

# Middle East Political Turmoil: Iran-US Truce Fragile, Lebanon Crisis Deepens,

Middle East Politics · Answer Key · 10 Questions

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**1. As of early May 2026, what is the primary status of the ceasefire between the United States and Iran, according to recent reports?**

- A) The ceasefire is robust and has led to immediate de-escalation of all regional conflicts.
- B) The ceasefire is on 'life support' and described as 'unbelievably weak' by President Trump, with ongoing diplomatic challenges.**
- C) A permanent peace treaty has been signed, ending all hostilities.
- D) The ceasefire has been formally broken by both sides, leading to renewed open warfare.

**2. What is the current state of Lebanon's political and economic situation, characterized by ongoing crises?**

- A) Lebanon has achieved significant economic recovery and elected a stable, unified government.
- B) The country is experiencing a leadership vacuum with a caretaker government, an economic collapse, and a currency that has lost 97% of its value since 2019.**
- C) Hezbollah has successfully brokered a comprehensive peace deal, resolving all internal political disputes.
- D) International aid has fully stabilized Lebanon's economy, leading to widespread prosperity.

**3. Which of the following was a significant development in the Syrian conflict during January 2026?**

- A) The Syrian government launched an offensive against the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in northeastern Syria.**
- B) A lasting peace agreement was signed between the Syrian government and all opposition factions.
- C) The SDF successfully ousted the Syrian government from Damascus.
- D) International forces intervened and established a no-fly zone over all of Syria.

**4. Which country has been mediating efforts to reach a potential ceasefire and peace agreement between the United States and Iran?**

- A) Saudi Arabia
- B) Qatar
- C) Pakistan**
- D) United Arab Emirates

**5. What is a key concern regarding the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, as highlighted by Amnesty International?**

A) Hamas has been accused of violating international humanitarian law by embedding fighters among civilians.

**B) Israel has been accused of committing genocide against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.**

C) Both sides have strictly adhered to international humanitarian law, with no reported violations.

D) The conflict has been contained entirely within the Gaza Strip with no spillover effects.

**6. What significant defense pact was concluded between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan in January 2026, as reported in early May 2026?**

**A) A mutual defense pact formalizing and elevating their decades-old defense and security ties.**

B) A non-aggression treaty focused solely on economic cooperation.

C) A military alliance aimed at directly confronting Iran militarily.

D) A joint space exploration agreement.

**7. According to recent reports, what is the primary reason cited by the UN for the continued detention of its staff in Yemen by Houthi forces?**

A) The staff members were found to be engaging in espionage.

**B) The detentions are unjustified and severely impacting humanitarian operations.**

C) The staff members violated Yemeni sovereignty laws.

D) The detentions are part of a prisoner exchange negotiation.

**8. What recent development has occurred regarding the UAE's relationship with the United States in the context of regional security?**

A) The UAE has severed all diplomatic ties with the United States.

**B) The UAE has discussed the repercussions of Iranian attacks and explored ways to achieve sustainable regional peace and security with the US.**

C) The UAE has announced its withdrawal from all US-led security alliances.

D) The UAE has signed a military non-aggression pact with Iran.

**9. In January 2026, what significant event occurred in northeastern Syria concerning the Syrian government and the SDF?**

A) The Syrian government and the SDF signed a comprehensive peace treaty and integrated their forces.

B) The SDF launched a successful offensive, capturing Damascus.

**C) The Syrian government launched an offensive against the SDF, which was later followed by a ceasefire and integration agreement.**

D) International forces intervened and established a buffer zone between the Syrian government and the SDF.

**10. What is Saudi Arabia's stated position and actions regarding the Strait of Hormuz amidst the current regional tensions?**

A) Saudi Arabia supports Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz to international shipping.

**B) Saudi Arabia has called for de-escalation, restraint, and the full restoration of free and safe maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz.**

C) Saudi Arabia has closed its own ports to international shipping in solidarity with Iran.

D) Saudi Arabia is actively participating in military operations to control the Strait of Hormuz.