

US–Iran Conflict Briefing

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Trump endorses Netanyahu and warns Iran the U.S. could 'finish the job'

- President Trump on Sunday, October 18 gave Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu his 'Complete and Total Endorsement' for Israel's October 27 election, calling him a 'Great Warrior Prime Minister' in a social media post, CNN reported. — [CNN](#)
- In the same post, Trump hinted at a possible resumption of hostilities in the war with Iran, warning that if the Iranians do not 'change their ways, rapidly, we will soon finish the job,' CNN reported. — [CNN](#)
- Netanyahu thanked Trump for the endorsement, and Trump told Axios journalist Barak Ravid in a brief phone interview that he had always intended to endorse Netanyahu, CNN reported. — [CNN](#)
- The endorsement came nine days before Israel's election day, after Trump had held off for months and told Time earlier in October that he was not involved in Israeli politics anymore, CNN reported. — [CNN](#)

Renewed U.S.–Israeli strike preparations reported as elections near

- Israeli sources say Trump and Netanyahu have recently discussed renewed strikes on Iran, and Israeli security sources told CNN that preparations are underway pending Trump's decision, with timing unclear because of the U.S. midterm elections. — [CNN](#)
- Netanyahu rejected suggestions that he is seeking escalation before the Israeli vote, telling Army Radio this week that escalation is 'not convenient for us, it's no good,' CNN reported. — [CNN](#)

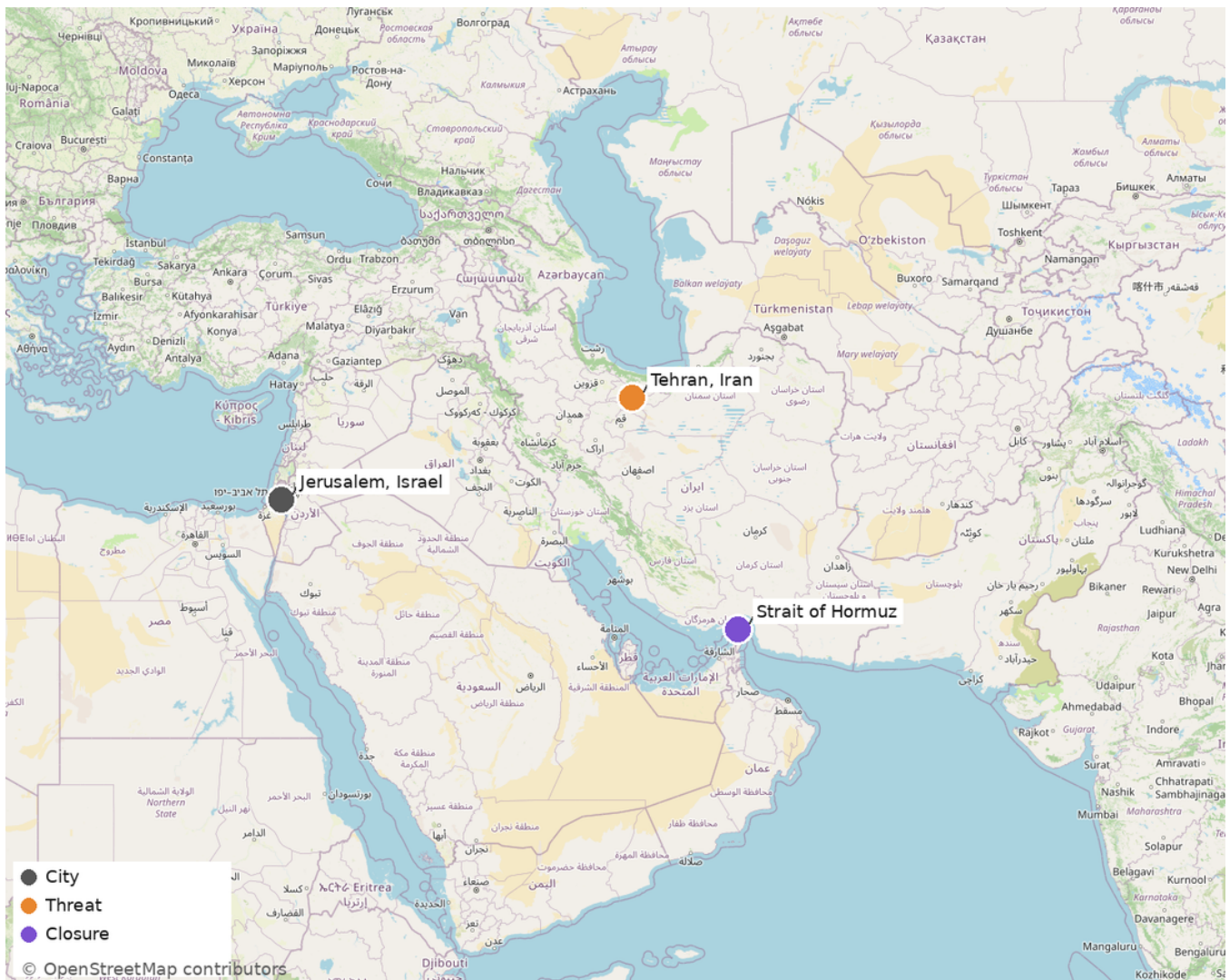
Hormuz reopening proposal still awaits a U.S. answer

- Iran's offer to reopen the Strait of Hormuz within seven days remains on the table, with Tehran reviewing U.S. comments on the proposal and saying the strait could reopen within six days if Washington accepts Iran's conditions, Reuters reported on October 18. — [Reuters](#)
- No U.S. acceptance, rejection, or counter-offer on the Hormuz proposal had been reported by early Monday, October 19, and no countdown to a reopening has started. — [Reuters](#)

Markets

- Brent crude futures traded at \$108.35 a barrel on October 19. — [Wall Street Journal](#)

Conflict map



Markers show reported strike sites, bases, and shipping areas. Purple polygons mark approximate or announced closure / exclusion zones.

Sources: [CNN](#) · [Reuters](#) · [Wall Street Journal](#)

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