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Iran Puts Off Meeting With European Union

By THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

BRUSSELS, July 5 — Iran on Wednesday postponed for a day a meeting with the European Union about its nuclear activities, apparently to protest the appearance of a prominent Iranian exile organization before the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France.

Iran's chief nuclear negotiator, Ali Larijani, announced that the meeting would be put off, exasperating Western officials, including Javier Solana, the European Union's foreign policy chief.

"I had made it clear to the Iranians and to Dr. Larijani that we want to proceed rapidly to examine together the ideas I put to him early last month," Mr. Solana said, referring to a package of incentives proposed by six nations to persuade Iran to give up its uranium enrichment program.

But Iran has said it will not issue a formal reply to the international package until around August 22. On Monday, Mr. Larijani was quoted as saying that Iran did not consider a suspension of uranium enrichment to be "a reasonable proposition."

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