

# Middle East Situation

**Information Cut-Off:** 0800h (GMT), 28 March 2026

## Executive Summary

The Houthis in Yemen have confirmed that they launched a barrage of ballistic missiles against Israel earlier this morning, their first involvement in conflict. Their support for Iran now extends Iranian capability to strike regional oil infrastructure and to close alternative shipping lanes.

Another Iranian nuclear facility has been hit by Israeli air strikes; the Iranian government has warned that it will retaliate against similar facilities in the region.

Israeli forces are continuing their fighting to take control of southern Lebanon.

12 US military personnel have been wounded in a major Iranian strike on a US air base in Saudi Arabia.

## Israel

The Israeli military said this morning that it detected a missile launched from Yemen. Houthi militants subsequently confirmed that it had launched a wave of missiles at Israeli military sites in the south of the West Bank. Houthi leaders had stated yesterday that they would enter the conflict if necessary: Houthi involvement will now increase pressure on Israeli air defences, extend Iranian ability to hit oil infrastructure across the region, and will likely result in disruption to shipping lanes through the Red Sea.

Iranian cluster munitions hit parts of central Tel Aviv this morning, killing at least one civilian.

## Iran

The Israeli military confirmed overnight that it had struck another heavy water nuclear facility, this time in Arak, central Iran. The site had reportedly halted operations under the previous agreement in 2015. The Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant also took another attack last night, despite no damage reported. The Iranian government has issued a statement that it will retaliate against similar facilities in the region.

Iranian state media has reported that Iranian state intelligence has arrested two people accusing of plotting an armed attack in Golestan province; it identified a US/Israel-linked cell that was in possession of rifles and ammunition and was planning to attack security forces.

Five people were killed and seven injured in an Israeli strike on an apartment building in Zanzan.

The University of Science and Technology in Tehran was reportedly attacked this morning.

## United States

The US State Department is reporting that negotiations with Iran are continuing, with Pakistan currently acting as mediator; no details have been forthcoming from US spokesmen. At the same time, the US envoy Steve Witkoff has said that the US is "hopeful" for meetings with Iran "next week".

The Turkish government has told the media that regional governments are coordinating new US-Iran negotiations, due to take place in Pakistan next week.

President Trump has told the media overnight that the US military is "crushing" Iran, while again criticising NATO members for not supporting the effort.

Despite sending as many as 7,000 ground troops to the region, Secretary of State Marco Rubio has said that the US can achieve its objectives in Iran without using them. US officials have told the media that the USS George HW Bush aircraft carrier (which can carry 80 aircraft) will be deploying to the Middle East.

More than 3,000 "No Kings" anti-government protests are planned across the United States today, including in Washington DC, with a new focus expected to be the US attacks on Iran.

## Regional

### **Oman**

Two drones targeted the port at Salalah, injuring one foreign national worker and causing minor damage to a crane.

### **Lebanon**

Israeli strikes continued over southern Lebanon overnight. A paramedic was killed in Kfar Tebnit.

Israeli troops are currently fighting to take control of the towns of Khiam, Tyre (where two Israeli tanks were reportedly hit in the last 24 hours), Qantara and Minara (where direct clashes with Hezbollah have been reported). Two Israeli personnel have been seriously injured.

Israeli strikes again hit southern Beirut, after Israel issued evacuation orders.

### **Saudi Arabia**

12 US military personnel were injured in an Iranian strike on the Prince Sultan Air Base in Al Kharj last night. The attack reportedly consisted of six ballistic missiles and 29 drones.

A ballistic missile heading towards Riyadh was intercepted last night.

### **United Arab Emirates**

Five people were injured by falling debris in the Khalifa Economic Zones from intercepted missiles over Abu Dhabi overnight.

### **Bahrain**

Sirens were activated on several occasions this morning.

### **Syria**

Explosions were heard across Damascus this morning: state media has reported that these were the result of Iranian missiles being intercepted by Israeli air defence in Syria.

## Travel

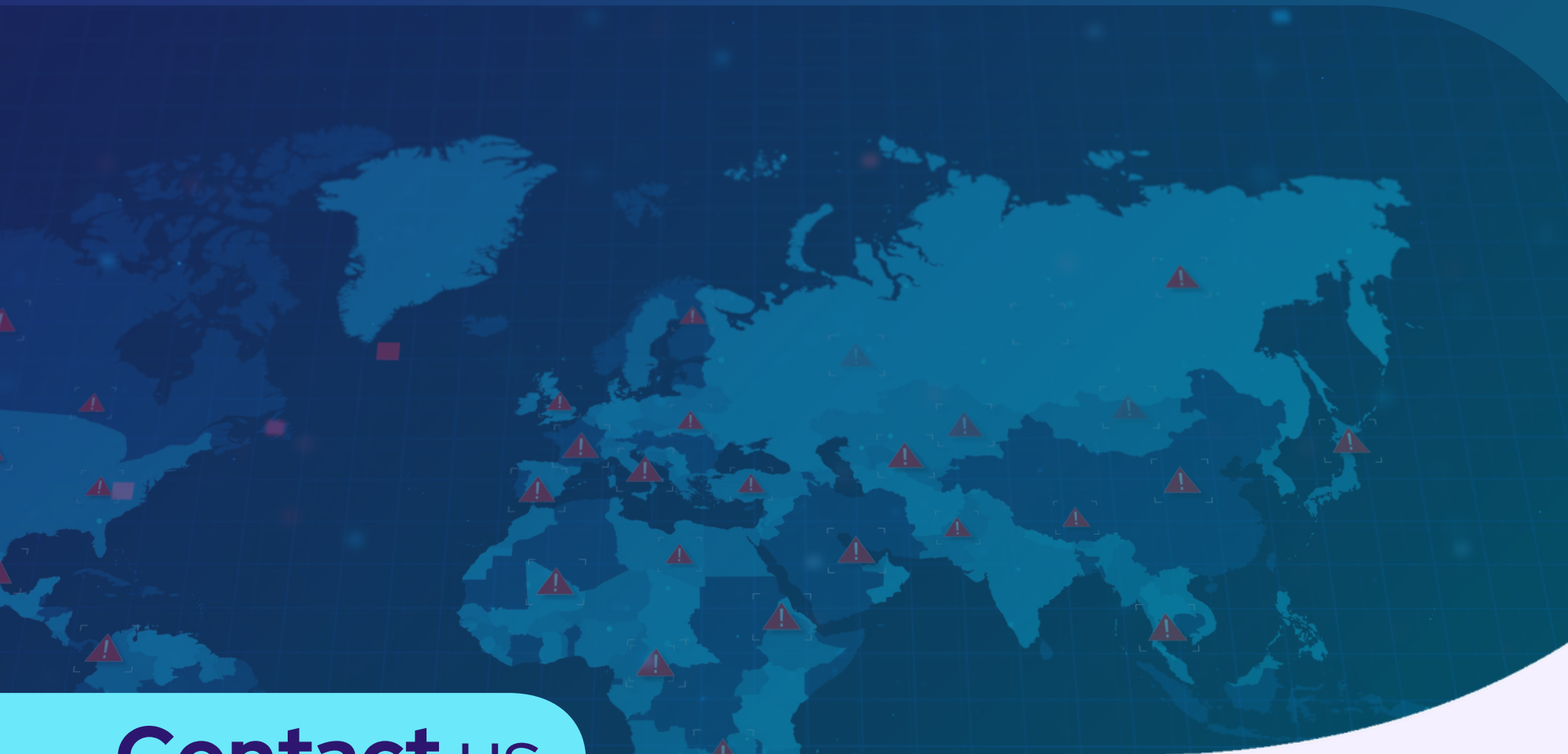
### **Maritime**

The Thai prime minister says he has reached an agreement with Tehran to allow Thailand-flagged oil vessels to pass through the Strait of Hormuz.

The UN has assembled a new taskforce focused on reopening the Strait of Hormuz, with a focus on guaranteeing the delivery of fertiliser to Africa and Asia-Pacific.

## Advice

- Do not travel to the Middle East.
- Avoid all travel within the region unless safe travel can be guaranteed.
- Shelter in place in a secure location.
- Follow instructions from local authorities and any national embassy guidelines.
- Monitor official updates and ensure phones are set up to receive alerts.
- Avoid any demonstrations or gatherings in the region.
- Globally, reconsider travel to any locations with links to Israel or Judaism.
- If you need further support, or wish to discuss options for evacuation, call NGS.



## Contact us

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