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Trump says US will not attack Iran before midterm elections in November

By Reuters

October 8, 2026 7:23 PM GMT+3 · Updated 3 hours ago



A man works near a building, which was damaged in a U.S. and Israeli strike in March, in Tehran, Iran, August 22, 2026. Majid Asgaripour/WANA (West Asia News Agency) via REUTERS [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)

WASHINGTON, Oct 8 (Reuters) - President [Donald Trump](#) said on Thursday that [the US](#) will not launch an attack on Iran before November's [US midterm congressional elections](#), asserting that the

two countries are having "productive" talks about ending the six-month-old [war](#).

"We are having productive discussions with the Islamic Republic of Iran," Trump wrote in a post on Truth Social. "We will not be attacking Iran at any time prior to the midterm elections to be held in the United States on November 3rd."

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The war, which began in February when the US and Israel launched strikes on Iran, has helped drive Trump's domestic approval ratings downward and is weighing heavily on his fellow Republicans as they seek to preserve their narrow legislative majorities in November's election.

Some 60% of Americans — including one in four Republicans — disapprove of how Trump is handling the situation in Iran, according to a recent Reuters/Ipsos poll. The conflict has pushed gasoline prices sharply higher at a time when voters say their top concern is the cost of living.

Trump has repeatedly said he expects oil prices to drop after the elections, but he has not offered a detailed plan for exiting the war.

Iran and [the US](#) have exchanged proposals in recent weeks aimed at ending the war and reopening the Strait of Hormuz, a vital global energy shipping route. Trump rejected Tehran's latest offer.

Iran's state media reported on Thursday that Tehran would not abandon uranium enrichment or hand over its uranium stockpile, citing the head of the country's Atomic Energy Organization, days after US Vice President JD Vance told Reuters that Iran must make "[meaningful](#)" reductions in its enrichment capacity.

The US, Israel and Western allies have long accused Iran of seeking nuclear weapons, an accusation Iran has denied.

Reporting by Ismail Shakil in Ottawa, Doina Chiacu in Washington and Joseph Ax in Princeton, New Jersey; Editing by Michelle Nichols and Matthew Lewis

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