Iran says U.S. spreads division, violence instead of fighting COVID-19

Tehran, May 17 (RHC)-- The spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry has lashed out at the United States for pressing ahead with its acts of sabotage while the world is in need of a united fight against the deadly coronavirus outbreak, saying Washington continues to encourage division and violence across the globe.

"From West Asia to Latin America and from UNSC to WHO, the U.S. causes division, steers violence and spoils multilateral institutions," Abbas Mousavi said in a post on his official Twitter account on Saturday. He added that the "U.S. continues to disrupt, distract and sabotage" at a time that all countries in the world need to "get united in solidarity and unified in action against #COVID19 pandemic."

The spokesperson included in his tweet some media reports showing Washington's acts of sabotage in different parts of the world.

The death toll from COVID-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus, in Europe has exceeded 160,000, while its total infections has passed 1.7 million, according to the website.

U.S. President Donald Trump has come under scrutiny for his scattershot approach toward the handling of the coronavirus outbreak, which puts the United States on the top of the list of the worst-affected nations across the globe.

Trump has also been under fire for resorting to a blame game strategy to take the spotlight off the deteriorating situation inside the country. He has accused the World Health Organization -- the UN's health agency -- of mismanaging the spread of the virus and of not acting quickly enough to investigate it when it first emerged in China in December 2019.

The U.S. president has even threatened to cut ties with China over what he calls Beijing's failure to contain coronavirus, in another apparent bid to cover up his administration's mismanagement in response to the pandemic.

The coronavirus, which was publicly reported in the US at the end of February, has now infected some 1,493,442 and killed 88,930 others nationwide.

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