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Iran hits US Navy ship with missile strike – media

Tehran previously warned Washington to stay out of the Strait of Hormuz

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A US Navy patrol boat has been hit by two Iranian missiles not far from the Strait of Hormuz after it ignored warnings to stay out of the critical waterway, Fars News Agency has reported. It claimed that the boat was "forced to retreat," without providing information on the damage.

The agency reported on Monday that the unidentified vessel was moving near the Iranian coastal town of Jask, some 140 km from the strait's narrowest point, and was "violating



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security and navigation rules [and] intending to pass through” the chokepoint.

The ship did not heed warnings from the Iranian Navy and was targeted by a missile attack, the report said, adding that *“the American patrol boat was unable to continue its route due to the hits and was forced to retreat and flee the area.”*



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US Central Command (CENTCOM) has dismissed the claim, saying that *“no US Navy ships have been struck”* and that *“US forces are supporting Project Freedom and enforcing the naval blockade on Iranian ports.”*

The escalation comes after US President Donald Trump promised on Sunday to *“help free up”* ships stuck in the Strait of Hormuz, some of which have been stranded there since late February. According to Trump, the US military will *“guide”* ships linked to several countries out of the waterway, *“so that they can freely and ably get on with their business,”* while warning that any interference would *“have to be dealt with forcefully.”*

In response, the Iranian military warned that *“any foreign military force, especially the invading American army... will be attacked”* if they try to approach the Strait of Hormuz.

Following the report, Axios journalist Barack Ravid said, citing an unnamed US official, that *“the rules of engagement for US forces in the region have been changed, and they were authorized to strike immediate threats,”* including ships crossing the strait and Iranian missile positions.

The strait accounted for about 20% of global seaborne oil trade before the US-Israeli attack on Iran, but has been de facto closed since the start of the conflict, with only a handful of ships being allowed to pass. The disruption has led to soaring oil prices, with the US national average gas price exceeding \$4.4.

Despite the rising consumer costs and a record-high disapproval rating, Trump opted to maintain a naval blockade of Iranian ports to pressure Tehran towards a peace settlement. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has declared that the US naval blockade is an *“act of war”* and a violation of the existing ceasefire.

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UAE exits another oil exporters' group

The move comes just days after the Gulf nation broke with OPEC and OPEC+, citing the need to gain more flexibility over oil output

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The United Arab Emirates has officially withdrawn from the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), according to a [statement](#) posted by the group on X on Sunday.

The exit took effect on May 1 – the same day Abu Dhabi's withdrawal from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and the wider OPEC+ format, which includes Russia, came into force.



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The decision came amid ongoing Middle East turmoil triggered by the US-Israeli war on Iran. A dual blockade of the Strait of Hormuz – a key route for about 20% of global oil flows – along with repeated



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OAPEC, headquartered in Kuwait, was established in 1968 to boost economic cooperation among Arab oil exporters. Its three founders – Kuwait, Libya, and Saudi Arabia – were later joined by other Arab states, and prior to the UAE’s departure the group comprised 11 members, including Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Qatar, Syria, and Tunisia. Unlike OPEC and OPEC+ groupings – which include major oil producers worldwide and play a direct role in managing supply and prices – OAPEC is primarily a technical body coordinating energy policy among Arab producers.

“The General Secretariat of the OAPEC has been informed of a letter from... Suhail Mohammed Al Mazrouei, UAE Minister of Energy and Infrastructure... containing the decision of the UAE to withdraw from membership in the Organization, effective from 1 May 2026,” the group said.

It voiced no opposition, saying it *“appreciates the role played by the UAE”* during its membership and its *“effective contributions”* to advancing joint Arab cooperation in the petroleum and energy sector.

Abu Dhabi has not yet commented on the decision. The Gulf nation previously said its exit from OPEC and the broader OPEC+ format was driven by national interests, describing it as part of a long-term strategy to gain more flexibility over oil output, free from production caps and multilateral restrictions.

The move, however, has fueled debate over potential [repercussions](#) for OPEC and the oil market, as well as speculation about underlying motives.



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Some analysts pointed to possible political considerations, including alignment with the US, which has long sought a stronger foothold in the global oil market. US President Donald Trump, who has frequently accused OPEC of acting as a monopoly to keep prices high, welcomed the exit as *“great”* news.

UAE Trade Minister Thani Al Zeyoudi said on Monday the nation is in talks with Washington over a currency swap line – an instrument that allows central banks to

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