US–Iran Conflict Briefing

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Trump raises doubts about renewed attacks on Iran and says a deal could happen

- President Donald Trump raised doubts on Monday, November 2, 2026 about whether he would follow through on a threatened resumption of military strikes against Iran, and said a deal with Tehran could happen, Reuters reported. — Reuters
- Asked by reporters after a speech at the Washington Reflecting Pool whether he was considering striking Iran after Tuesday's midterm elections, Trump replied "no" — after hinting in recent weeks about renewing attacks once the vote was over, Reuters reported. — Reuters
- Trump said he believed Iran wanted to make a deal, and stressed his bottom-line demand that Iran never possess a nuclear weapon, Reuters reported. — Reuters
- Vice President JD Vance said there had been "a number of good conversations with the Iranians" and that he and Trump "feel pretty good about the prospects for potentially coming to a negotiated settlement," Reuters reported. — Reuters
- The Iran war is a leading cause of the high gasoline prices weighing on voters, and Trump is under pressure to end the conflict; he spoke about Iran in a speech billed as his closing argument ahead of Tuesday's midterm elections, Reuters reported. — Reuters
- Following up on this morning's reporting: Iranian negotiators left Doha on Sunday not because of difficulties in the talks, a draft proposal is being circulated, and a follow-up meeting is possible, Reuters reported. — Reuters

Houthis advance to within 80 kilometres of Aden

- Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis have advanced to within 80 kilometres of Aden, the main stronghold and temporary capital of the internationally recognised government, four military sources told Reuters on Monday, November 2, 2026. — Reuters
- The Houthis launched their assault on government positions in Al-Maqatirah three days ago and have since taken the whole district, forcing government troops to retreat toward Tur al-Bahah, the military sources told Reuters. — Reuters
- Fighting between the Houthis and government forces was underway on Monday at a military camp at the entrance to Tur al-Bahah district, about 80 kilometres from Aden, Reuters reported. — Reuters

Israel's final count leaves no bloc with a majority

- Israel's Central Elections Committee has published the final results of the October 27 election: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's bloc holds 53 seats, Gadi Eisenkot's bloc 48 seats, and Arab-led parties a record 19 seats in the 120-member Knesset, the Times of Israel reported. — Times of Israel
- Neither main bloc reached the 61 seats needed for a majority; Netanyahu's Likud is the largest single party with 27 seats, ahead of Eisenkot's Yashar with 21, and final turnout was 77.9 percent, the Times of Israel reported. — Times of Israel

- The final results are due to be presented to President Isaac Herzog on Wednesday, November 4, and the new Knesset is to be sworn in on November 10, the Times of Israel reported. — Times of Israel

Markets

- Brent crude was at $104.53 a barrel on November 2, tumbling as prospects for peace talks weighed on oil prices; Brent futures settled at $104.77, down $8.66, the Wall Street Journal reported. — Wall Street Journal
- U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude was at $96.60 a barrel on November 2; WTI settled at $96.46, down $7.66, in its biggest daily loss since July 27, the Wall Street Journal reported. — Wall Street Journal

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Sources: Reuters · Reuters · Reuters · Times of Israel · Wall Street Journal
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