

LIVE UPDATED 6 MINUTES AGO

Middle East war live: Iranian strike wounds US troops at Saudi air base

Yemen's Houthi rebels carry out their first attack on Israel since the war began

Edited by **Robert Orr**, **Maxine Kelly** and **Fergus Ryan** in London, **Eli Meixler** and **Sarah Provan** in Hong Kong

EDITOR'S PICK 3 hours ago

Main developments



Drone and missile attacks continued across the region after 12 US troops were wounded in an Iranian strike on the Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia, one of the most significant attacks on American forces of the conflict.

Iran said two US refuelling aircraft were destroyed and three others were damaged in the attack.

Yemen's Houthis claimed responsibility for an attack on Israel, the first from the rebel group since the war began. Israel said it intercepted a missile launched from Yemen towards its territory.

Pakistan will host the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Egypt for two days of talks aimed at de-escalating regional tensions.

Israel's military attacked two Iranian nuclear facilities, which Iran's foreign minister said were for civilian nuclear energy. Tehran is exploring a possible exit from international commitments designed to limit its nuclear programme.

Iran also said Israel hit steel factories and a power plant, raising concerns that President Donald Trump's 10-day reprieve on strikes against infrastructure was breaking down.

Brent crude settled about 4 per cent higher at \$112.57 a barrel on Friday, its highest closing price since July 2022. US stocks fell further, extending the drop in the S&P 500 since the war began to 7.4 per cent.

US secretary of state Marco Rubio told G7 partners that the war against Iran would last another two to four weeks.



6 minutes ago

Bitra Ghaffari in Tehran

Guards say they have sunk three US vessels in Kuwait



Iran said it had used a Qadr ballistic missile in the attack © AFP/Getty Images

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said its navy carried out an attack against US forces and tactical equipment in Kuwait's Shuwaikh port, as well as targets along the coast and in Dubai.

“The operation was conducted using Qadr ballistic and cruise missiles against six US Landing Craft Utility vessels in Shuwaikh port,” it said, claiming three of the vessels had sunk and the remaining three were on fire.

The Guards added that a drone operation was simultaneously carried out against US forces “on the coast and at a hotel in Dubai”, which resulted in significant US fatalities.



13 minutes ago

A. Anantha Lakshmi in Jakarta

Thailand strikes deal with Iran for tanker transit through Strait of Hormuz



© RUNGROJ YONGRIT/EPA/Shutterstock

Thailand has struck a deal with Iran to allow its oil tankers to transit safely through the Strait of Hormuz, its prime minister Anutin Charnvirakul said.

The agreement will ease concerns over crude oil supply in import-dependent Thailand, Anutin said at a news conference.

Iran is working to establish an approvals system for ships seeking to pass through the strait, as it tightens its control over the vital waterway.

A Thai-flagged bulk carrier was attacked this month while sailing near the strait. Three of its crew remain missing.



29 minutes ago

Raya Jalabi in Beirut

Pro-Hizbollah journalists killed in airstrike



© AP

Two Lebanese journalists were killed on Saturday in an Israeli air strike.

Ali Shoaib, a high-profile correspondent with Hizbollah broadcaster Al-Manar, and Fatima Ftouni, a correspondent with Al Mayadeen, a pro-Hizbollah outlet in Lebanon, were killed in Jezzine while out reporting, their networks said.

Israel claimed responsibility for the strike and accused Shoab of being a member of Hizbollah's elite Radwan Force.

Videos circulating among local reporters showed a crowd near a vehicle on fire before a second strike hit the area, forcing people to back away from the scene.

Two other Al-Manar journalists, Hussain Hammood and Mohammad Sherri, were killed in airstrikes this month.



52 minutes ago

Bitra Ghaffari in Tehran

Iran's president vows to retaliate over attacks on infrastructure

President Masoud Pezeshkian said Iran would retaliate against attacks on its vital infrastructure, and asked its neighbours not to allow their territories to be used as a staging ground for war.

He said in a post on social media platform X that Iran would not engage in “pre-emptive strikes” but would “retaliate strongly if our infrastructure or economic centres are targeted.”

Pezeshkian urged regional countries seeking “security and development” not to let “our enemies run the war from your lands.”

Iran has launched missile and drone strikes against Gulf countries hosting US bases, accusing them of allowing the use of their territory and airspace for military operations against the country.



An hour ago

Bitra Ghaffari in Tehran

Guards claim they destroyed Ukrainian anti-drone system depot in Dubai



© via Reuters

Iran's military command centre said that the Revolutionary Guards' aerospace and naval forces had destroyed a Ukrainian anti-drone system depot in Dubai.

“Simultaneously with inflicting heavy casualties on US commanders and soldiers in strikes targeting their hide-outs in Dubai, a warehouse used by Ukraine for storing anti-drone systems to assist the US military in Dubai was also destroyed,” a spokesperson for Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters said.

He added that 21 Ukrainian personnel who were present at the location were presumed to have been killed.



2 hours ago

Ahmed Al Omran in Jeddah

Houthi rebels claim responsibility for Israel attack

Yemen's Houthi rebels claimed responsibility for an attack on Israel, saying they launched a volley of ballistic missiles targeting “sensitive military targets”.

The group carried out the attack “due to the continued escalation and the targeting of infrastructure and committing crimes and massacres against our brothers in Lebanon, Iran, Iraq and Palestine,” brigadier general Yahya Saree, military spokesman for the Iran-backed Houthis, said in a televised statement.

The group earlier warned that they were ready to join the war if the US or Israel used the Red Sea to strike Iran.



2 hours ago

Alice Hancock in Brussels

Maersk halts Oman port operations after drone attack

Port operations at Salalah in Oman have been halted following a drone attack, said Maersk, the world’s second biggest container shipping line.

The attack on Saturday damaged a terminal crane and forced the port to evacuate. No Maersk vessels, cargo or staff were affected, the company said.

Salalah, which faces out to the Arabian Sea, has become a critical hub for supplies into the Gulf region while the Strait of Hormuz is all but closed.

“Maersk’s current estimate is that operations will be on hold for approximately 48 hours,” the company said.



3 hours ago

Najmeh Bozorgmehr in Tehran

Iran claims hit on US ‘hiding places’ in Dubai caused ‘heavy casualties’

Iran claimed it struck the “hiding places” of US military personnel in Dubai, inflicting “heavy casualties” without specifying details.

The Khatam al-Anbia central command headquarters said more than 400 US personnel were present at one location and more than 100 in a second when the sites were targeted with precision missiles and drones on Saturday.

The Iranian armed forces accused US forces of abandoning their bases and taking refuge outside official facilities.

“Iran’s air and naval forces struck these sites,” the command centre said, adding that “heavy casualties” were inflicted and that ambulances were transporting wounded personnel.

It added that the US “must understand the region will become a graveyard for American soldiers” if they did not submit to the “will of the people”.

The attacks have not been confirmed.



3 hours ago

Najmeh Bozorgmehr in Tehran

Iran stresses respect for Oman's sovereignty after port attack

Iran has insisted that its attack on a US support vessel early on Saturday morning near Oman took place well away from Omani territory and that Tehran fully respects the sovereignty of its neighbour.

A spokesperson for Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters said the operation targeted a US military vessel "with a significant distance from Salalah port" in Oman.

"As we have stated before, the national sovereignty of our brotherly and friendly country Oman is fully respected by the Islamic republic of Iran," the statement added.

Earlier in the day, Oman's state news agency reported an attack by two drones on the Port of Salalah, without attributing the source of the strike.



3 hours ago

Humza Jilani in Islamabad

Iranian president and Pakistan PM discuss ‘need to build trust’ during call on regional conflict

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif © via Reuters

Iranian president Masoud Pezeshkian underscored “the need to build trust” during a call with Pakistan’s prime minister on Saturday, as part of Islamabad’s mediation efforts between Tehran and the US.

Shehbaz Sharif’s office shared details of the call, part of “diplomatic outreach efforts” that Pakistan is undertaking with the US and Gulf countries “to create a conducive environment for peace talks”, a statement from the prime minister’s office said.

It is Sharif’s second call with Pezeshkian this week, alongside at least three conversations between Pakistan’s army chief Asim Munir and US President Donald Trump, officials have said.



3 hours ago

Maxine Kelly in London

Ukraine and UAE to co-operate on security and defence

© via Reuters

Ukraine and the United Arab Emirates have struck an agreement to co-operate on security and defence after a meeting between the nations' presidents.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he and Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan discussed the conflict and the need to “ensure stability and protect lives amid today’s threats” at the meeting in Abu Dhabi.

In a post on X, Zelenskyy said:

“Ukrainians have developed an appropriate protection system that delivers a significant interception rate against enemy drones and missiles. This systematic approach and integration of experience is exactly what we are offering to our partners.”



3 hours ago

Najmeh Bozorgmehr in Tehran

Tehran university condemns attack that hit research centre

A leading engineering university in Tehran reported that its research centre was hit on Saturday morning.

The Iran University of Science and Technology said US-Israeli strikes damaged the building but caused no casualties.

The university condemned the attack, saying it “violates human principles and international law” and targeted scientific and academic institutions.

Professor Saeed Shamaghdari, a prominent electronics lecturer at the same university, was killed in a targeted attack at his apartment this week, along with his wife and two children.



4 hours ago

FT reporters

Military latest

Israel said it intercepted a missile launched from Yemen that was heading towards its territory.

UAE air defence systems intercepted Iranian cruise missiles and drones.

Israel's military attacked two Iranian nuclear facilities, which Iran's foreign minister said were for civilian nuclear energy.

Twelve US troops were wounded in an Iranian attack on the Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia.

Iran said two US refuelling aircraft were also destroyed and three others damaged in the assault.

Oman's Port of Salalah was hit in a drone attack from an unknown source, injuring one foreign worker.

In Israel, one person was killed and two were injured late on Friday night after an Iranian missile struck central Tel Aviv.

Nine Israeli soldiers were injured on Friday in fighting in southern Lebanon.

Iran's foreign minister accused Israel of attacking two Iranian steel facilities.

Iranian missile strikes US air base in Saudi Arabia

Strikes over past 24 hours to 8.50am GMT Mar 28 2026

◆ Iran airstrikes

◆ US/Israel airstrikes

300 km



MapLibre

FINANCIAL TIMES

Sources: [Liveuamap](#), FT research



4 hours ago

Najmeh Bozorgmehr in Tehran

Tehran houses homeless residents in hotels

PLAY | 00:29

Tehran is hit with an intensive bombardment on Saturday morning © Reuters

Tehran's municipality is housing hundreds of families whose homes were destroyed in hotels, local officials said.

Mayor Alireza Zakani said 28,500 residential units in the capital had been damaged, adding that the municipality would cover reconstruction costs. He said about 4,000 residents have been accommodated across 30 hotels.

Some residents whose homes were destroyed during last June's conflict are still living in hotels, as rebuilding is expected to take several years.



4 hours ago

Humza Jilani in Islamabad

How Pakistan became involved in US-Iran peace talks

Pakistan's field marshal Asim Munir, left, with then-Iranian president Ebrahim Raisi in Tehran in 2023 © Anadolu Agency via Getty Images

Pakistan has sought a prominent role in negotiations between the US and Iran, offering itself as an intermediary as the conflict spills across the region and triggers a global energy crisis.

For Asim Munir, Pakistan's de facto leader, acting as an interlocutor offers a way to strengthen an already warming relationship with Washington.

Pakistan also has a clear interest in helping to halt fighting in its neighbourhood that could threaten its fragile economy and security situation.

But there are considerable risks for Islamabad.

“The longer the war goes on, the more difficult Pakistan’s balancing act becomes,” said Elizabeth Threlkeld, director of the south Asia programme at the Stimson Center in Washington.

Read more [here](#)



4 hours ago

Humza Jilani in Islamabad

Pakistan to host Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Egypt for two-day talks on ending Iran conflict

The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Egypt will visit Islamabad on Sunday for two-day talks aimed at de-escalating regional tensions, according to Pakistan’s ministry of foreign affairs.

Pakistan is mediating what it calls “indirect talks” between the US and Iran. Islamabad this week passed on a 15-point plan drafted by the Trump administration to officials in Tehran.

Islamabad, which signed a mutual defence pact with Saudi Arabia last year, risks being dragged into the conflict as the Gulf kingdom comes under attack from Iranian missiles and drones — including a strike on Friday on the Prince Sultan Air Base that injured 12 US troops.



4 hours ago

Najmeh Bozorgmehr in Tehran

Air strikes shut down Iran steel producer

Production at one of Iran's largest steel producers has ground to a halt following air strikes.

Steel exports are a crucial source of foreign currency for Iran, alongside petrochemicals and cement, and represent one of the country's largest revenue streams after oil.

Khouzestan Steel Company, in southwestern Iran, said three units at the complex were damaged in US and Israeli strikes on Friday, forcing it to shut down operations. The company said it aimed to resume production as soon as possible.

Iran's largest steelmaker, Mobarakeh Steel, was also hit on Friday. Tehran has vowed to retaliate.



5 hours ago

Najmeh Bozorgmehr in Tehran

Oil exports continue to flow at Kharg Island, Iran insists

© via Reuters

Iran's oil exports from Kharg Island, the country's main crude export terminal, are continuing uninterrupted, according to Iranian lawmakers who visited the site.

A spokesperson for parliament's national security committee said on Saturday that operations were proceeding as normal.

"Thank God life goes on. Oil exports continue without any problems and we did not notice any particular disruption," the spokesperson said in a video message from the island.

Kharg Island handles the vast majority of Iran's crude shipments, making it a critical node in the country's energy infrastructure. Analysts had speculated that the US could might seize the island to help reopen the Strait of Hormuz.



5 hours ago

Neri Zilber in Tel Aviv

Missile strike in Tel Aviv kills one and injures two

© AFP via Getty Images

One person was killed and two others injured late on Friday night after an Iranian missile struck central Tel Aviv.

The Israeli military said a cluster munition warhead sprayed smaller bombs across a swath of the city and its environs, exploding in half a dozen locations.

Some 16 people have been killed in Israel by Iranian missile fire since the start of the joint offensive with the US a month ago, according to local health authorities.



5 hours ago

Najmeh Bozorgmehr in Tehran

Iran weighs exit from nuclear non-proliferation treaty

Iran is reviewing a proposal to withdraw from international commitments designed to limit Tehran's nuclear programme, in a potentially big policy shift as US and Israeli strikes target the country's nuclear facilities.

Malek Shariati, a member of parliament, said the proposal included exiting the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) treaty, repealing legislation tied to Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers and pursuing new international partnerships with aligned blocs such as Russia and China to develop peaceful nuclear technology.

Parliament has not officially confirmed the proposal, which Shariati said has been referred to the legal department.

Tehran has condemned recent attacks on its nuclear facilities as violations of international law and criticised the International Atomic Energy Agency for failing to prevent them.



5 hours ago

Najmeh Bozorgmehr in Tehran

Iran says attack destroyed US refuelling aircraft at Saudi Arabia air base

Iran's military command centre said two US refuelling aircraft were destroyed and three others were damaged in a missile and drone strike on an American air base in Saudi Arabia on Friday night.

The attack was reported to have wounded 12 US troops, two seriously, in what was one of the most significant assaults on the American military since the war began a month ago.

A spokesperson for Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters said the operation was carried out by the Revolutionary Guards.

The statement described the attack on the Prince Sultan base near Al-Kharj, roughly 100km south-east of the capital Riyadh, as "successful", adding that the damaged aircraft were rendered inoperable.

The US has yet to issue a statement.

300 km

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MapLibre

FINANCIAL TIMES



6 hours ago

FT reporters

Israeli soldiers wounded in clashes in southern Lebanon

Israel's military said early on Saturday that nine soldiers had been injured on Friday in fighting in southern Lebanon.

One combat officer was seriously wounded and another moderately wounded by anti-tank fire, the Israel Defense Forces said.

In a separate incident on Friday night, one combat officer was seriously wounded and another six moderately wounded by rocket fire.

It did not identify the source of fire in either incident.

Israel last week extended its invasion of southern Lebanon, where the country says it is creating a "buffer zone" against Iran-backed militant group Hizbollah.



6 hours ago

FT reporters

Drone attack targets Oman's Port of Salalah

Oman said that an attack by two drones on the Port of Salalah injured one foreign worker, the state news agency said.

It did not attribute the attack, which it said caused damage to one crane, to any country.

A drone attack this month hit fuel tanks at the port, the country's largest, sparking a huge fire.

In a statement, the country sultanate said it “reiterates its strong condemnation of these hostile attacks”, adding that it would take “all necessary measures to uphold the nation's security”.

Oman has previously criticised the US and Israel strikes against Iran.



7 hours ago

FT reporters

Israel intercepts missile it says was launched from Yemen

The Israeli military said it had identified a missile launched from Yemen that was heading towards Israel, adding on X that its aerial defence systems had “intercepted the threat”.

The attack, if traced to the Houthis, would be the first by the Yemen-based, Tehran-backed rebel group since the US and Israel launched the war against Iran last month.

The Houthis had previously launched attacks against Israel and commercial ships in the Red Sea in opposition to Israel's war against Palestinian militant group in Gaza.

Late on Friday, the Houthis warned other countries against joining the US and Israel in fighting against Iran, threatening to intervene militarily in the conflict.

PLAY | 00:35

Yemeni armed forces announce their official entry into the war in the Middle East ©
Iranian state TV



8 hours ago

James Politi and **Claire Jones** in Washington

Iranian strike injures US troops at base in Saudi Arabia

A satellite image of Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia in February © Planet Labs

Twelve US troops were wounded in an Iranian attack on the Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia, two people familiar with the matter said late on Friday, in one of the most significant hits to the American military since the war began a month ago.

The attack involved at least one missile and several drones, damaging aerial refuelling tankers, the people said. Two of the US troops suffered severe injuries.

Since the US launched the war against Iran alongside Israel a month ago, 13 US troops have been killed, while about 300 have been wounded.

President Donald Trump and senior US officials have said that their air strikes against Iranian targets have decimated Tehran's military capacity. This latest Iranian attack however shows that Iran can still breach American defences and target its Gulf allies.

Trump has moved to deploy thousands more troops to the region as he considers escalating the conflict with additional strikes on Iranian energy infrastructure and possibly ground forces in Iran.

He has also opened up contacts with Iran to seek a negotiated deal to end the war, setting a deadline of April 6 for an agreement to be reached.

Centcom did not respond to a request for comment.



8 hours ago

FT reporters

UAE reports Iranian drone and missile attacks

The United Arab Emirates said on Saturday its air defence forces were engaged in Iranian drone and missile attacks.

The defence ministry said its air defence systems and fighters were intercepting cruise missiles and uncrewed aerial vehicles.

Earlier, the Gulf state said that it had engaged 1,835 Iranian drones, 15 cruise missiles and 378 ballistic missiles since the beginning of the war.

The UAE, which is a critical US partner in the region, earlier on Friday said it would participate in a multinational maritime task force to reopen the Strait of Hormuz to oil and gas shipments to defend tankers from Iranian attacks.



8 hours ago

FT reporters

UN sets up Hormuz task force

The UN has set up a group to focus on meeting humanitarian needs in the Strait of Hormuz while seeking to create confidence among member states for a diplomatic approach to the conflict in the Middle East.

The task force will aim to facilitate fertiliser trade, including the movement of related raw materials, the international organisation said in a statement on Friday.

Representatives from the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the International Maritime Organization and the International Chamber of Commerce will be included.

The United Arab Emirates, meanwhile, told allies that it would participate in a multinational maritime task force intended to reopen the vital Gulf waterway.



8 hours ago

FT reporters

Yemen's Houthis say 'fingers on the trigger' to enter war

Yemen's Houthi rebel group has warned other countries against joining the US-Israeli war against Iran, saying that their "fingers are on the trigger for direct military intervention".

The Iran-backed militant group also warned countries against using the Red Sea for "hostile operations" or "tightening the siege on the Yemeni people".

"We will not allow that," its spokesperson Yahya Saree said in a video statement late on Friday.

The message raised the prospect of the already regional conflict widening further. The Houthis have in the past disrupted commercial shipping in the Red Sea in response to Israel's war with Hamas in Gaza.



8 hours ago

FT reporters

Israel hits Iran's Arak nuclear facility

Water nuclear reactor at Arak © VIA Reuters

Israel's military said on Saturday that it had struck a heavy water plant in Arak, in central Iran, which it claimed was an important plutonium production site for nuclear weapons.

On Friday, Iranian officials said US-Israeli air strikes had targeted the Khondab heavy water research reactor as well as a yellowcake production plant near Ardakan in Yazd province.

Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation said the Ardakan strike did not cause any radioactive leaks.

The AEO on Friday said a projectile hit the Bushehr nuclear site, the third such strike against the facility since the war began.



8 hours ago

FT reporters

Iran foreign minister says Israel hit steel plants and nuclear sites

Iran's foreign minister Abbas Araghchi accused Israel of attacking two Iranian steel facilities, as well as a power plant and civilian nuclear sites on Saturday.

In a post on X, Araghchi said the attacks were carried out in coordination with the US, raising concerns about President Donald Trump's 10-day reprieve in attacks targeting Iranian energy infrastructure to allow for negotiations.

"Iran will exact HEAVY price for Israeli crimes," Araghchi added.



8 hours ago

Abigail Hauslohner in Washington

US has about 3,500 targets in Iran left to hit, Trump says

Donald Trump said the US has "3,554 targets left" to hit in its war in Iran, "and that'll be done pretty quickly".

After finishing its remaining strikes, "you know, at some point we're going to have to determine what we do", Trump told an audience in Miami on Friday.

The US military said on Monday it had struck more than 9,000 targets in Iran, and Trump said the offensive had decimated the country's armed forces and missile and drone capacity.

The US is seeking to negotiate a deal with Iran.

Trump, who was speaking at an investor conference sponsored by Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund, also said the US was unaware that Iran had the capability to fire a missile 2,700 miles. This referred to Tehran's recent attempt to strike the US and British military base at Diego Garcia, an island in the Indian Ocean.



8 hours ago

Abigail Hauslohner in Washington and **Antoine Gara** in Miami

Trump urges Saudi crown prince to normalise diplomatic ties with Israel

Donald Trump urged Saudi Arabia to normalise diplomatic ties with Israel by joining the landmark foreign policy that led to several Middle Eastern countries formally recognising Israel.

“The Middle East will be transformed” as a result of the US and Israel's nearly four-week war in the region, Trump told Saudi Arabian investors at a conference in Miami on Friday night.

Addressing Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Trump said: “I hope you’re going to be getting into the Abraham Accords, finally,” referring to the foreign policy he introduced during his first presidential term. “Will you please go back and explain it’s time now?”

The prince has consistently expressed his disapproval of Israel’s war in Gaza.

Saudi Arabian officials have said it would not be possible to normalise the kingdom’s relationship with Israel without concrete steps towards Palestinian statehood, which Israel categorically rejects.



8 hours ago

George Steer in New York

S&P 500 chalks up biggest weekly drop since October on war jitters

US stocks chalked up their biggest weekly drop in more than five months, as the Trump administration’s efforts to negotiate an end to the Iran war failed to soothe jittery investors.

The S&P 500 ended 1.7 per cent lower on Friday at an almost eight-month low, as oil prices settled at their highest level since July 2022. This followed a similar 1.7 per cent drop in the previous session that was its biggest fall in two months.

Wall Street's benchmark index is now down 7.4 per cent since the war began at the end of February.

For the week, the S&P 500 fell 2.1 per cent, a fifth straight weekly drop and its biggest weekly decline since mid-October.

The Nasdaq Composite closed 2.1 per cent lower, dragging it further into "technical correction" territory. The tech-heavy index fell 3.2 per cent for the week. That was its biggest drop in a year and its 10th weekly decline in 11 weeks.



8 hours ago

FT reporters

Iran says projectile hit Bushehr nuclear site but reported no damage

Satellite image of the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant in December 2025 © AP

A projectile hit Iran's Bushehr nuclear site on Friday, Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation said, in the third strike against the facility since the war began.

The Iranian agency said the site was hit at 11.40pm on Friday, and reported no damage. It condemned the attack and said "any damage to this facility could lead to a serious nuclear incident" that would have widespread consequences across the region.



8 hours ago

Peter Wells in New York

Oil closes at highest since 2022 as markets brush off Iran deadline delay

Oil prices closed at their highest level since July 2022, as Donald Trump's decision to delay a possible attack on Iran's energy infrastructure failed to soothe investors' nerves.

Brent crude settled 4.2 per cent higher on Friday to \$112.57 a barrel. Over the past five sessions, the international oil benchmark has climbed 0.3 per cent, marking its sixth weekly advance in a row.

The marker continued to climb in after-hours trading on Friday, reaching almost \$115.

West Texas Intermediate settled 5.5 per cent higher at \$99.94 a barrel, also its highest closing level since July 2022. Since last Friday, the US marker climbed 1.3 per cent, to bring up its fifth weekly gain in five weeks.



8 hours ago

James Politi and **Abigail Hauslohner** in Washington and **Jamie Smyth** and **George Steer** in New York

Global markets recoil as Rubio warns war in Iran could stretch for weeks

Marco Rubio warned of enduring disruptions to the Strait of Hormuz and said the war in Iran could stretch for another month as the intensifying crisis in the Middle East sends shockwaves through global markets.

The secretary of state offered his latest assessment of the war during a trip to France to meet with G7 foreign ministers, a day after Donald Trump set a 10-day deadline for negotiations to end the conflict with Tehran.

He told reporters that US military operations would end “in a matter of weeks, not months” — possibly beyond the mid-April timeframe set by Washington earlier in the conflict. Speaking privately to G7 foreign ministers, America’s top diplomat said the conflict could carry on for an additional two to four weeks, according to people familiar with his comments.

Read more [here](#)

Additional reporting by Henry Foy and Anne-Sylvaine Chassany

