

# Middle East Situation

**Information Cut-Off:** 1200h (BST), 08 May 2026

## Executive Summary

Iran and the US exchanged fire yesterday (07 May), but President Trump insists that the ceasefire remains in place. Iran fired drones, missiles and attack boats at US vessels in response to the US damaging an Iranian vessel on Wednesday (06 May). The US responded to Iranian attacks by conducting airstrikes in several areas of Iran, including Tehran.

After airstrikes were reported, Iran accused the UAE of “hostile actions”.

## Iran

The US conducted airstrikes on Iranian military infrastructure yesterday (08 May), including in Qeshm Island, Bandar Abbas and Tehran. This prompted Brent Crude prices to rise to over USD 100. This was in response to Iran launching drones and missiles at US naval vessels earlier that day, which it said was a retaliation for the US firing on an Iranian tanker on Wednesday (06 May).

State-aligned media accused the UAE of “hostile action” after airstrikes were reported in the country yesterday.

The Iranian government announced yesterday that government employees will resume operations from tomorrow (09 May).

## Diplomacy

President Trump told reporters yesterday (07 May) that the ceasefire was intact, despite an exchange of attacks with Iran earlier that day. President Trump threatened additional strikes unless Iran signed the ceasefire deal quickly.

Iran continued to consider the US truce proposals yesterday – a 14-point memorandum followed by a 30-day negotiation period – but Iranian officials speaking anonymously with international media warned disagreements remain over the extraction of highly enriched uranium.

## Israel

Prime Minister Netanyahu announced there is “no immunity” for militants in Lebanon, and warned that militants wrongly assume that they are safe in Beirut. Prime Minister Netanyahu then confirmed attacks in Beirut on Wednesday (06 May) had killed a senior Hezbollah commander.

## Regional

### **Strait of Hormuz**

International media reported this morning (08 May) that several UAE tankers have transited the strait by turning off their transponders.

Iran has implemented a new operational system for the Strait of Hormuz, where vessels must comply with Iran to obtain passage approval. International media reports yesterday released a “Vessel Information Declaration” form that had been sent to vessels in the region. Vessels must provide information on vessel ownership, nationality and crew information before being approved.

### **United Arab Emirates**

Iran fired two ballistic missiles and three drones at the UAE this morning (08 May), leading to three injuries. The location of the attacks is currently unconfirmed.

During a meeting between the presidents of the UAE and Egypt yesterday (07 May), Egypt confirmed it has deployed a fighter jet detachment to the UAE to strengthen “preparedness”. It is unclear when the detachment was deployed, and whether it will engage Iranian projectiles.

### **Lebanon**

The Israeli military has issued evacuation orders for al-Abbassieh this morning (08 May). Israeli artillery fire has been reported in al-Mansouri and Byout el-Saiyad in the southern areas of the country this morning. Israeli infantry operations supported by attack helicopters and artillery were also reported near Byout el-Saiyad.

Israeli airstrikes in the Nabatieh district yesterday evening (07 May) killed at least 11 people and injured 36 others. Air strikes were reported in Harouf, Seddiqin, Blat, Dibbin, Baraashit and Bir al-Salasil. Airstrikes have been reported this morning in Toura, with two fatalities and five others severely injured.

Hezbollah has claimed attacks today (08 May) and yesterday (07 May) on Israeli forces in al-Bayyada, Khiam, and Deir Siryan.

## Advice

- Do not travel to Lebanon, especially south of the Litani River, Dahiyeh in Beirut, and in the Beqaa Valley.
- Reconsider travel to the Middle East, especially Israel, Iran and Iraq, but also the wider Gulf region.
- Remain aware of ongoing tensions, given the possibility of a sudden resumption in fighting.
- Monitor instructions from local authorities and any national embassy guidelines.
- 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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