



A map of the Middle East region with several cities labeled: Aleppo, Nicosia, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Baghdad, Hamedan, Isfahan, Yazd, Basra, Tabuk, and Tehran. A red pin is located over Baghdad, and several yellow pins are scattered across the region. The text 'DAILY SUMMARY' is written in orange above the main title. The main title 'The Iran-U.S. Trigger List' is in large white letters.

# The Iran-U.S. Trigger List

## Israel 16 March

Speaking alongside Germany's chancellor, Prime Minister Netanyahu [asserted](#) that "we must stand together in confronting common dangers, and no danger is greater and of greater concern to Israel than Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons". He further affirmed: "The Jewish state will do everything necessary to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, period. Of course, we'd like to do that with the concert and support and cooperation of the civilised powers of the world, the U.S., the E3... We have to act against it now. We have to communicate to Iran that it should not cross that threshold or there will be heavy consequences". "But", Netanyahu warned, "Israel will do what Israel needs to do to defend itself against those who want to annihilate the Jewish state. Israel will also act against Iran's aggression and terrorism".

## Hormuz/Bab 15 March

China, Iran and Russia [began](#) a five-day military drill in the Gulf of Oman.

## Israel/Lebanon 15 March

The Israeli military [announced](#) that "An explosive device was detonated adjacent to the Megiddo Junction [on 13 March], severely injuring an Israeli civilian. During searches in northern Israel, security forces neutralised a terrorist armed with an explosive belt and multiple weapons in a vehicle". The IDF further [stated](#) that "an initial inquiry suggests that the terrorist crossed from Lebanon... The possible involvement of the Hizbollah terrorist army is under review. The assumption is that due to the quick response of security forces, another terrorist attack was prevented". Defence Minister Gallant [warned](#) that "whoever is responsible for the attack will regret it. We'll find the right place and time and we'll hit them".

## Riyadh 15 March

The Saudi finance minister [remarked](#) that "there are a lot of opportunities for Saudi investments in Iran. We don't see impediments as long as the terms of any agreement would be respected". He further emphasised: "Stability in the region is very important, for the world and for the countries in the region, and we have always said that Iran is our neighbour and we have no interest to have a conflict with our neighbours, if they are willing to cooperate... We have no reason not to invest in Iran, and we have no reason not to allow them to invest in Saudi Arabia. It is in our interest to make sure that both nations benefit from each other's resources and competitive advantage".

### **Washington 15 March**

Secretary of State Antony Blinken, discussing the 10 March [agreement](#) between Saudi Arabia and Iran, [indicated](#) that “anything that can help reduce tensions, avoid conflict and curb in any way dangerous or destabilising actions by Iran is a good thing... The Saudis and the Iranians have been talking for some time going back a couple of years, including in Baghdad and in Oman. And to the extent that China facilitated conclusion of this agreement to restore diplomatic relations, that’s a good thing”. “If this agreement actually bears out, and particularly if Iran follows through on the commitments that it’s apparently made, again, that would be positive”, he added.

### **Yemen/Hormuz 15 March**

A U.S. diplomat [told](#) the Security Council: “We hope that the recently announced [agreement](#) between Saudi Arabia and Iran will contribute to efforts to secure a durable solution to the conflict in Yemen, address the continued flow of Iranian lethal aid to the Huthis and ensure Iranian support for a Yemeni political process”. Noting four interdictions of Iranian-origin, Yemen-bound arms shipments since January, the U.S. diplomat underscored that “member states involved in these illicit transfers... are in violation of this Council’s resolutions”.