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# Iran war updates: Trump extends ceasefire as Pakistan talks in disarray



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22 Apr 2026 - 00:00 (00:00 GMT)

## Our coverage continues

This live page is closing, but our 24-hour coverage of the conflict continues.

Join us for all the latest developments, analyses and reactions [here](#).



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- Trump says the United States is extending its ceasefire with Iran at mediator Pakistan's request to allow more time for Tehran to put forward its proposal.
- Iran has yet to formally respond to the US president's announcement about the extension of the two-week ceasefire, which was due to end on Wednesday.
- Trump also said that he has directed US forces to continue to blockade Iranian ports.
- Iranian officials have previously said they would not negotiate while the US blockade continues.
- Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif thanked Trump for extending the ceasefire, saying it will allow ongoing diplomatic efforts to proceed.
- Israel wounded six people in southern Lebanon and demolished homes in the town of Khiam, in violation of a [10-day ceasefire](#).



 **21 Apr 2026 - 23:40** (23:40 GMT)

### **WATCH: Iran sets conditions as tensions persist**

Iran has set a key condition for entering talks, insisting that the blockade on its ports must be lifted before any negotiations can begin.

Watch our video report below:

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21 Apr 2026 - 23:30 (23:30 GMT)

ANALYSIS

### Blockades can be lawful in wartime, expert says

The US military's actions against Iranian-linked vessels, namely the attack over the weekend on the cargo ship named the Touska, have raised questions over legality.

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## Macron calls Israel to withdraw from Lebanon, Hezbollah to disarm

The French president has shared a post on social media voicing support for Lebanon's Prime Minister Nawaf Salam and the people of Lebanon, while calling on Israel to withdraw its forces from Lebanon, and for Hezbollah to cease attacking Israel.

"France supports Lebanon in its efforts to address the humanitarian crisis and meet the needs of the displaced population," Macron wrote in a social media post shared in both French and Arabic, after Salam visited the Elysee presidential palace in Paris.

"The lasting stability of Lebanon and the region will only be achieved through a political agreement between Israel and Lebanon that ensures the security of both countries, respects the unity of Lebanese territory, and lays the foundations for normalising relations between them," Macron added.

He said that this would require Hezbollah "to cease targeting Israel and to stop claiming that it substitutes for the state in exercising its powers".

"It also requires an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory, the disarmament of Hezbollah by the Lebanese, with the support of the international community, and the reconstruction of the country in a way that enables the return of the displaced population," Macron added.

There is currently a [temporary 10-day truce](#) between Israel and Lebanon. However, Israeli forces have remained in southern Lebanon, where the creation of a "Yellow Line" similar to

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France's President Emmanuel Macron, right, shakes hands with Lebanon's Prime Minister Nawaf Salam at the end of a joint declaration media event at the Elysee Palace in Paris on Tuesday [Ludovic Marin/AFP]



21 Apr 2026 - 23:17 (23:17 GMT)

**BREAKING**

## UN chief welcomes US ceasefire extension as 'important step' towards de-

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Regarding the diplomatic process, Dujarric remarked that Guterres fully supports Pakistan's efforts in facilitating further talks. He concluded by noting that the secretary-general "hopes that these efforts will contribute to creating conditions conducive to a comprehensive and durable resolution to the conflict".



**21 Apr 2026 - 23:10** (23:10 GMT)

## No official response from Tehran to Trump extending ceasefire

By **Almigdad Alruhaid**

Reporting from Tehran, Iran

The keyword here in Tehran right now is mistrust, and this is what has been shaping the past few days.

We haven't received any kind of official response to the ceasefire announced by Donald Trump, even though the US president extended the ceasefire for the coming days, without exactly mentioning the deadline for these extensions.

At the same time, we have been hearing that Iranian officials are seeking an end to the naval blockade on the Strait of Hormuz, and also a cessation of hostilities against Iranian commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz and the Sea of Oman.

This message comes from different officials here in Iran, especially from Abbas Araghchi, the foreign minister, as well as Iran's ambassador to the United States, linking the continuation of

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US crude futures have risen in early trade, even after the US announced an indefinite extension of its ceasefire with Iran.

The gains come as market uncertainty persists over the success of future peace talks and the fact that the Strait of Hormuz remains effectively closed.


US West Texas Intermediate crude futures climbed as high as \$90.70 a barrel. As of 22:15 GMT, the benchmark was trading at \$90.26, up 59 cents or 0.7 percent, following a 2.8 percent surge during Tuesday's session.



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 **21 Apr 2026 - 23:00** (23:00 GMT)

### Iran's military 'ready and on the trigger' if US attacks

Iran's military says it would immediately strike "pre-designated targets" if the US launches any new attack.

The warning came from Ebrahim Zolfaghari, spokesperson for Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya

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Speaking from Tehran, Aslani said, “We have not had any official confirmation, reaction or comment on the ceasefire extension that was unilaterally announced by the United States.

“But what they are saying is that Iran did not request” a ceasefire extension, he noted.

“However, whether Iran publicly announces any agreement to that extension or not, the point is that Tehran considers the continuation of the naval blockade as [a] continuation of the hostility against the country.

“One thing is clear: that if the naval blockade is in place, Iran will not reopen the Strait of Hormuz,” Aslani added. “And secondly, Tehran will try to break the naval blockade, if necessary, by force.”

Aslani continued: “I think [the] first step could be somehow in relation to the seized vessel, and Iran can somehow reciprocate that. And this might somehow create a situation we might be witnessing of escalating tensions.

“The extension might be providing some opportunity for the country for new talks. But I think what is clouding the atmosphere is the [US] naval blockade as well as the United States trying to somehow pressure Tehran.

“Tehran has been somehow hesitant toward engaging in dialogue under active military threats, coercion or actions like naval blockade, and I think this can also complicate the

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