economic and foreign relations to concentrating on Eurasia which is in the process of sup-



Martyr President

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