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Armenia

Karabakh structures don't exist in Armenia, says Speaker

Armenpress, June 5, 2025

There are no structures of Nagorno-Karabakh in Armenia, Speaker of Parliament Alen Simonyan has said. "There are no Karabakh structures in Armenia, and whatever structures there are that can be called as some kind of structures can't be anything more than the level of NGOs. Otherwise I demand the relevant state bodies to give a response because the Republic of Armenia is a state, and there is no other structure, no other structure exists or is recognised by anyone within the state," he said.

<https://armenpress.am/en/article/1221479>

Armenia eyes India's Su-30MKI to counter \$4.6 billion JF-17 deal with Pakistan-Azerbaijan axis

Defence Security Asia, June 9, 2025

In a bold recalibration of its airpower strategy, Armenia is intensifying high-level negotiations with India to acquire the Su-30MKI fighter aircraft, following Azerbaijan's landmark \$4.6 billion deal to procure 40 JF-17 Thunder Block III jets from Pakistan. New aircraft model. Yerevan's renewed focus on India's Su-30MKI—an advanced multirole platform co-developed with Russia—reflects its urgent need to counterbalance Baku's acquisition of next-generation Chinese-Pakistani airpower. Defence analysts believe Armenia views the Su-30MKI as a strategic equaliser against Azerbaijan's JF-

17 Block III fleet, which is expected to significantly shift the regional balance of airpower. India has, over recent years, emerged as a critical defence partner for Armenia, supplying a range of advanced systems including the Akash-1S medium-range surface-to-air missile system and the Pinaka multiple launch rocket system (MLRS).

<https://defencesecurityasia.com/en/armenia-eyes-indias-su-30mki-to-counter-4-6-billion-jf-17-deal-with-pakistan-azerbaijan-axis/>

Armenia condemns Israeli strikes on Iran

Alexander Pracht

Civilnet, June 13, 2025

Armenia's Foreign Ministry condemned Israel's overnight airstrikes on Iran and urged all parties to immediately cease hostilities and respect international law. "The unilateral attack against Iran is a matter of serious concern, particularly given its timing on the eve of a new round of negotiations, which now face considerable risks," the ministry said in a statement. Yerevan warned that such actions could endanger both regional stability and global peace. The statement followed a series of Israeli airstrikes reportedly targeting uranium enrichment facilities, missile bases, and major cities across Iran. The operation, which Israeli officials described as a preemptive strike, aimed to cripple Iran's nuclear program. According to Iranian sources, the attack killed Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps commander Hossein Salami and several

other senior IRGC officers. The Israel Defence Forces claimed the strikes were necessary because Iran was “closer than ever” to creating nuclear weapons. Iran has vowed a “powerful response” against both Israel and the United States, although Washington has denied any involvement in the attack.

<https://www.civilnet.am/en/news/956590/armenia-condemns-israeli-strikes-on-iran/>

Armenian Foreign Minister holds phone call with Iranian counterpart

Armenpress, June 14, 2025

Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan spoke by phone with his Iranian counterpart Abbas Araghchi amid the ongoing Israeli-Iranian escalation. “In a phone conversation with my Iranian counterpart Abbas Araghchi, I discussed the recent developments & exchanged views on the current situation. In line with the position expressed by Armenia, emphasised the importance of managing the risks & avoiding escalation in the region. We remain in close contact, including related to International Atomic Energy Agency discussions,” FM Mirzoyan said in a post on X. Israel launched what it calls Operation Rising Lion against Iran's nuclear facilities, calling it a preemptive strike designed to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons. Iran has denied plans to develop such weapons. Tehran retaliated by launching counterstrikes against Israel. Armenia has condemned the Israeli attack and called for immediate cessation of hostilities.

<https://armenpress.am/en/article/1222299>

Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan signs record \$4.6 billion deal for 40 JF-17 Thunder fighter jets from Pakistan

Defence Industry Europe, June 8, 2025

Azerbaijan has expanded its purchase of Pakistani JF-17 Thunder fighter jets from 16 to 40 aircraft, marking the largest export contract in the history of Pakistan's defence industry. The deal is part of a wider \$4.6 billion defence agreement, coupled with a \$2 billion investment package, officially confirmed by the Pakistani government through its social media channels. Azerbaijan has expanded its purchase of Pakistani JF-17 Thunder fighter jets from 16 to 40 aircraft, marking the largest export contract in the history of Pakistan's defence industry. The deal is part of a wider \$4.6 billion defence agreement, coupled with a \$2 billion investment package, officially confirmed by the Pakistani government through its social media channels. This agreement establishes Azerbaijan as the largest export customer for the JF-17 Thunder series, surpassing previous buyers such as Nigeria and Myanmar. Developed jointly by Pakistan Aeronautical Complex and China's Chengdu Aircraft Corporation, the JF-17 is seen as a cost-effective solution for countries seeking modern air combat capabilities.

<https://defence-industry.eu/azerbaijan-signs-record-4-6-billion-deal-for-40-jf-17-thunder-fighter-jets-from-pakistan/#:~:text=Azerbaijan%20signs%20record%20%244.6%20billion,Thunder%20fighter%20jets%20from%20Pakistan&t>

[ext=Photo%3A%20Ministry%20of%20Defence%20of%20history%20of%20Pakistan's%20defence%20industry.](#)

Azerbaijan says will not allow its territory to be used by any nation to target third party

Esra Tekin

Anadolu Agency, June 14, 2025

Azerbaijan will not allow its territory to be used by any nation to target a third party, including its neighbour Iran, Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov said in a phone call with his Iranian counterpart Seyyed Abbas Araghchi. Stressing Baku's concern over the escalating tension in the region and the current situation around nuclear facilities, Bayramov urged existing issues to be resolved only through dialogue and diplomatic means, in accordance with the norms and principles of international law, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "Considering that Iran's airspace is closed, it was reported that arrangements have been made for representatives of various countries and Iran to transit through Azerbaijan's land border," it added. The ministers addressed the situation that emerged following Israel's attacks on Iranian territory. Araghchi gave information on Tel Aviv's attacks and Tehran's retaliatory actions.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/azerbaijan-says-will-not-allow-its-territory-to-be-used-by-any-nation-to-target-third-party/3598728>

Cyprus

Much touted defence industry 'only at the beginning'

Elias Hazou, June 8, 2025

An industry ecosystem that already produces drones and software sees the sector growing. Talk of Cyprus having a defence industry may get trolled in conversations and on social media, but the military is deadly serious about it. Officials freely acknowledge that it's a small, budding, though fast-growing sector with a great deal of potential. But will it become an important supplier for the National Guard? Not for many, many years to come. It's true that politicians are prone to hyperbole, and Cyprus is no exception. President Nikos Christodoulides has talked up the island's defence industry, going so far as to remark that it "would be transformed in a way that Cyprus would become a centre of advanced technology in the field of defence and become capable of contributing significantly to the collective security framework of Europe." In parliament this week, MPs heard that Cyprus' defence industry has expanded significantly in recent years, growing from just a handful of companies to around 30, and now generates approximately €40 million in annual revenue.

<https://cyprus-mail.com/2025/06/08/much-touted-defence-industry-only-at-the-beginning>

Iran

Atomic watchdog says Iran not complying with nuclear safeguards

United Nations News, June 12, 2025

The UN-backed atomic watchdog passed a resolution declaring that Iran is not complying with its obligations regarding nuclear non-proliferation. The development follows serious warnings from the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) earlier this week that inspectors have been unable to determine whether Iran's nuclear programme was "exclusively peaceful" – as per the terms of the 2015 nuclear deal from which the United States subsequently withdrew. A fresh round of negotiations between Washington and Tehran is slated to begin in Oman, according to news reports, amid heightened geopolitical tensions linked to rumours of an impending Israeli attack on Iran. Following resolution vote by the IAEA's board of governors – which passed by a vote of 19 for, three against and 11 abstentions - Iran's atomic energy body reportedly announced plans to open a new uranium enrichment plant and increase production of enriched fissile material. The draft for resolution highlights serious and growing concerns since at least 2019 that Iran had failed to cooperate fully with the UN agency's inspectors.

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/06/1164291>

What are Iran's Nuclear and Missile Capabilities?

Mariel Ferragamo, Jonathan Masters, and Will Merrow

Council on Foreign Relations, June 12, 2025

Many foreign policy experts warn that if Iran were to acquire nuclear weapons, it would be broadly destabilising for the Middle East and nearby regions. A first-order concern is that Iran's possession of nuclear weapons would pose a major, perhaps existential threat to Israel, its longtime foe. Other foreign policy experts say Iran would be assuring its own demise if it were to launch a nuclear strike on Israel, a close U.S. defence partner and possessor of its own nuclear weapons arsenal, which is undeclared. Either way, there would be a dangerous potential for miscalculation that could result in a nuclear exchange, analysts say. An additional concern is that Iran's possession of a nuclear weapon could spur other regional rivals, including Saudi Arabia, to pursue their own nuclear weapons program. International scrutiny of Iran's nuclear and missile programs intensified in late 2024 following a historic exchange of direct military strikes between Iran and Israel, as well as the reelection of Donald Trump as U.S. president. The first Trump administration pulled the United States from the 2015 Iran nuclear deal and imposed a severe sanctions regime on the country.

<https://www.cfr.org/article/what-are-irans-nuclear-and-missile-capabilities>

Iran comes under attack

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 13, 2025

Various locations in Iran, including in the capital, Tehran, have come under attack by the Israeli regime, and a number of top Iranian military commanders have been assassinated in targeted strikes in a major escalation. Israel began rounds of strikes in and near Tehran, as well as Natanz, Tabriz, Isfahan, Arak, and Shiraz, among other places. People woke up to the sounds of large explosions in and near Tehran. Images quickly emerged of the capital's skyline, showing plumes of smoke rising from several locations. The Times of Israel soon cited Israeli minister for military affairs Israel Katz as saying that the regime was conducting strikes on Iran. Katz simultaneously declared a state of emergency across Israel. In a major escalation, and in the first round of strikes, the Israeli regime targeted residential buildings in Tehran in the wee hours of the day as people were asleep in their homes. At least one image showed the lifeless body of a child under the rubble in a Tehran neighbourhood in the immediate aftermath of the strikes.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85860885/Iran-comes-under-attack>

Iran destroys two Israeli F-35 fighter jets

Mehrnews, June 13, 2025

Iranian Air defence systems have managed to destroy two Israeli fighter jets. The Air Defence Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army successfully shot down and destroyed two Israeli F-35 fighter jets and a

large number of their micro air vehicles. The fate of the pilots is unknown and under investigation.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233092/Iran-downs-two-Israeli-F-35-fighter-jets>

Fordo nuclear site not impacted: IAEA

Tehran Times, June 13, 2025

The International Atomic Energy Agency, the IAEA, said in a series of social media posts that its Director General Rafael Grossi had been in contact with Iranian authorities on June 13, 2025 who told him the country's highly-secured Fordo nuclear site "has not been impacted" by the Israeli air strikes. Iranian officials had quickly threatened retaliation, with Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei saying Israel "should await a harsh response." Like Donald Trump, Secretary of State Marco Rubio claimed the U.S. was not involved in Israel's strikes and said, "Iran should not target U.S. interests or personnel."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514240/Fordo-nuclear-site-not-impacted-IAEA>

Iran nuclear chief: Natanz attack caused surface damage, no casualties

Tehran Times, June 13, 2025

The head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation (AEOI), Mohammad Eslami, confirmed today that Tel Aviv's June 13, 2025 attack on the Shahid Ahmadi-Roshan nuclear facility in Natanz caused only surface-level damage, with no loss of life or concerning radiation leaks. Speaking in a televised interview, Eslami denounced the assault as a "terrorist act by the Zionist

regime" and emphatically stated that such actions would fail to derail Iran's nuclear advancements. Eslami detailed that the attack occurred at dawn, coinciding with reported operations by the Israeli regime in Tehran. He described the assault on Natanz as "repeated" and asserted that the perpetrators "tried to inflict as much damage as possible to the nuclear facilities using a pre-designed map." "Thank God, we did not face serious damage," Eslami stated, clarifying that the impact was confined to the ground level. He assured the public that "there was no radiation leakage that would cause concern for the people." Assessment of the exact extent of the damage is currently underway, he added. The AEOI Chief expressed strong condemnation for the attack and frustration with the international community's response. Eslami highlighted that Iran has repeatedly reported such threats and acts of aggression to the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) through its Foreign Ministry. However, he lamented the conspicuous absence of any "explicit stance against this aggressor regime" by these bodies.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51426/8/Iran-nuclear-chief-Natanz-attack-caused-surface-damage-no-casualties>

IRGC launches "True Promise 3" operation against Israeli military targets

Tehran Times, June 13, 2025

In response to an Israeli aggression on Iranian territory that resulted in the martyrdom of senior military commanders, prominent scientists, and innocent civilians—including children—the Islamic

Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) announced it has launched a large-scale retaliatory operation, codenamed "True Promise 3," targeting multiple Israeli military and air bases. The operation commenced on the auspicious night of Eid al-Ghadir, with the battle cry "Ya Ali ibn Abi Talib," according to an official IRGC statement. The IRGC's statement declared that, following the "aggressive and criminal" Israeli strike on Iran, the Corps—acting as the defensive and offensive arm of the Iranian nation—carried out a precise and forceful response against dozens of military installations in occupied territories. The statement emphasised reliance on divine power, the guidance of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and the unified support of the Iranian people.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51428/6/IRGC-launches-True-Promise-3-operation-against-Israeli-military>

Israeli attack on Natanz site 'surface damage': AEOI chief

Mehrnews, June 13, 2025

The head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami confirmed that Tel Aviv's Friday attack on Shahid Ahmadi-Roshan nuclear site in Natanz caused only surface-level damage, with no loss of life. Speaking in a televised interview, Eslami denounced the assault as a "terrorist act by the Zionist regime" and emphatically stated that such actions would fail to derail Iran's nuclear advancements. He described the assault on Natanz as "repeated" and asserted that the perpetrators "tried to inflict as much damage as possible to the nuclear facilities using a pre-designed

map." He assured the public that "there was no radiation leakage that would cause concern for the people." Assessment of the exact extent of the damage is currently underway, he added. The AEOI chief expressed strong condemnation for the attack and frustration with the international community's response.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233081/Israeli-attack-on-Natanz-site-surface-damage-AEOI-chief>

Israel kills nuclear scientists, strikes sites in Iran: Who did it target?

Federica Marsi

Aljazeera, June 13, 2025

Two key Iranian nuclear scientists are among six scientists killed in Israeli strikes on sites in Iran. More than 200 Israeli Air Force fighter jets hit more than 100 nuclear, military and infrastructure targets across Iran, including its main nuclear facility in Natanz. The Israeli army said it had damaged the Natanz uranium enrichment site's underground structures, including a multistorey enrichment hall with centrifuges, electrical rooms and additional supporting infrastructure. It added that "vital infrastructure at the site that allows for its continuous functioning and the continued advancement of the Iranian regime's project to obtain nuclear weapons was attacked". This came just a day after United States President Donald Trump said his administration was "fairly close to a pretty good agreement" with Iran and that military action "could blow it" and lead to a "massive conflict". However, Washington also hinted at the possibility of

an imminent escalation when it announced it was partially evacuating its embassy in Iraq and had authorised "the voluntary departure" of dependants of US personnel from other locations across the Middle East.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/6/13/israel-kills-nuclear-scientists-strikes-sites-in-iran-who-did-it-target>

What missiles does Iran have to launch against Israel, and how far can they go?

Ralph Savelsberg

Breaking Defence, June 13, 2025

In the wake of Israel's wave of strikes targeting Iranian military officers and scientists as well as its nuclear and ballistic missile capability, Tehran has vowed revenge. But beyond a relatively small drone operation, it has yet to be seen exactly how Iran will respond. That could depend significantly on how effective Israel's strikes were to begin with, and what part of Iran's not unsubstantial ballistic missile capability has been left standing. Israel's attack reportedly included hitting targets in Tabriz, which was one of the launch sites of an Iranian ballistic missile attack on Israel in October 2024. Israel is also said to have killed Mohammad Hossein Bagheri, the chief of staff of Iran's armed forces, and Hossein Salami, head of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). This is the organisation responsible for Iran's ballistic missile program. The future of the F-35. Watch our exclusive video series today. Prior to the attack, ballistic missiles were, and still mostly likely are, Tehran's most potent means of striking Israel.

Reaching Israel from Iran requires missiles with ranges of more than 1,000 km (621 miles), also known as Medium-Range Ballistic Missiles (MRBMs). Iran has a large variety. This includes liquid-propellant missiles based on collaborations with North Korea, such as the Ghadr and Khorramshahr, but also advanced solid-propellant ballistic missiles.

<https://breakingdefense.com/2025/06/how-iran-could-use-its-ballistic-missile-capability-to-strike-back-at-israel-analysis/>

Israeli forces attack Fordo nuclear facility: Iranian media

Esra Tekin and Mohammad Sio

Anadolu Agency, June 13, 2025

The Fordo nuclear facility was targeted amid ongoing Israeli attacks, Iran's semi-official Fars News Agency reported. Two explosions were heard near the Fordo nuclear plant, and two specific points within the facility were reportedly struck. Separately, other Israeli airstrikes hit a position in the city of Fardis, located in the north-central province of Alborz, according to the official Press TV. At least 104 people were killed and 376 others were injured in large-scale Israeli strikes that targeted the capital, Tehran, Tabriz city, and East Azerbaijan Province, according to Anadolu's count based on local media reports. Israel launched a massive attack early Friday, deploying around 200 aircraft to target Iran's nuclear program and long-range missile capabilities. The strikes killed senior Iranian military officials as well as nuclear scientists. Iran has vowed "severe punishment" and called for an emergency

meeting of the UN Security Council to hold Israel accountable for its actions.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/israeli-forces-attack-fordo-nuclear-facility-iranian-media/3597347>

Statement on the Situation in Iran

International Atomic Energy Agency, June 13, 2025

Early this morning, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was informed of the military operation launched by Israel which includes attacks on nuclear facilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran. We are currently in contact with the Iranian nuclear safety authorities to ascertain the status of relevant nuclear facilities and to assess any wider impacts on nuclear safety and security. At present, the competent Iranian authorities have confirmed that the Natanz enrichment site has been impacted and that there are no elevated radiation levels. They have also reported that at present the Esfahan and Fordow sites have not been impacted. This development is deeply concerning. I have repeatedly stated that nuclear facilities must never be attacked, regardless of the context or circumstances, as it could harm both people and the environment. Such attacks have serious implications for nuclear safety, security and safeguards, as well as regional and international peace and security. In this regard, the IAEA recalls the numerous General Conference resolutions on the topic of military attacks against nuclear facilities, in particular, GC(XXIX)/RES/444 and GC(XXXIV)/RES/533, which provide, inter alia, that "any armed attack on and

threat against nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes constitutes a violation of the principles of the United Nations Charter, international law and the Statute of the Agency”.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/statements/statement-on-the-situation-in-iran>

Nuclear leak in Iran? Israeli attack on Tehran's nuke sites fuels global anxiety

The Economic Times, June 13, 2025

Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation said its Natanz nuclear facility sustained damages, hours after Israel launched attacks targeting Tehran's nuclear facilities. Though the admission, Iran's top nuclear body has also revealed that there were no casualties, or radioactive and chemical contamination reported at the facility. The Organisation called the attack a “failure” for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), attributing it to the “shortcomings” of its Director. “Israel's attack is a ‘failure’ for the IAEA as a result of its Director's ‘shortcomings’,” the Organisation said in its statement, per Reuters. IAEA chief calls for maximum restraint meanwhile, IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi stressed the need for maximum restraint following the attack. “I have indicated to the respective authorities my readiness to travel at the earliest to assess the situation and ensure safety, security and non-proliferation in Iran,” Grossi said in a separate statement.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/nuclear-leak-in-iran-israeli-attack-on-tehrans-nuke-sites-fuels-global-anxiety/articleshow/121823672.cms?from=mdr>

10 Israeli aircraft downed across Iran

Tehran Times, June 14, 2025

Brigadier General Alireza Sabahifard, Commander of the Khatam al-Anbiya Air Defence Base, announced that within the past hour, 10 hostile aircraft belonging to the Zionist regime were shot down in various parts of the country. In a significant development, Iranian air defence systems over Tehran successfully intercepted and downed an Israeli drone targeting the capital, underscoring Iran's heightened state of alert. Iran's integrated air defence network remains actively engaged against hostile threats across several provinces. Reports from Tasnim News Agency confirm ongoing air defence operations targeting enemy drones in Hormozgan, Kermanshah, West Azerbaijan, Lorestan, Tehran, and Khuzestan provinces. Iranian forces detected and neutralised numerous enemy drones in the western regions of the country as well as in Qom province, demonstrating continued vigilance and rapid response capabilities.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514374/Israeli-drone-shot-down-over-Tehran-as-Iran-s-air-defenses-remain>

Third F-35 fighter jet downed in Iranian territory, two Israeli pilots now in custody

Tehran Times, June 14, 2025

Iran's Army (Artesh) has reported the downing of a third Israeli F-35 fighter jet, likely by Iranian-made air defences, according to a correspondent of national Iranian TV. A statement by the Army added that the pilot was captured after ejecting

over western Iran. With this latest downing, Iran has neutralised three F-35 fighter jets since Israel began its aggression on Friday. Of the two others, one pilot is believed liquidated, and another too captured by Iranian forces. Iran and Israel entered war after the Zionist regime killed around 100 civilians, military officials, and nuclear scientists in attacks on residential buildings in Tehran. The regime also targeted Iran's nuclear sites and multiple military bases in other parts of the country. Iran has, in return, launched five waves of ballistic missiles at Israel, destroying or damaging over 150 military and intelligence sites across the occupied territories. It is currently targeting more Israeli assets with Kamikaze drones, with heavier rounds of missile attacks expected to follow in the coming hours.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514337/Third-F-35-fighter-jet-downed-in-Iranian-territory-two-Israeli>

Iran says nuclear talks with US 'meaningless' after Israel attack

The Jerusalem Post, June 14, 2025

Iran said the dialogue with the US over Tehran's nuclear programme is "meaningless" after Israel's biggest-ever military strike against its longstanding enemy, accusing Washington of supporting the attack. "The other side (the US) acted in a way that makes dialogue meaningless. You cannot claim to negotiate and at the same time divide work by allowing the Zionist regime (Israel) to target Iran's territory," the semi-official Tasnim news agency quoted foreign ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei as saying.

He said Israel "succeeded in influencing" the diplomatic process and the Israeli attack would not have happened without Washington's permission. Iran earlier accused the US of being complicit in Israel's attacks, but Washington denied the allegation and told Tehran at the United Nations Security Council that it would be "wise" to negotiate over its nuclear programme. The sixth round of US-Iran nuclear talks was set to be held on Sunday in Muscat, but it was unclear whether it would go ahead after the Israeli strikes. Iran denies that its uranium enrichment programme is for anything other than civilian purposes, rejecting Israeli allegations that it is secretly developing nuclear weapons.

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-857664>

Israel attacks nuclear power plant in Iran's Isfahan: Iranian news agency

Yasin Gungor and Haydar Sahin

Anadolu Agency, June 14, 2025

Israel's attacks on Iran targeted the Shahid Raisi Nuclear Power Plant in Isfahan on early Saturday, Iran's state-run IRNA news agency reported. Isfahan Deputy Governor Akbar Salehi said that rescue teams were dispatched immediately after the attack and no casualties have been reported immediately from the attack on the power plant. Addressing concerns about potential radiation leakage, Salehi said there is no pollution from the plant "that would cause concern." Israel targeted Natanz and Fordo nuclear facilities. Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation reported nuclear

contamination was detected inside the Natanz nuclear facility following Israeli strikes. "Some contamination was detected inside the facility, but this contamination did not spread outside the facility," Kamalvandi told Iran's state television.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/israel-attacks-nuclear-power-plant-in-irans-esfahan-iranian-news-agency/3597824>

Who Threatens Peace: Israel Aggression or Iran Defence?

Abdul Haq

Modern Diplomacy, June 14, 2025

Under international law, Iran reserves the right to total retaliation against the unprecedented Israeli strikes on its nuclear and military infrastructure, which killed senior generals and top scientists, sparking a full-scale conflict that could destabilise the Middle East. Israel has been condemned by numerous international organisations and courts for decades of flagrantly breaking international law. Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories has been categorically declared unlawful by the International Court of Justice. The court found that Israel's actions violate basic international legal principles, such as the ban on annexing land by force, by annexing significant portions of the occupied Palestinian territory. Israel alone has violated more than 30 UN Security Council resolutions, according to the UN's extensive documentation of its violations. These transgressions include systematic violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention, collective punishment of

civilian populations, and the construction of illegal settlements. Israel's actions have been described by UN experts as 'an assault on the foundations of international law' that includes crimes against humanity, including murder, torture, sexual violence, and repeated forced displacement.

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2025/06/14/who-threatens-peace-israel-aggression-or-iran-defence/>

4 key structures damaged at Iran's Esfahan nuclear site after Israeli strike: IAEA

Esra Tekin

Anadolu Agency, June 14, 2025

Four critical structures at Iran's Esfahan nuclear site were damaged in Friday's Israeli airstrikes, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The IAEA, posting on X, confirmed that the uranium conversion facility and the fuel plate fabrication plant were among the impacted buildings. "As in Natanz, no increase in off-site radiation expected," the agency noted, reassuring that the incident has not resulted in a radioactive leak. Israel launched a massive attack, deploying around 200 aircraft to target Iran's nuclear program and long-range missile capabilities. The strikes killed senior Iranian military officials as well as nuclear scientists. Iran has vowed "severe punishment" and called for an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council to hold Israel accountable for its actions.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/4-key-structures-damaged-at-irans-esfahan-nuclear-site-after-israeli-strike-iaea/3598602>

Iran's Nuclear sites hobbled but not destroyed, experts say

Mint, June 14, 2025

Israel's airstrikes damaged Iran's nuclear program but likely fell well short of eliminating it, experts said, presenting Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the US with a quandary on what to do next. The full extent of the destruction caused by the ongoing missile barrage is only starting to become clear. International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi told the United Nations Security Council on Friday that while Israel destroyed surface facilities at Iran's main nuclear-fuel site in Natanz, it hadn't yet breached the primary underground halls where uranium enrichment takes place. Natanz is a critical part of Iran's atomic program, but results from strikes on other sites — at Isfahan and Fordow — will weigh heavily on Israel's next moves. The risk for Netanyahu is that extending the military campaign could drive the Islamic Republic's nuclear activities deeper underground, ending access to UN-backed inspectors and potentially hardening Tehran's resolve. Iran responded to the attacks by targeting Israeli cities with hundreds of ballistic missiles and drones.

<https://www.livemint.com/news/world/iran-s-nuclear-sites-hobbled-but-not-destroyed-experts-say-11749902128876.html>

Iran strikes Israel with new missile, drone attack; Israel bombs Tehran

Al-Jazeera, June 14, 2025

Israel and Iran have carried out a new wave of attacks on key cities, fuelling fears of an

all-out sustained war, with heavy exchanges now entering a third day. Iranian missiles struck northern Israel, killing at least three people and wounding 13 others according to Israeli media. Israel targeted the Iranian defence ministry headquarters in Tehran early Sunday, according to the semi-official Tasnim news agency. Iranian officials also said the Shahrin oil depot, northwest of Tehran, was struck by Israel. Tasnim News said operational and rescue forces arrived at the scene and are still working to extinguish the fire.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/6/14/iranian-state-media-says-new-missile-drone-attack-launched-against-israel>

Who are Iran's new top military leaders after Israel's assassinations?

Maziar Motamedi

Al-Jazeera, June 15, 2025

Tehran, Iran – Iran has promoted several commanders to the top of its military leadership after Israel killed their predecessors in a series of air attacks. The leadership of Iran's General Staff of the Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard (IRGC) has shifted significantly as the country defends against Israeli attacks and launches retaliatory strikes. Some of Iran's top military leaders were killed during Israel's multipronged assault. Iran's highest-ranking military commander, General Mohammad Bagheri, was among those killed. The veteran of the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s was the chief of staff of the armed forces and only answered to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Other members of the general

staff were also among the dead, including Deputy for Operations Mehdi Rabani and Deputy for Intelligence Gholamreza Mehrabi. The IRGC also lost a considerable number of top figures in its command chain, chief among them being Hossein Salami, the leader of the force.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/6/15/who-are-irans-new-top-military-leaders-after-israels-assassinations>

44 Israeli drones shot down along Iran's borders: Border Guards

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 15, 2025

Iran's Border Guards has announced that 44 Israeli drones and quadcopters have been intercepted and destroyed in border areas over the past 48 hours. Brigadier General Ahmad Ali Goudarzi, the Border Guards commander, praised the readiness of Iran's border units, saying that they prevented 44 drones and quadcopters from entering Iran's airspace. "Our zealous border guards remain fully alert and have issued stern warnings to all hostile entities—terrorist groups, armed factions, and smugglers—that any threat to Iran's border security will be met with decisive force," Goudarzi said. The commander emphasized that Border Guards were monitoring all frontiers in Iran and were ready to counter any threat. Shortly afterwards, Iran began punitive strikes deep inside Israel, hitting Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Haifa, among other targets.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85863725/44-Israeli-drones-shot-down-along-Iran-s-borders-Border-Guards>

Iran lawmaker calls for attack on Israeli nuclear plant at Dimona

Newarab, June 15, 2025

An Iranian MP called for a military strike on Israel's largest nuclear facility in retaliation for the ongoing attacks on Iran's installations. "Now it's time to attack Dimona; it is the centre of the criminals' nuclear activities," Mojtaba Zarei, a member of the parliamentary national security committee, wrote in a post on X. "You attacked our nuclear facilities, so we will attack your nuclear centres, of course, with a two-ton warhead!" Zarei was referring to the Negev Nuclear Research Centre near the city of Dimona, which sits at the heart of Israel's secretive nuclear program. Since completing the reactor in the 1960s, the country is thought to have produced dozens of undeclared nuclear warheads. Israel has targeted several nuclear sites in Iran since launching its unprecedented aerial campaign on Friday morning, including its main enrichment plant at Natanz and a facility in Isfahan. As many as 12 nuclear scientists are believed to have been assassinated, while the Israeli military claims to have struck nuclear-related sites in Tehran. While Iran is a member of the NPT, Israel has always refused to sign and is believed to secretly possess between 80 and 400 nuclear weapons.

<https://www.newarab.com/news/iran-lawmaker-calls-attack-israel-nuclear-plant>

The Weizmann Institute: What to know about the high-tech Israeli facility struck by Iran

Newarab, June 15, 2025

Iran struck the Weizmann Institute of Science near Tel Aviv on the second night of its ballistic missile attacks against Israel on Saturday, causing significant damage. Security camera footage showed several projectiles hitting the facility, damaging the façade of one of the buildings and triggering plumes of smoke. The strike caused a fire in at least one building containing labs, according to images obtained by The New York Times. The attack took place during a barrage of Iranian missiles and drones, which hit several targets in central and northern Israel. Based in the town of Rehovot south of the Israeli capital, the institute is Israel's most important scientific research facility and plays a key role in the research and development of advanced weapons and military technologies. Established in the 1930s, the institute is named after its founder Chaim Weizmann, a leading figure in the Zionist movement who later became the first president of Israel. The institute offers master's degree courses and PhD programmes in scientific subjects and hosts hundreds of researchers and students.

<https://www.newarab.com/news/weizmann-institute-what-high-tech-facility-hit-iran>

Iran's top Air Defence System: How Capable is the Bavar 373 Credited with Israeli F-35 shootdowns?

Military Watch Magazine, June 15, 2025

Iranian air defences had successfully shot down two Iranian F-35 fighters, and a

subsequent report that a third F-35 had also been downed, Iranian government sources provided details of the engagements, and reported that Bavar 373 air defence systems had been responsible for all three kills. The reported shootdowns, which Iranian state media claims resulted in the capture of two Israeli F-35 pilots, will if confirmed be the first ever achieved against fifth generation fighters, reflecting the fact that penetration of Iranian airspace is by far the highest risk mission ever flown by such advanced aircraft. An evaluation of the Bavar 373's capabilities provides important insight into the performance attributes which may have allowed it to shoot down Israel's very low observable aircraft, and the likelihood that their deployment to protect key sites in Iran could deter Israel from launching future penetration strikes. Although the Bavar 373 operates as part of a much larger air defence network, which includes long range Rezonans-NE radar systems, and longer ranged but less advanced S-200 surface-to-air missile systems, among many other complementary assets, the system is seen to form the backbone of this network. The Bavar 373 began development in the early 2010s, with Iranian sources reporting that this was stimulated by Russia's termination of a deal in 2010 to supply S-300PMU-1 air defence systems to the country due to Western pressure. The first variant of the indigenous system was unveiled in 2016, which had a reported engagement range of 200 kilometres, although serious questions remained regarding its maturity.

<https://militarywatchmagazine.com/article/iran-top-air-defence-bavar373-f35-shootdowns>

What missiles Iran unleashed on Israel?

Mehrnews, June 15, 2025

According to Iranian media reports, the aerospace division of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) deployed various advanced missile systems during the latest wave of 'Operation True Promise III' on Saturday. Citing an "informed source," media reports said Emad, Ghadr, and Kheibar Shekan missiles were launched in the latest strikes targeting the Israeli-occupied cities of Haifa and Tel Aviv. The Emad ballistic missile, an upgraded variant of the Ghadr, features enhanced guidance and accuracy and was tested and commissioned in late 2015. It incorporates a newly designed maneuverable warhead with fins at its base, allowing it to steer toward its target after re-entering the atmosphere. According to Iranian military officials, Emad is capable of full guidance and control until impact, making it Iran's first precision-guided missile. Powered by liquid fuel, the Emad missile measures 15.5 meters in length, weighs 1,750 kg, has a range of 1,700 km, and boasts a circular error probable (CEP) of 50 meters. The Ghadr missile, introduced in 2005, is an improved iteration of the Shahab-3 medium-range ballistic missile, which has been in Iranian service since 2003.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233161/What-missiles-Iran-unleashed-on-Israel>

All extra IAEA monitoring in Iran to be suspended : Iran MP

Tehran Times, June 15, 2025

Ebrahim Azizi, the head of the National Security Committee of the Iranian Parliament, strongly criticised the recent actions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and its Director General, stating: "The IAEA's wrongful conduct and the biased report of its Director General, which was presented despite Iran's full cooperation, clearly demonstrate an abuse of our goodwill." According to Tasnim News Agency, Azizi discussed the recent attack by the Zionist regime on various parts of the country, including the Natanz and Fordow nuclear sites, as well as the Iranian parliament's response to this hostile act in a Television programme. He referred to the extraordinary session of the National Security Committee: "Today, in our committee meeting, we reached specific conclusions and prepared recommendations that will be officially communicated to the head of the Atomic Energy Organisation in the coming days." Azizi emphasised Iran's approach to engagement with international bodies: "Following the recent action by the IAEA and the adoption of a resolution by the Board of Governors, our committee concluded that the level of our relations and cooperation with the Agency must be limited to the frameworks defined in the Safeguards Agreement. This is the legal and international basis upon which Iran is a

member of the NPT and a party to the Safeguards Agreement with the Agency."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51438/1/All-extra-IAEA-monitoring-in-Iran-to-be-suspended-Iran-MP>

Six strategic sites in occupied territories targeted by IRGC missiles in True Promise III

Tehran Times, June 15, 2025

The Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) launched a new wave of retaliatory missile and drone strikes against the Zionist regime late Saturday. The strikes, as part of operation "True Promise III", initiated in response to recent Israeli aggression and martyrdom of Iranian commanders, entered its second phase around 11:45 a.m. local time, with Iranian missiles successfully hitting strategic targets deep inside the occupied territories. According to military sources, six vital positions in occupied Palestine were directly targeted and struck by Iranian missiles. Footage circulating online shows the moment of impact, with Iranian missiles visibly reaching their designated targets across the skies of the occupied territories. Following the strikes, widespread power outages were reported in a number of Israeli settlements, reflecting the effectiveness of the operation in disrupting the enemy's infrastructure. The Zionist mayor of Bat Yam, south of Tel Aviv, confirmed that 61 buildings were damaged in the Iranian attack, including six that were completely destroyed.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51439/2/Six-strategic-sites-in-occupied-territories-targeted-by-IRGC>

Israeli strike on nuclear facilities crosses 'final red line' in international law: Iran FM

Tehran Times, June 15, 2025

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi strongly condemned Israel's recent attack on Iran's Natanz nuclear facility, warning that it represents a serious escalation and a blatant violation of international law. Addressing foreign ambassadors in Tehran on Sunday, Araghchi said the incident occurred while Iran was engaged in nuclear negotiations with the United States, and accused Israel of deliberately derailing diplomatic progress. "We were in the middle of nuclear talks with the U.S., with the sixth round scheduled for today in Muscat," he said. "The Zionist regime recognises no limits when it comes to violating international law." He further denounced Israel's conduct in Gaza, stating that not only were civilians killed, but "so too were human rights, humanitarian law, international law, and all international norms." Araghchi emphasised that Israel's strike on a nuclear facility marks a dangerous new precedent. "This is a grave violation under international law and is absolutely prohibited under all circumstances. Yet, the Security Council has responded with indifference," he said.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51440/2/Israeli-strike-on-nuclear-facilities-crosses-final-red-line>

Does international law even matter anymore?

Xavier Villar

Tehran Times, June 15, 2025

Iran is at war. Not a war sought or desired, but an imposed one—marked by a continuous escalation of tensions that Israel has been fueling for years through attacks on its nuclear, military, and civilian infrastructure. These aggressions, far from aiming for dialogue or diplomatic resolution, reveal an explicit intent to weaken Iran’s strategic capabilities through operations that not only jeopardise regional stability but also violate fundamental principles of international law. The Israeli attack and the violation of international law. The recent Israeli strikes against Iranian nuclear facilities, such as those in Natanz and Fordow, cannot be dismissed as isolated incidents or legitimate acts of self-defence. According to experts and international bodies, they constitute a clear breach of Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter, which prohibits the use or threat of force against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of any member state. These nuclear sites have been under the strict supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and are part of a declared peaceful program since 2003, acknowledged even by independent reports. The attacks also violate Article 12 of the IAEA Statute, which expressly forbids hostile actions against nuclear installations under international safeguards. The risks posed are not only political but also environmental and humanitarian in an

already fragile region. The IAEA itself has warned of the possibility of a radioactive disaster in the event of significant damage—an eventuality apparently disregarded by the aggressor.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514449/Does-international-law-even-matter-anymore>

Iraq

Iraq, China partner for first nuclear training reactor

Shafaq News, June 6, 2025

Iraq is preparing to sign an agreement with China’s Atomic Energy Authority, marking the construction of its first nuclear training reactor, the head of the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission and Minister of Higher Education, Naeem al-Aboudi, announced. In a press conference, al-Aboudi described the facility as a subcritical reactor intended for academic and research purposes. The project aims to build the capabilities of students and researchers in nuclear physics and peaceful radiation technologies. “This is a milestone for Iraq’s scientific infrastructure and a step toward restoring our nuclear research capacity on peaceful terms,” he stated. Al-Aboudi also confirmed that three sites at the Al-Tuwaitha complex, southeast of Baghdad, have been declared free of radioactive contamination. These include the French LAMA laboratories, an Italian-built radioisotope production facility, and the Tammuz-2 research reactor. Radiation surveys were carried out using rigorous scientific methods, with results showing

no traces of hazardous radioactive material.

<https://shafaq.com/en/society/Iraq-China-partner-for-first-nuclear-training-reactor>

Iraq: Diplomacy key to de-escalating US-Iran nuclear standoff

Shafaq, June 12, 2025

Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani reaffirmed Baghdad's support for nuclear negotiations between Washington and Tehran, warning that rising tensions could undermine the chances for a peaceful resolution. His remarks, released by the PM's media office, followed a meeting in Baghdad with ambassadors and heads of Arab diplomatic missions. During the gathering, al-Sudani highlighted Iraq's commitment to facilitating diplomatic efforts that contribute to broader regional security, emphasising that continued negotiations between Washington and Tehran remain "crucial." He expressed Iraq's support for "a fair and balanced approach" to US-Iran negotiations that would lead to "positive" outcomes, affirming the continued commitment to fostering agreements that enhance regional stability. The PM's statement came just days ahead of the sixth round of nuclear talks scheduled in Muscat, according to Omani Foreign Minister Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi. In preparation, White House envoy Steve Witkoff is set to meet Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi to review Tehran's position on Washington's latest nuclear proposal. Although Iran has not yet provided a formal response, the US official

indicated that the discussions are "increasingly likely to proceed as planned."

<https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq/Iraq-Diplomacy-key-to-de-escalating-US-Iran-nuclear-standoff>

Israel

Perils of boom and bust: Can Israel re-strategise its defence spending?

Shlomo Maital

The Jerusalem Post, June 3, 2025

At Technion's S. Neaman Institute, I am blessed to work with a number of colleagues who served their country in senior military and civilian positions, dating back to the 1967 Six Day War. They are keenly aware of the many pitfalls Israel has stumbled into in the past, as they lived and breathed them and navigated through them. And they are deeply distressed that we may be repeating past blunders. When you forget history, you tend to repeat it. One of them is Giora Shalgi, formerly CEO of Rafael Advanced Defence Systems. His 44-year tenure at Rafael, beginning in 1960, concluded in 2004 when he retired. Shalgi led the crucial phase of Rafael's reinventing itself from a Defence R&D Department managed by the Defence Ministry, mired in red ink, to a profitable government-owned defence industry. His book *The Organisational Compass* (in Hebrew and English) is a compelling account of crisis management. Among many, many other superb innovations, Rafael is the creator of Iron Dome.

<https://www.jpost.com/business-and-innovation/article-856044>

Iran claims it stole thousands of Israeli intel. materials, including nuclear docs.

The Jerusalem Post, June 7, 2025

Iran has obtained Israeli intelligence materials, including sensitive documents related to Israel's nuclear capabilities, Iranian-affiliated media reported. The intelligence materials allegedly include thousands of documents related to that regime's nuclear plans and facilities. The documents were transferred from within Israel to Iranian territory, Hezbollah-affiliated Al Mayadeen remarked. Even though the mentioned operation was carried out some time ago, "the abundance of documents is such that reviewing them and viewing images and videos has taken up a significant amount of time," sources told Iran's Tasnim News Agency.

<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-856854>

Israel to show fresh weapons at Paris Air Show

Tzally Greenberg

Defensenews, June 12, 2025

Israeli defence companies plan to exhibit new weaponry at the Paris Air Show next week amid a cooling of relations with France over the conduct of the Gaza war, according to the Israeli Ministry of Defence and local defence companies. The highlight of the Israeli defence systems at the show is expected to be Rafael's high-energy laser weapon system family: the Iron Beam 450mm, Iron Beam-M 250mm and the Lite Beam, defence officials said. The Iron Beam suite is a defensive weapon against

short-range rockets, missiles and drones. Its expected display in Paris comes after Israel's recent announcement of successful drone interceptions by lasers during the ongoing Israel-Gaza war. Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) will also showcase its aerial defence systems, focusing on the Arrow anti-ballistic missile and the Barak MX integrated air and missile defence systems. The Arrow was developed with U.S. funding and in collaboration with the Boeing. The system operates two types of interceptors, the Arrow-2 and Arrow-3, and consists of a command-and-control system and fire control.

<https://www.defensenews.com/global/mid-east-africa/2025/06/12/israel-to-show-fresh-weapons-at-paris-air-show/>

Israel's Ambition: Destroy the Heart of Iran's Nuclear Program

David E. Sanger

The New York Times, June 12, 2025

When Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel had struck "Iran's main enrichment facility in Natanz," he was signaling the scope of his country's ambitions in the largest strike it had ever aimed at Iran. Israel was seeking to destroy the beating heart of the Iranian nuclear program. The Natanz facility is where Iran has produced the vast majority of its nuclear fuel — and, in the past three years, much of the near-bomb-grade fuel that has put the country on the threshold of building nuclear weapons.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/12/world/middleeast/iran-nuclear-program-israel.html>

Mossad set up drone base in Iran, UAVs took out missile launchers overnight

Lazar Berman

Times of Israel, June 13, 2025

Israel spent years preparing for the operation against Iran's nuclear and missile programs that was launched early June 13, 2025 morning, a security official told The Times of Israel, including building a drone base inside Iran and smuggling precision weapons systems and commandos into the country. The operation — dubbed “Rising Lion” — saw more than 200 Israeli Air Force aircraft participate in the opening strikes, as fighter jets dropped over 330 munitions on some 100 targets, the IDF said. Israel billed the strike as “preemptive” and “precise,” and said it had no choice but to damage the nuclear program of the Islamic Republic, which vows to destroy the Jewish state. The effort hinged on tight joint planning between the Israel Defence Forces and the Mossad intelligence agency. According to the official, Mossad agents set up a drone base on Iranian soil near Tehran. The drones were activated overnight, striking surface-to-surface missile launchers aimed at Israel.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/mossad-set-up-drone-base-in-iran-uavs-took-out-missile-launchers-overnight/>

Why Israel chose to strike Iran now

Gideon Rachman

Financial Times, June 13, 2025

Israel's attack on Iran has been 20 years in the making. For decades, Israeli officials have insisted that Iran cannot be allowed to

develop a nuclear weapon. They also made it clear that they were prepared to use military force to devastate Iran's nuclear programme. In the aftermath of the attack, two questions arise. Why now? And what happens next? There are six important factors that led to Israel's decision to attack. The first is the radicalising effect of the Hamas attack on Israel of October 7 2023. Israeli leaders are convinced more than ever that they are in a battle for national survival. They see an Iranian bomb as an existential risk. After the shock of October 7, they believe they can no longer tolerate any such risk. The second factor is that Iran is in a much weaker defensive position than it has been for many years. Israeli air strikes last October — which followed an Iranian missile barrage aimed at Israel — have badly damaged Iran's air defences and missile production capability. The Israelis believed they had a unique moment of opportunity to attack Iran, while it was still enfeebled. The third reason is that Iran was getting closer to a “breakout capability” — which would have allowed it to assemble a nuclear weapon fairly rapidly. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) announced earlier this week that Iran had violated its commitments under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

<https://www.ft.com/content/58d47aed-82b9-4181-9e65-15834827a95d>

Can Israel destroy Iran's nuclear sites?

Charles Clover and John Paul Rathbone

Financial Times, June 13, 2025

Israel's attack on Iran involved more than half of Israel's air force — 200 aircraft in at

least two waves — starting in the early hours of June 13, 2025 morning. The attacks were aimed at decapitating Iran’s military leadership, destroying ballistic missile production facilities and damaging nuclear facilities at sites like Natanz and Fordow. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the strikes would go on “as long as it takes”, with the ultimate goal of destroying Iran’s capability to produce nuclear weapons. Israel, which is itself an undeclared nuclear weapons state, has long seen a nuclear-armed Iran as an existential threat. Netanyahu’s open-ended declaration indicates that the timeframe will depend on the evolving military objectives and Iran’s responses. Tehran has already retaliated by launching more than 100 drones towards Israel, and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has vowed severe consequences. “The big question is whether this slows or accelerates Iran’s pursuit of a nuclear weapon,” said Jon Alterman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. “Israel’s argument is that they can just keep doing this if Iran persists,” he added. “However, Iran may decide it needs to develop a nuclear deterrent [and leave the international nuclear non-proliferation regime]...I don’t think the answer is obvious.” Can Israel destroy Iran’s nuclear sites by itself? Israel said it had struck Natanz on Friday and “damaged” the underground area of the site, a multistorey enrichment area with centrifuges, electrical rooms and other infrastructure. Israel did not elaborate on whether it targeted Fordow. Both nuclear facilities were created with such strikes in mind. The

Fordow facility for fuel enrichment is buried under a mountain, and both it and Natanz are under dozens of metres of reinforced concrete.

<https://www.ft.com/content/171a378f-92b6-4a1f-b5ec-d01e7b33feea>

What Israel’s kitchen-sink operation against Iran tells us so far

Brett McGurk

CNN World, June 13, 2025

Israel’s military and intelligence operation against Iran that began June 12, 2025, night is unprecedented in scale and scope. I was on live with Anderson Cooper as it happened and the full extent of the attack began to clarify. Now that we know more, here are three points to consider as events continue to unfold. Israel is calling it “Operation Rising Lion,” an appeal to the Iranian people, the vast majority of whom do not support the ruling regime, with reference to Iran’s national symbol (a lion and sun) before its 1979 revolution. I’d also call it Operation Kitchen Sink: airstrikes, sabotage, operatives acting inside Iran and with targets across the entire country. Thus far, the result is a swift decapitation of Iran’s military command: its top commander, its top missile and drone commander, the head of Iran’s external support for proxies across the Middle East and many others we likely have not yet heard about.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2025/06/13/politics/iran-israel-military-intelligence-strikes-analysis>

‘An immediate operational necessity’: Why Israel finally attacked Iran’s nuclear facilities

David Horovitz

Times of Israel, June 13, 2025

The IDF, in an official statement issued soon after Israel began attacking Iran’s nuclear program, described the resort to force as a “preemptive strike.” Why preemptive? Because in the assessment of Israel’s security chiefs, Iran’s nuclear weapons program had advanced to the point of existential threat, from a regime avowedly seeking to bring about Israel’s destruction. After years of vows to take military action, the IDF’s Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir, in a statement to the nation, declared that the situation had “reached the point of no return.” The UN’s nuclear watchdog has highlighted Iran’s accelerated uranium enrichment program. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in a prerecorded video address issued when the Israeli attack was under way, specified that the regime now has enough enriched uranium for nine nuclear weapons. In the assessment of Israel’s security establishment, the “nine bombs” figure may be an underestimation, the enrichment process may be even more advanced than the International Atomic Energy Agency has reported, and the weaponisation process has featured advanced testing in recent days. The aim of the Israeli strikes is to deeply damage Iran’s nuclear weapons capabilities — including key facilities and key commanders — and thus avert that perceived existential threat. The assessment in the security establishment is that this was

the right and necessary moment to strike — before Iran has rebuilt defences destroyed in Israel’s far less dramatic attack last October, and at a time when intel on the Iranian program is regarded as particularly strong.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/an-immediate-operational-necessity-why-israel-finally-attacked-irans-nuclear-facilities/>

After years of preparation, Israel launches major offensive against Iran and its nuclear program

Emanuel Fabian, Lazar Berman and Jacob Magid

Times of Israel, June 13, 2025

Decades of Israeli warnings against Iran’s nuclear program and preparations for military action to thwart it culminated early Friday morning with the Jewish state launching a major offensive against the Islamic Republic, striking nuclear sites, military facilities, missile bases and senior leadership. Jerusalem said it had engaged in a “precise, preemptive strike” against Iran, declaring an imminent threat from its nuclear program and announcing a domestic state of emergency as citizens braced for retaliation. Top officials warned of a potential prolonged conflict, noting that Tehran had the power to inflict significant pain upon Israel. Multiple waves of Israeli strikes were reported throughout Iran for several hours, starting at around 3 a.m. and into the morning. Over 200 Israeli Air Force aircraft were involved in the opening strikes, and fighter jets dropped over 330 munitions on some 100 targets,

the IDF said. The operation, dubbed “Rising Lion,” was directed at Iran’s nuclear program — the military assessed Iran currently has enough enriched uranium to build 15 nuclear bombs — as well as its ballistic missile factories and its military capabilities, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the military said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/after-years-of-preparation-israel-launches-major-offensive-against-iran-and-its-nuclear-program/>

World reacts to Israeli strike on Iran over nuclear activity

Alarabiya, June 13, 2025

Israel said it had struck Iranian nuclear targets to block Tehran from developing atomic weapons, and Iranian media and witnesses reported explosions including at the country’s main uranium enrichment facility. Calling it a “decisive moment in Israel’s history,” Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the country was also targeting Iranian scientists working on a nuclear bomb and missile factories in an operation that would continue for days. Iran has long maintained that its nuclear-related activity is for peaceful purposes. Israel declared a state of emergency in anticipation of retaliatory missile and drone strikes by Tehran. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio “Tonight, Israel took unilateral action against Iran. We are not involved in strikes against Iran and our top priority is protecting American forces in the region.” “Let me be clear: Iran should not target US interests or personnel.” Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong “Australia is alarmed by the escalation

between Israel and Iran. This risks further destabilising a region that is already volatile. We call on all parties to refrain from actions and rhetoric that will further exacerbate tensions. “We all understand the threat of Iran’s nuclear and ballistic missile program represents a threat to international peace and security, and we urge the parties to prioritise dialogue and diplomacy.”

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/middle-east/2025/06/13/australia-alarmed-by-escalation-between-israel-and-iran>

Israel Aerospace Industries delivers 250th Multi-Mission Radar, marks global milestone in air defence

Defence Industry Europe, June 13, 2025

Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) has delivered its 250th multi-mission radar (MMR), marking a significant achievement for the Israeli defence technology leader. The radar system, developed by IAI’s ELTA Group, has been central to Israel’s air defence and instrumental in intercepting tens of thousands of airborne threats since October 2023. Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) has delivered its 250th multi-mission radar (MMR), marking a significant achievement for the Israeli defence technology leader. The radar system, developed by IAI’s ELTA Group, has been central to Israel’s air defence and instrumental in intercepting tens of thousands of airborne threats since October 2023. The MMR is deployed in all four of Israel’s key air defence systems—Barak MX, Iron Dome, David’s Sling and Spyder—and is described by IAI as the most operational and best-selling radar of its kind globally. It provides simultaneous,

high-quality detection, classification and targeting of a wide variety of aerial threats, including low-signature and fast-moving projectiles. “IAI’s MMR radars are a central part in all of Israel’s main air defence systems and have proven their effectiveness and accuracy over the years, time and time again, thereby saving many lives,” said Boaz Levy, President and CEO of IAI. “During the current war, we accelerated the production capabilities of IAI’s defence systems and provided the State of Israel and our customers worldwide with the most advanced response to protecting human life.”

<https://defence-industry.eu/israel-aerospace-industries-delivers-250th-multi-mission-radar-marks-global-milestone-in-air-defence/>

Iran cancels next round of nuclear talks with US after Israeli strikes

Times of Israel, June 14, 2025

A planned new round of US-Iranian talks on Tehran’s nuclear program will not take place June 8, 2025, as Israel and Iran traded blows a day after Israel’s blistering attack on Iranian nuclear and military sites. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said that Tehran would not attend nuclear talks so long as Israel kept up its attacks on the Islamic Republic. In a call with his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron, Pezeshkian said Iran favored diplomacy, but will not “accept irrational demands under pressure or... sit at the negotiating table while the Zionist regime continues its attacks,” according to a readout shared by the Iranian presidency. Macron said in a

statement of his own that he had asked Pezeshkian to “return swiftly to the negotiating table.” The two days of intense attacks have left Iran’s leadership with the difficult decision of plunging deeper into conflict with Israel’s more powerful forces or seeking a diplomatic route.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-cancels-next-round-of-nuclear-talks-with-us-after-israeli-strikes/>

Israel’s Operation Rising Lion lays bare Iran’s nuclear web: Satellite images reveal direct strikes that Tehran won’t admit

The Economic Times, June 14, 2025

In one of the most direct attacks on Iran’s nuclear infrastructure to date, Israel’s military has targeted key facilities with precision airstrikes, according to satellite imagery analysed by The Associated Press and Maxar Technologies. Images taken after the strikes reveal widespread destruction at some of Iran’s most sensitive nuclear and ballistic missile sites, marking a significant escalation in the ongoing conflict. Damage is clearly visible at the sprawling Natanz nuclear enrichment facility, located southwest of Tehran. Multiple buildings at the site were either damaged or completely destroyed, including structures reportedly supplying power to centrifuge halls. While the underground enrichment units appear untouched for now, analysts warn that any disruption to their power supply could critically damage uranium centrifuges. Planet Labs imagery also revealed large burn marks at a missile base in

Kermanshah, built against a mountainside, and visible strike damage at another base in Tabriz, both in western Iran.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/israels-operation-rising-lion-lays-bare-irans-nuclear-web-satellite-images-reveal-direct-strikes-that-tehran-wont-admit/articleshow/121863389.cms?from=mdr>

Cracks in the Dome: How strong is Israel's iron defence now?

The Economic Times, June 14, 2025

As tensions escalate in the Middle East, the Israeli military said that its multilayered air-defence system intercepted the vast majority of the ballistic missiles fired by Iran, although a few managed to hit targets, causing minor damage. An Associated Press reporter witnessed smoke rising from a building in Tel Aviv following an apparent missile strike. A nearby hospital reported treating 15 injured civilians. The latest attack marks one of the most significant direct military confrontations between Iran and Israel in recent history and is seen as a major stress test for Israel's widely regarded air-defence architecture. Since the war broke out on October 7, 2023, Israel has faced continuous attacks from multiple fronts—including Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and now directly from Iran—using a mix of short- and medium-range rockets, drones, and long-range ballistic missiles. While the United States provided support through its ground-based air defence systems in the region, a U.S. official told The Associated Press that the

bulk of the interceptions were carried out by Israeli forces themselves.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/cracks-in-the-dome-how-strong-is-israels-iron-defense-now/articleshow/121844325.cms?from=mdr>

Ships, trucks, and suitcases: How Israel reportedly got its attack drones into Iran

Times of Israel, June 15, 2025

Israel smuggled attack drones into Iran using a variety of means, including trucks, shipping containers, and even suitcases, The Wall Street Journal reported on June 8, 2025, citing sources familiar with the Mossad operation. When Israel launched its shock campaign in Iran early June 13, 2025 morning, it also used explosive-carrying quadcopter drones, rockets, and other sophisticated equipment located inside Iran for precision attacks on Iranian nuclear scientists, military leaders, anti-aircraft batteries, and surface-to-surface missiles. It was previously reported that Israel spent years preparing for the operation against Iran's nuclear and missile programs, including building a drone base inside Iran and smuggling precision weapons systems and commandos into the country. Unnamed sources revealed more details in the Journal report, saying Israel spent months smuggling bomb-laden quadcopter drone parts into Iran via suitcases, trucks, and shipping containers. In some cases, business transactions were made with partners who were unaware of the cargo being shipped. Mossad agents inside Iran then gathered the equipment and handed it

out to teams who prepared the drones for use. Team leaders were trained outside Iran and then returned to pass on the skills to the teams on the ground.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/ships-trucks-and-suitcases-how-israel-reportedly-got-its-attack-drones-into-iran/>

The nuclear mountain that haunts Israel

John Paul Rathbone and Charles Clover

Financial Times, June 15, 2025

To Israeli military planners, it is akin to Mount Doom: a tightly guarded nuclear enrichment plant, buried half a kilometre beneath a mountain, which is ringed by air defences and symbolically situated near the ancient religious city of Qom. To Tehran, the Fordow facility symbolises its desire to safeguard its nuclear programme, designed to survive a full-frontal attack, with enough centrifuges and highly enriched uranium intact to potentially produce a nuclear weapon, or “break out”. Buried under hard rock and encased in reinforced concrete that puts it beyond the destructive reach of any of Israel’s publicly known weapons, it is also a symbol of Iran’s strategic anxiety. “Fordow is the be-all and end-all of Iran’s nuclear operation,” said Behnam Ben Taleblu, a senior fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, a US think-tank. On June 21, 2025, President Donald Trump announced that US planes had bombed Fordow, alongside other nuclear sites at Natanz and Isfahan, saying that the facilities had been “completely and totally obliterated”. Iran confirmed the strikes, though the extent of the damage was yet to be verified on June 22, 2025 morning.

Fordow is not a uniquely protected facility. Every major military power with a nuclear programme has similar underground military bunkers that have inspired countless spy thrillers and conspiracy theories. Raven Rock in the US, the so-called “Underground Pentagon”, is built into a Pennsylvania mountain. Russia’s secretive Mount Yamantau is thought to house a large nuclear weapons facility. The same is true of the North Korean underground missile bases built into the mountains, while China’s Longpo naval base includes an underground facility for nuclear submarines accessed via tunnels.

<https://www.ft.com/content/46c60c82-7e5c-4013-a789-459e785d33fd>

Israel found Iran carried out key tests for nuke design ahead of strikes — report

Times of Israel, June 15, 2025

Ahead of its strikes on Iran, Israel discovered that the Islamic Republic’s scientists had conducted successful experiments in the design process of a nuclear weapon, bringing it weeks away from being able to produce a bomb if it chose to do so, according to a Hebrew media report Sunday. This “golden information” was presented by intelligence officials to the political leadership before the decision was made to carry out preemptive strikes June 13, 2025, along with the concern that Israel didn’t know everything and that Tehran could be at an even more advanced stage in building a nuclear bomb than the available information showed, Army Radio reported, citing unnamed security officials.

According to the report, Iran gathered scientists and split them into several working groups to labor in secret on components of the process of weaponizing nuclear material into an actual explosive device, beginning around the end of 2023 or the start of 2024 — shortly after Hamas's October 7 onslaught, which sparked the ongoing war in Gaza.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-found-iran-carried-out-key-tests-for-nuke-design-ahead-of-strikes-report/>

How involved is the US in the Israel-Iran war – so far?

Amanda Borschel-Dan

Times of Israel, June 15, 2025

American air defence systems and a Navy destroyer have helped Israel shoot down incoming ballistic missiles that Tehran has launched in response to Israeli strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities and top military leaders. We hear how the US has used both ground-based Patriot missile defence systems and Terminal High Altitude Air Defence systems that are capable of intercepting ballistic missiles. A Navy destroyer in the eastern Mediterranean Sea also shot down Iranian missiles heading toward Israel, one official said. Berman weighs in on whether the US may step up its efforts and join Israel in the possible scenario of a ground offensive on Iranian soil.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/daily-briefing-june-15-day-618-how-involved-is-the-us-in-the-israel-iran-war-so-far/>

Israeli defence officials and industry leaders discuss boosting military production

Defence Industry Europe, June 15, 2025

The Director General of Israel's Ministry of Defence, Maj. Gen. (Res.) Amir Baram, has held a situational assessment with the heads of Israel's major defence companies. Participating in the meeting were the CEOs of Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), Rafael Advanced Defence Systems, Elbit Systems, Tomer, and senior Ministry officials. The discussion focused on accelerating the production of critical military equipment needed for the ongoing campaign. It also addressed preparations by the defence industries to protect and ensure the continued operation of vital systems in the face of the Iranian missile threat. Maj. Gen. (Res.) Baram emphasised the strategic importance of advanced Israeli military technologies. "The capability to reach Tehran and strike regime and nuclear facilities with such precision and simultaneously, as well as to effectively counter massive barrages of ballistic missiles, would not have been achievable without the breakthrough Israeli technologies developed over years of investment at the IMOD's Directorate of Defense Research and Development DDR&D (MAFAT) and within our defence industries," he stated.

<https://defence-industry.eu/israeli-defence-officials-and-industry-leaders-discuss-boosting-military-production/>

Israeli military targets Iran's defence ministry in fresh wave of strikes

Business Standard, June 15, 2025

Israel launched an expanded assault on Iran on Sunday, with direct strikes targeting its energy industry and Defence Ministry headquarters, while Tehran unleashed a fresh barrage of missiles blamed for the deaths of four people. The simultaneous strikes represented the latest salvo since a surprise attack by Israel two days earlier aimed at decimating Tehran's rapidly advancing nuclear programme. New explosions boomed across Tehran as Iranian missiles entered Israel's skies in an attack that Israeli emergency officials said killed four people in an apartment building in the Galilee region. Casualty figures weren't immediately available in Iran, where Israel targeted its Defence Ministry headquarters in Tehran as well as sites that it alleged were associated with the country's nuclear programme. Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard claimed that Iranian missiles targeted fuel production facilities for Israeli fighter jets, something not acknowledged by Israel. Amid the continued conflict, planned negotiations between Iran and the United States over Tehran's nuclear programme were cancelled, throwing into question when and how an end to the fighting could come.

https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/israeli-military-targets-iran-s-defence-ministry-in-fresh-wave-of-strikes-125061500050_1.html

Jordan

Jordan to host Artificial Intelligence in Defence Technologies & Cyber Security Exhibition & Conference - AIDTSEC 2025

Defaiya, June 8, 2025

The third edition of The Artificial Intelligence in Defence Security & Cybersecurity Exhibition & Conference - AIDTSEC 2025 will take place from 28-30 October 2025 at the King Hussein bin Talal Convention Center, Dead Sea - Jordan. The inaugural and second editions of AIDTSEC were held under the esteemed Patronage of HRH Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II (photo). These events attracted over 100 high-level delegations, 10,000+ visitors, 150+ exhibiting companies, 70+ expert speakers, and participants from more than 60 countries. Organised by SOFEX, AIDTSEC is a biennial conference and exhibition that is established to be the region's most significant AI conference, aiming to bring together the lead AI guru's in Defence Technologies and Cyber Security. AIDTSEC aims to attract the region's vastly recognized officials, decision makers, technological experts, professionals and researchers in the field to tackle and discuss the world's emerging AI Defence Technologies including Digital Transformation & Infrastructure, Big Data & Data Analytics, Cyber Security, Data Protection, and many more important AI related subjects.

<https://www.defaiya.com/news/Security/Security/2025/06/08/jordan-to-host-artificial-intelligence-in-defence-technologies-cyber-security-exhibition-conference-aidtsec-2025>

Jordan says intercepted drones, missiles in its airspace

Alarabiya, June 13, 2025

Jordan's military said it intercepted drones and missiles that had violated the kingdom's airspace on Friday, after Iran vowed there would be "no limits" in its response to Israeli attacks. "Royal Air Force aircraft and air defence systems intercepted a number of missiles and drones that entered Jordanian airspace," a military statement said. Air raid sirens sounded in the Jordanian capital after Israel's attack on Iran, while the public security directorate urged people to stay at home. "Adhere to the guidelines and stay in your homes," said an announcement on loudspeakers in Amman. Jordan had earlier said it would not allow its airspace to be violated and vowed not to become a "battleground" in any regional conflict. In October 2024, Jordan intercepted multiple drones and missiles fired by Iran at Israel. "Jordan has not and will not allow any violation of its airspace, reaffirming that the kingdom will not be a battleground for any conflict," government spokesperson Mohammad Momani told AFP. The government meanwhile condemned Israel's attack, with foreign ministry spokesperson Sufian Qudah warning of "the consequences of such escalatory actions." Jordan also called the attack "a blatant violation of the sovereignty of a United Nations member state and a clear breach of international law and the UN Charter."

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/middle-east/2025/06/13/jordan-says-intercepted-drones-missiles-in-its-airspace>

Jordan warns against possible violation of its airspace, saying it will not be 'a battlefield'

Laith Al-jnaidi and Betul Yilmaz

Anadolu Agency, June 13, 2025

Jordan said it will not allow its airspace to be violated after a large-scale Israeli attack on Iran. "The Kingdom didn't and will not allow any violation of its airspace, and it will not be a battlefield for any conflict," said government spokesman and minister of government communication Mohammad Al-Momani. "The safety of the homeland is a red line," Momani said. "The Kingdom will not allow any attempt to threaten its security and the safety of its citizens." He called on the international community to put pressure on the parties involved to "restore calm and prevent a further escalation in the region." The statement came after Israel launched a sweeping military operation against Iran, with strikes targeting its nuclear program and long-range missile capabilities. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a speech posted on YouTube that his forces struck the "heart of Iran's nuclear enrichment program. We struck at the heart of Iran's nuclear weaponisation program." Meanwhile, Iranian state media reported that the Israeli strikes killed top Iranian military officials, including the commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, Gen. Hossein Salami.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/jordan-warns-against-possible-violation-of-its-airspace-saying-it-will-not-be-a-battlefield-/3596116>

Lebanon

Israel launches several attacks on Beirut's southern suburbs, south Lebanon

Aljazeera, June 5, 2025

A series of Israeli strikes have targeted Beirut's southern suburbs on the eve of the Muslim Eid al-Adha holiday, almost an hour after the Israeli army issued a forced evacuation order to residents in areas that it says held underground facilities used by the Lebanese group Hezbollah for drone production. The attack on Thursday is the fourth time Israel has bombed Beirut since a ceasefire with Hezbollah went into effect in November. It has carried out assassinations and announced strikes that it said targeted Hezbollah sites. Israel has violated the ceasefire on a near-daily basis for seven months, according to the Lebanese government led by President Joseph Aoun, Arab nations and rights groups. Aoun has recently appealed to the United States and France to rein Israel. Aoun, in a statement after the strikes, voiced "firm condemnation of the Israeli aggression" and "flagrant violation of an international accord ... on the eve of a sacred religious festival".

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/6/5/israel-launches-several-attacks-on-beirut-southern-suburbs>

Israel warns of more Lebanon strikes if Hezbollah not disarmed

Jonathan Sawaya

Al-monitor, Jun 6, 2025

Israel warned that it would keep striking Lebanon until militant group Hezbollah has

been disarmed, after hitting south Beirut in what Lebanese leaders called a major violation of a November ceasefire. Thursday's attacks on what the Israeli military said were underground Hezbollah drone factories came after an Israeli evacuation call on the eve of Eid al-Adha, a key Muslim religious festival, and sent huge numbers of residents of Beirut's southern suburbs fleeing. It was the fourth and heaviest Israeli bombardment of the heavily populated area, known as a bastion of support for Hezbollah, in the six months since a ceasefire deal aimed at ending hostilities between Hezbollah and Israel. The last attack was in late April. "There will be no calm in Beirut, and no order or stability in Lebanon, without security for the State of Israel," Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said in a statement. "Agreements must be honoured and if you do not do what is required, we will continue to act, and with great force." The state-run National News Agency reported around a dozen strikes, while Health Minister Rakan Nassereldine said several people were wounded by flying glass.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2025/06/israel-warns-more-lebanon-strikes-if-hezbollah-not-disarmed>

Oman

Oman to host sixth round of nuclear negotiations between Iran and US

Arabnews, June 12, 2025

There will be a sixth round of negotiations between Iran and the United States over Tehran's rapidly advancing nuclear

program this weekend, Oman's foreign minister said Thursday. Badr Al-Busaidi made the announcement on the social platform X. "I am pleased to confirm the 6th round of Iran US talks will be held in Muscat this the 15th," he wrote. Iran for days had been saying there would be talks, but Oman, which is serving as the mediator, had not confirmed them until now. There was no immediate comment from the US. Tensions have been rising over the last day in the region, with the US drawing down the presence of staffers who are not deemed essential to operations in the Middle East and their loved ones due to the potential for regional unrest.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2604250/middle-east>

Oman confirms collapse of nuclear talks after US-Israeli coordinated assault

Tehran Times, June 14, 2025

The Sultanate of Oman formally announced the cancellation of Sunday's planned U.S.-Iran nuclear negotiations, with Foreign Minister Badr Albusaidi confirming the news. "The Iran-U.S. talks scheduled to be held in Muscat will not now take place; but diplomacy and dialogue remain the only pathway to lasting peace," wrote Muscat's top diplomat. The move followed the Israeli regime's blatant military assault on Iranian territory in the early hours of Friday, which reportedly martyred over 100 Iranians, including civilians, military personnel, and nuclear scientists, and targeted residential areas and critical infrastructure. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, in discussion with a European official, squarely blamed Washington for enabling

the aggression. He emphasised that continuing the talks would be "unjustifiable while barbarous Israeli attacks persist," citing U.S. President Donald Trump's explicit support for the strikes. Araghchi underscored that Tehran viewed the attacks as "a result of direct U.S. backing," rendering diplomacy futile while American allies bombed Iranian soil.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514372/Oman-confirms-collapse-of-nuclear-talks-after-US-Israeli-coordinated>

Qatar

Qatar condemns Israeli strikes on Iran as flagrant breach of international law

Adijata Ziga

Doha News, June 13, 2025

Qatar has issued a strong condemnation of Israel's large-scale air raids on Iranian territory, calling the attacks a "flagrant violation of Iran's sovereignty" and a "dangerous breach" of international law. The statement from the Qatari Ministry of Foreign Affairs came hours after Israel launched a coordinated assault targeting over 100 sites across Iran, including key nuclear and military facilities. "The State of Qatar expresses its strong condemnation and deep denunciation of the large-scale Israeli attack targeting the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran," the ministry said. "This dangerous escalation comes as part of a repeated pattern of reckless policies that threaten the security and stability of the region, obstruct diplomatic efforts, and push the region toward further escalation." Qatar called on the international community to take urgent action to halt

what it described as ongoing Israeli violations, stressing that global legal and moral responsibilities must be upheld. Doha also reiterated its commitment to resolving disputes through dialogue and warned that continued escalation could widen the conflict and jeopardise regional stability.

<https://dohanews.co/qatar-condemns-israeli-strikes-on-iran-as-flagrant-breach-of-international-law/>

Iran turns to Qatar, Oman in bid to halt Israeli strikes, U.S. presses for nuclear concessions

Amichai Stein

i24news, June 15, 2025

As Israeli strikes against Iran continue, Tehran has turned to diplomatic backchannels, seeking the help of regional mediators in an effort to halt the fighting and revive negotiations. Sources familiar with the matter tell i24NEWS that Iran has approached Oman and Qatar to act as intermediaries with the United States, hoping to broker a ceasefire that would bring an end to Israel's military offensive. In parallel, Saudi Arabia has also become involved in behind-the-scenes diplomatic efforts, working quietly to create conditions for a de-escalation and possible resumption of talks. The multiple mediation tracks highlight the growing international concern over the ongoing conflict, which threatens to escalate further and destabilise the region. However, U.S. officials have made clear that Washington remains firm on its conditions: any diplomatic breakthrough would require Iran to accept a full halt to its uranium enrichment activities. "We remain

committed to the talks and hope that the Iranians will come to the negotiating table soon," a senior U.S. administration official told i24NEWS on Saturday.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/artc-iran-turns-to-qatar-oman-in-bid-to-halt-israeli-strikes-u-s-presses-for-nuclear-concessions>

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia asserts no radiation risk from Natanz and Isfahan nuclear facilities

Saudi Gazette, June 14, 2025

Saudi Arabia reiterated on Saturday that there is no environmental contamination in the vicinity of the Natanz and Isfahan uranium enrichment plants in Iran following the Israeli strikes. The Nuclear Emergency Operations Center at the Saudi Nuclear and Radiological Regulatory Commission (NRRC) stated that this assertion is based on a briefing by the Emergency Incident Center of the International Atomic Energy Agency in accordance with what it had received from the Iran Nuclear Regulatory Authority. The Saudi nuclear regulatory authority stated that this information is made available within the framework of the agreement on early notification of a nuclear incident. Previously, the NRRC stated that Saudi Arabia's proactive national capabilities to anticipate radioactive fallout include the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, and it does not believe the situation requires the activation of nuclear emergency response plans.

<https://www.saudigazette.com.sa/article/652685/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-Arabia-asserts-no-radiation-risk-from-Natanz-and-Isfahan-nuclear-facilities>

Syria

IAEA head in Damascus to discuss nuclear power

Arabnews, June 4, 2025

UN nuclear watchdog head Rafael Grossi said Wednesday his agency and Syrian authorities would begin “exploring the possibility of nuclear power,” on his first visit to Damascus since the ouster of Bashar Assad. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has repeatedly been at loggerheads with Syria in the past over what it says are “unresolved issues” regarding suspected nuclear activities. On his visit, the IAEA chief met with Syrian President Ahmed Al-Sharaa and Foreign Minister Asaad Al-Shaibani. “Honoured to meet Syrian President Ahmed Al-Sharaa in Damascus. I recognise his courage in cooperating with full transparency to close a chapter of Syria’s past that diverted resources necessary for development,” Grossi said in a post on X. He said the two sides “will also begin exploring the possibility of nuclear power in Syria.” “Our cooperation is key to closing outstanding issues and focusing on the much needed help IAEA can provide Syria in health and agriculture,” he added.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2603413/middle-east>

Syria agrees to give UN inspectors immediate access to suspected former nuclear sites

Alarabiya, June 5, 2025

The new Syrian government has agreed to give inspectors from the United Nations’

nuclear watchdog access to suspected former nuclear sites immediately, the agency’s head told The Associated Press. The International Atomic Energy Agency’s director-general, Rafael Mariano Grossi, said in an interview in Damascus, where he met with President Ahmed al-Sharaa and other officials, that al-Sharaa had also expressed an interest in pursuing nuclear energy for Syria in the future. The agency’s aim is “to bring total clarity over certain activities that took place in the past that were in the judgment of the agency, probably related to, nuclear weapons,” Grossi said. An IAEA team in 2024 visited some sites of interest while former President Bashar al-Assad was still in power. Since the fall of al-Assad in December, the IAEA has been seeking to restore access to sites associated with Syria’s nuclear program. Grossi described the new government as “committed to opening up to the world to international cooperation” and said he is hopeful of finishing the inspection process within months.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/middle-east/2025/06/05/syria-agrees-to-give-un-inspectors-immediate-access-to-suspected-former-nuclear-sites>

Turkiye

Turkish defence firms to showcase products at Indo Defence 2025 in Jakarta

Tolga Yanik and Emir Yildirim

Anadolu Agency, June 10, 2025

Turkish defence firms will showcase their products at Indo Defence 2025, Asia-Pacific’s largest defence industry expo, which begins on Wednesday in Jakarta,

Indonesia. The four-day event, hosted by the Indonesian Ministry of Defence, will bring together official delegations and defence firms from across the region and the world. This year, Türkiye has the most participants in the event, with 29 firms led by the Defence Industry Agency (SSB) and supported by the Turkish Defence and Aerospace Industry Exporters' Association (SSI). The event will be attended by 32 countries, each with their own national pavilion, and 1,157 firms from 60 countries. The event is expected to attract more than 40,000 professional attendees. The event will feature displays of Turkish defence firms' weapons, naval and electronic systems, as well as unmanned ground and air vehicles, armored vehicle platforms, ammunition, simulators, and logistics support products. Turkish firms participating in the expo include 3E EOS, Abramak, Aeromac, Anova, Armelsan, Aselsan, Assan, Baykar, Efor Global, Elsis, Garanti Giyim, Havelsan, Karmetal, Kayaci Defence, Koluman, MKE, Nurol Makina, Repkon, Roketsan, Sarsilmaz, SDT, Sensorsan, STM, TAIS, Timsan, Transvaro, TURMAKS, Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI), and YONTECH.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkiye/turkish-defense-firms-to-showcase-products-at-indo-defence-2025-in-jakarta/3593394>

Indonesia and Turkey ink deal for 48 KAAN fighter jets

Tim Martin

Breaking Defense, June 11, 2025

Indonesia reached an agreement with Turkey today for the acquisition of 48 KAAN fifth-generation fighter jets,

marking the first major international sale of the Turkish fighter. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan announced the deal on X and said that the aircraft will be produced in Turkey with support from “Indonesia’s local capabilities,” but he did not share an order value. In a supporting statement Turkish Aerospace Industries, producer of the stealth jet, said that Indonesian and Turkish defence officials formally signed an agreement for the deal during a ceremony at the Indo Defence trade show in Jakarta. The manufacturer labelled the sale as a “significant strategic milestone on the international stage” and noted that all 48 aircraft will be delivered over 10 years. The new combat aircraft will also be powered by the in-development, domestically produced TF35000 turbofan engine.

<https://breakingdefense.com/2025/06/indonesia-and-turkey-ink-deal-for-48-kaan-fighter-jets/>

Turkish firms strengthen defence collaboration with new deals

Dailysabah, June 12, 2025

Turkish defence companies, spearheaded by a massive deal for the export of a fifth-generation fighter jet, continued to bolster their partnerships during a major industry event held in Indonesia. Turkish missile producer Roketsan sign several agreements aimed at strengthening cooperation with industry majors from Italy and Indonesia. "Another strategic step forward! We've signed an MoU with Leonardo to pursue joint opportunities and strengthen our cooperation in the defence industry," the Turkish firm said in a statement on X,

referring to the memorandum signed with Italian giant Leonardo. "With a shared vision, we aim to build long-term, large-scale strategic collaborations and expand our presence in global markets," it added. The MoU was signed during a major defence event – INDO Defence Expo and Forum – held this week in the Indonesian capital, Jakarta. It is considered Indonesia's largest biennial international defence industry exhibition and one of the largest in Southeast Asia, featuring the participation of manufacturers from over 40 countries.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-firms-strengthen-defense-collaboration-with-new-deals>

United Arab Emirates

UAE receives IAEA's highest recognition for nuclear safeguards

Ali Al Hammadi

Gulf News, June 3, 2025

The UAE has once again received the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) highest level of recognition in its 2024 Safeguards Implementation Report, marking the third consecutive year the country has earned the "Broader Conclusion". This achievement reaffirms that all declared nuclear material in the UAE is being used solely for peaceful purposes. It reflects the country's strong regulatory framework and continued commitment to nuclear transparency and global non-proliferation standards. The "Broader Conclusion" is the result of a thorough review process carried out by the IAEA, based on detailed information provided by the UAE under its non-

proliferation agreements. This includes regular reports on nuclear facilities, materials and technologies, as well as voluntary additional disclosures. The IAEA then verifies this information through inspections and assessments, also considering independent sources and open-source data.

<https://gulfnews.com/uae/uae-receives-iaeas-highest-recognition-for-nuclear-safeguards-1.500150711>

UAE participates in Indo Defence 2025 with National Pavilion showcasing over 90 defence products

Aletihad, June 10, 2025

The UAE is participating in Indo Defence 2025, held from June 11-14 at the Jakarta International Expo. The national pavilion is organised with the support of Tawazun Council and the UAE's Ministry of Defence (MoD) and as part of the ongoing efforts to enhance UAE's global presence in the defence sector. Spanning an area of 704 square metres, the UAE National Pavilion features more than 90 products and advanced systems across land, sea and air domains, alongside cybersecurity and secure communications technologies, reflecting the rapid growth and advancement of the UAE's defence manufacturing capabilities. The pavilion brings together a selection of leading defence companies under the EDGE Group, showcasing the state-of-the-art technologies and products. Among the Group's participating companies are: CARACAL, LAHAB, AL TARIQ, HALCON, AL JASOOR, NIMR, Abu Dhabi Ship Building (ADSB), SIGN4L,

KATIM, ORYXLABS, HORIZON, BEACON RED, and ADASI. AMMROC is also present as one of the key UAE companies taking part in the pavilion. Commenting on the participation, Matar Ali Al Romaithi, Sector Chief of Defence and Security Industry Affairs at Tawazun Council, said: “This participation presents a strategic opportunity to strengthen defence ties between the UAE and Indonesia, and to showcase the advanced manufacturing and technological capabilities achieved by our national defence industry.”

<https://en.aletiyah.ae/news/business/4581684/uae-participates-in-indo-defence-2025-with-national-pavilion#:~:text=Infograph,UAE%20participates%20in%20Indo%20Defence%202025%20with,showcasing%20over%2090%20defence%20products&text=The%20UAE%20is%20participating%20in,at%20the%20Jakarta%20International%20Expo.>

EDGE Group and Leonardo to strengthen strategic partnership with groundbreaking joint venture

Zawya, June 12, 2025

EDGE, one of the world’s leading advanced technology and defence groups, and Leonardo have confirmed their mutual intent to establish a joint venture (JV) in Abu Dhabi. The JV will create a cutting-edge technology hub in the UAE, strategically positioned to serve global markets through a unified and synergistic approach. The MOU was signed by H.E. Faisal Al Bannai, Chairman of EDGE Group, and Roberto Cingolani, CEO and General Manager of Leonardo during a recent visit to Abu Dhabi. This agreement

marks the latest step in strengthening the collaboration between EDGE and Leonardo. The new JV will represent a landmark in global defence collaboration, covering multiple domains and integrating some of the most advanced and sophisticated technologies, including Naval C2 systems and combat system ballistic missile defence; counter-unmanned aerial systems (C-UAS); airborne capabilities for maritime multi-mission aircraft (MMA); optronics; air defence; and high-performance computing (HPC) electronics for missile applications.

<https://www.zawya.com/en/press-release/companies-news/edge-group-and-leonardo-to-strengthen-strategic-partnership-with-groundbreaking-joint-venture-klbrqpq0>

Yemen

Israel strikes Yemen’s Hodeidah port, threatens blockade

Aljazeera, June 10, 2025

Israel’s military has launched overnight strikes on Yemen’s port city of Hodeidah, which it claims is used by Houthi rebels to transport weapons. The Israeli army and Houthi-controlled media reported the strikes on Hodeidah, a key port for humanitarian aid imports. An Israeli official said an “aerial and naval blockade” could follow unless Houthi rebels halt attacks on Israel. The strike hit two piers at the port, according to the Houthi reports. Israel’s military claimed responsibility shortly after, saying it used navy ships to fire missiles at seaports that the Houthis use for “military purposes”. Neither the Houthi

nor Israeli reports mentioned any casualties. Located on Yemen's western coast, Hodeidah is the main entry point for food and other humanitarian aid for millions of Yemenis struggling during a war that began in 2014.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/6/10/israel-strikes-yemens-hodeidah-port-threatens-blockade>

Yemen's Houthis claim striking 'sensitive Israeli targets' in coordination with Iran

Betul Yilmaz

Anadolu Agency, June 15, 2025

The Yemeni Houthi group claimed that it targeted Israel with hypersonic ballistic missiles in coordination with the Iranian army. Houthi spokesperson Yahya Saree said the group hit "sensitive Israeli enemy targets" in Yaffa, central Israel, with hypersonic ballistic missiles at various times in the last 24 hours. "This operation was coordinated with the operations carried out by the Iranian army against the criminal Israeli enemy," Saree said. "The operations successfully achieved their objectives," he added. No immediate reaction to the Houthi claim was reported from Israel. The Yemeni strikes came in response to Israeli strikes on Iranian nuclear and missile facilities that killed several military commanders and scientists. Iran responded with ballistic missile attacks targeting Israeli territory, causing casualties and property damage.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/yemen-s-houthis-claim-striking-sensitive-israeli-targets-in-coordination-with-iran/3599009>

NUCLEAR AND ARMS CONTROL CENTRE

Sylloge on West Asia is compiled by Ms. Bhawna

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