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Trump says framework of Iran deal 'largely negotiated,' with provision to reopen strait

By Asif Shahzad, Michael Martina and Ryan Patrick Jones

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[1/5] Vessels sail through the Strait of Hormuz, Musandam, Oman, May 22, 2026. REUTERS/Stringer [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)



Summary

Details on an agreement with Iran will be announced soon, Trump says
Deal would include reopening Strait of Hormuz, Trump says
Iran seeks end to US blockade, sanctions relief, and supervision of strait

WASHINGTON/ISLAMABAD/NEW DELHI, May 23 (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump wrote on Saturday that a memorandum of understanding on a peace deal with Iran is "largely negotiated," as both countries and mediators in Pakistan reported progress.

Trump posted on social media that the emerging agreement would reopen the Strait of Hormuz, the vital shipping passage whose closure upended global energy markets after the conflict started in February when the U.S. and Israel launched strikes on Iran.

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Trump did not say what else would be included in an agreement. "Final aspects and details of the Deal are currently being discussed, and will be announced shortly," Trump said.

Iran's Fars news agency reported early on Sunday that the agreement would allow Iran to manage the Strait of Hormuz. It said Trump's assertion that an agreement was nearly final was "inconsistent with reality."

Iran had said earlier on Saturday that it was working toward a memorandum of understanding laying out an approach to ending the war after its top officials met with Asim Munir, the army chief of Pakistan.

The Pakistani army said the negotiations had resulted in "encouraging" progress towards a final understanding. Two Pakistani sources involved in negotiations said the deal being negotiated is "fairly comprehensive to terminate the war."

Sources have told Reuters the [proposed framework](#) would unfold in three stages: formally ending the war, resolving the crisis in the Strait of Hormuz and launching a 30-day window for negotiations on a broader agreement, which can be extended.

Earlier on Saturday, Trump told Axios that he expected to decide on Sunday whether to resume attacks on Iran. "Either we reach a good deal or I'll blow them to a thousand hells," Axios quoted him as saying.

One of the Pakistani sources said there was no guarantee the U.S. would accept the memorandum; if it does it would lead to further talks after the Eid holiday ends on Friday.

TRUMP TO SPEAK WITH MIDDLE EAST LEADERS

Trump, whose approval [ratings have been hit](#) by the war's impact on energy prices for U.S. consumers, said on Friday he would not attend his son's wedding this weekend, [citing Iran among the reasons](#) he planned to stay in Washington.

Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform that he had a phone call on Saturday with leaders from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey and Pakistan. Axios reported that the leaders encouraged Trump to agree to the emerging framework.

Pakistan has aimed to narrow differences between Iran and the U.S. after weeks of war have left the vital Hormuz waterway closed to most shipping despite a [nervous ceasefire](#).

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio earlier on Saturday reiterated Trump's terms for ending the fighting. "Iran can never have a nuclear weapon. The straits need to be open without tolls. They need to turn over their enriched uranium."

Rubio, who is visiting India, said some progress had been made and work was continuing.

"Even as I speak to you now, there's some work being done. There is a chance that, whether it's later today, tomorrow, in a couple days, we may have something to say," Rubio told reporters in New Delhi.

U.S. Vice President JD Vance returned to the White House on Saturday afternoon, cutting short a trip to Ohio.

Iran denies it is pursuing nuclear weapons and says it has a right to enrich uranium for civilian purposes. It has demanded supervision of the strait, an end to the U.S. blockade on its ports and the lifting of sanctions on Iranian oil sales.

"The trend this week has been towards a reduction in disputes, but there are still issues that need to be discussed through mediators. We will have to wait and see where the situation ends in the next three or four days," said Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei.

Baghaei said the issue of the U.S. blockade on Iran's shipping was important, but that its priority was ending the threat of new U.S. attacks and the ongoing conflict in Lebanon, where Iran-allied Hezbollah militants are fighting Israeli troops who have moved into the south.

Pakistan's army chief Munir left Tehran on Saturday after talks with Iran's top negotiator Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf and Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi.

Qalibaf said Iran would pursue its "legitimate rights," both on the battlefield and through diplomacy, but added that it could not trust "a party that has no honesty at all," an allegation Iran has made several times before.

He said Iran's armed forces had rebuilt their capabilities during the ceasefire and that, if the U.S. "foolishly restarts the war," the consequences would be "more forceful and bitter" than at the start of the conflict.

Despite weeks of conflict, Iran has preserved its stockpile of near-weapons-grade enriched uranium as well as missile, drone and proxy capabilities.

Additional reporting by Doina Chiacu, Ariba Shahid, Hatem Mater and Andrew Mills; writing by Philippa Fletcher, Rod Nickel; Editing by Kevin Liffey, David Gregorio, Sergio Non and Nia Williams

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Asif Shahzad
Thomson Reuters

Shahzad is an accomplished media professional, with over two decades of experience. He primarily reports out of Pakistan, Afghanistan regions, with a great interest and an extensive knowledge of Asia. He also reports on politics, economy, finance, business, commodities, Islamist militancy, human rights



Michael Martina
Thomson Reuters

Michael Martina is a Washington-based foreign policy correspondent who covers U.S.-China relations and the global impact of the two countries' diplomatic, technology, and military competition. He was a member of the Reuters team that won the Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting in 2025 for uncovering fentanyl supply chains, and previously reported from Beijing for more than a decade as a senior correspondent for the news agency.



Ryan Patrick Jones
Thomson Reuters

Ryan is a breaking news correspondent based in Toronto covering breaking news, national affairs and politics in the United States and Canada.



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