United Nations - Two of the most powerful countries in the world, the United States and Russia, have expressed unease about a U.N. arms embargo so far imposed on Iran, with Washington saying that the United Nations is not necessarily the right forum for the issue. Moscow, which voted against a U.N. arms embargo on Syria last year, said it believed the United Nations had no mandate to take such a step. Washington, which backed the embargo on Libya, said it was concerned about the embargo's impact on the Syrian conflict.

Western states close their ranks against the Gulf Arab states as they announced plans to dissolve parliaments and offer to resign in protest. They dissolved parliaments in Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates. All told, at least 12 of the 19 states in the Gulf Cooperation Council have announced plans to dissolve their parliaments, with the remaining five states currently considering their options. The Gulf states have previously supported the United States in its efforts to contain Iran, but the U.S. decision to impose a new economic sanctions regime on Iran has sparked outrage in the Gulf region. The Gulf states have been particularly concerned about Iran's nuclear program and its support for proxies across the Middle East. The parliaments' dissolution is seen as a step towards greater unity among Gulf Arab states in the face of Iran's influence.