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## Trump pauses strike decision as Iran talks advance



Published on June 20, 2025

Document Date: Fri, Aug 15 2025 10:06:57 am

Category: ,English,International - ,Snippets

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GENEVA / WASHINGTON, June 20, 2025, European diplomatic efforts are intensifying as several foreign ministers prepare to meet their Iranian counterpart in Geneva on Friday, in a move closely coordinated with Washington amid heightened regional tensions.

The meeting follows a shift in tone from U.S. President Donald Trump, who said there is a “substantial chance of negotiations” with Iran. He announced he will delay any decision on military action for up to two weeks, giving diplomacy a window to unfold.

This signals a notable softening of stance after earlier aggressive rhetoric. The White House confirmed that Trump is considering all options but prefers a peaceful resolution—provided Iran halts its nuclear enrichment activities.

Meanwhile, hostilities between Israel and Iran continued on Friday. Israel reported conducting airstrikes on military targets in Tehran, Tabriz, and Kermanshah. In response, an Iranian strike damaged an office building in a southern Israeli tech park; no casualties were reported.

The Geneva meeting, led by the EU's foreign policy chief and foreign ministers from France, Germany, and the U.K., is viewed as a critical step toward defusing tensions. Delegates aim to encourage Iran to reengage with the framework of the 2015 nuclear accord.

U.S. officials say they are closely monitoring the talks and remain in direct contact with European and Iranian counterparts. While Trump favors diplomacy, he has not ruled out military action should negotiations fail to yield concrete results.