

US–Iran Conflict Briefing

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U.S. moves to ground Iranian airlines worldwide — deadline is today

- Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said on CNBC Monday that on September 23 'all the Iranian airlines will be shut down around the world,' warning airports and service providers they face loss of dollar-system access for providing fuel, landing services, or ticketing. — [Reuters](#)
- Iraq ordered its civil aviation authority to suspend Iranian flights to Baghdad airport starting Wednesday, two sources told Reuters, and is discussing diverting Iranian Airways flights to Najaf. — [Reuters](#)
- Tasnim, citing Iran's Civil Aviation Organization, said Tehran–Baghdad and Tehran–Muscat flights are canceled starting Wednesday while Istanbul flights continue; Iran's aviation authority said Iranian travelers are not currently being admitted at Oman's airport. — [Reuters](#)

UNGA mediator talks continue; White House says Trump wasn't at Monday's meeting

- Late Tuesday, envoy Steve Witkoff said the U.S. 'engaged in lengthy talks with the Iranian delegation through the mediators, who shuttled between the two sides throughout the day,' a round he hopes 'will prove constructive and promising,' with mediators continuing their work. — [Steve Witkoff \(X\)](#)
- The White House clarified Trump did not attend Monday's meeting — Witkoff and Kushner represented the U.S. — while Tehran confirmed FM Araghchi met Witkoff 'at the request and insistence of the American side' to convey Iran's Hormuz conditions: lifting the naval blockade, releasing frozen assets, ending the war on 'resistance' fronts. — [Al Jazeera](#)
- An Iranian security source told Al Jazeera there could be room for further engagement if Washington meets Iran's conditions. — [Al Jazeera](#)

Iran warns of 'crushing' counter-strikes; Trump eyes post-midterms end to the crisis

- Iran's Armed Forces dismissed Trump's UNGA 'annihilate' address as 'propaganda' and said Tehran stands in 'full readiness to inflict more severe, crushing, and unpredictable blows on the aggressors.' — [Reuters](#)
- Iran's General Staff, via Mehr news agency, accused Trump of using the UN platform to justify 'aggression,' calling the threats 'not a sign of power but a sign of their strategic desperation.' — [Reuters](#)
- Trump told Middle East leaders on restoring Hormuz shipping: 'We think that the situation with Iran could end right after the (November 3) midterm elections, maybe before. I don't know. You never know.' — [Reuters](#)

Oil slides for a sixth day as Saudi restarts East-West pipeline

- Brent fell to \$99.18 and WTI to \$90.17, heading for a sixth straight daily decline — Brent's longest losing streak in over a year and its first sub-\$100 close since September 8. — [Reuters](#)

- Drivers: Saudi Arabia restarted its East-West pipeline to the Red Sea on Tuesday (~4M bpd to Yanbu); Iraq is exporting over 3M bpd and expects to boost Turkey-route exports above 600,000 bpd; U.S. crude inventories unexpectedly rose 1.8M barrels; markets are pricing in possible de-escalation from the New York talks. — [Reuters](#)

Hormuz traffic stays thin; two tankers struck

- Three commodity vessels transited the Strait of Hormuz on Tuesday, all exiting, down from 4 Monday and below the 10-day average of ~15; LNG tanker Al Mafyar reappeared inside the strait after being last seen outside since Sept 19. — [Reuters](#)
- Crude tanker LR Stephanie (Isle of Man flag) was struck by an unidentified projectile entering the strait Monday, with two crew suffering minor injuries; LPG tanker Al Maryah (Liberia flag, ADNOC-managed) was struck Sunday while outbound. Both continued without towing; responsibility unconfirmed. — [Reuters](#)

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Trump at the UN General Assembly podium (file photo) — [view original](#)

- [Witkoff's X post on Tuesday's UNGA mediator talks](#)
- [Al Jazeera: Trump says US-Iran meeting at UN was 'very good'](#)

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