

High & Extreme Severity Events: US-Israel-Gulf-Iran Conflict (April 15-16, 2026)

ISRAEL

April 16, 2026 (Early Morning Hours)

- Israeli public broadcaster cited unnamed Israeli source stating advanced talks underway for temporary ceasefire in Lebanon.
- Source indicated ceasefire may come into effect in coming days.
- Israel considering US request to temporarily halt fighting in Lebanon conditional on halt in Hezbollah launches toward Israel.
- Unconfirmed report cited Israeli security source stating US seeking to calm situation in Lebanon to focus on negotiations with Iran.
- Temporary ceasefire with Lebanon expected to last approximately one week.
- Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu stated negotiations with Lebanon have two primary objectives: dismantling of Hezbollah and sustainable peace.
- Israel Defense Forces announced striking over 200 Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon during April 15, including operatives and launchers.
- Israel Defense Forces reissued evacuation order for Lebanese territory south of Zahrani River.
- IDF called on Lebanese civilians to evacuate northward and avoid vicinity of Hezbollah operatives and infrastructure.

LEBANON

April 15, 2026

- Hezbollah claimed 65 military operations during April 15, including 40 in southern Lebanon and 25 attacks against Israel.
- Advanced talks underway between US, Israel, and Lebanon for temporary ceasefire agreement.
- Israel Defense Forces struck over 200 Hezbollah targets across southern Lebanon.

IRAN

April 15, 2026

- Commander Ali Abdollahi of Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters issued threat regarding shipping in Red Sea, Persian Gulf, and Gulf of Oman.
- Abdollahi stated continued US blockade actions and efforts to create insecurity for Iranian commercial ships would constitute "prelude to ceasefire violation."
- Commander threatened Iranian armed forces would not allow any exports or imports to continue in Red Sea, Persian Gulf, and Gulf of Oman if US continued blockade.
- Statement marked first direct threat to target commercial shipping since ceasefire came into effect.
- Iranian-flagged cargo vessel attempted to evade US blockade after leaving Bandar Abbas port.
- Vessel exited Strait of Hormuz and transited along Iranian coastline.

- US guided-missile destroyer USS Spruance redirected vessel, which returned to Iran.
- US-sanctioned tanker "Rich Starry" made its way back to Strait of Hormuz after exiting Gulf on April 14.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

April 15, 2026

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned Iraqi Charge d'Affaires and handed over protest note.
- Protest note addressed continued attacks launched by Iran-backed armed factions from Iraqi territory toward UAE despite ceasefire.
- UAE action consistent with broader Gulf response as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain similarly condemned UAV launches from Iraq.
- Convergence in messaging reflects shared threat perception among Gulf states.
- Diplomatic pressure aimed at compelling Iraqi government to take tangible steps to curb militia operations.

IRAQ

April 15, 2026

- Iran-backed armed factions continued launching attacks from Iraqi territory toward Gulf states despite ceasefire in effect.
- Multiple Gulf states issued formal condemnations of UAV launches originating from Iraq.
- Iraqi government facing increased diplomatic pressure from Gulf states to address militia operations.

IRAN (DOMESTIC)

April 14, 2026

- IED blast reported near Basij checkpoint on Imam Khomeini Street in Tehran.
- Two homemade explosives including stun grenades detonated near checkpoint.
- One Basij member and two civilians sustained minor injuries.
- Limited damage reported to several vehicles.
- Iran's state news agency reported incomplete detonation of both devices limited impact.
- Agency claimed attack employed tactics previously used by People's Mojahedin Organization (MeK).
- Incident highlights risk of collateral damage to civilians.
- Security forces likely to increase crackdown on anti-government actors in coming days.



