

## Trump signals readiness for Iran talks amid tensions



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Washington, July 8-US President Donald Trump announced that Washington has scheduled

direct talks with Iran in the coming days, signaling a potential diplomatic shift after recent

military confrontations.

Speaking alongside Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House, Trump said,

"We have scheduled Iran talks, and they want to talk. They've requested a meeting.. if we can put something down on paper, that will be fine."

Trump's Middle East envoy, Steve Witkoff, confirmed the meeting is expected "in the next week or so." The president added he hoped to avoid further military action, saying, "I can't imagine them wanting to do that. They want to meet... they want to work something out."

The announcement follows heightened tensions last month when, on June 22, US B-2 bombers targeted Iran's Fordo and Natanz nuclear sites with 14 GBU-57 "bunker buster" bombs. Cruise missiles were also fired at the Isfahan nuclear facility as part of a broader US campaign against Iran's nuclear program.

A sixth round of US-Iran talks was initially scheduled for June 15 but was disrupted after Israeli airstrikes struck Iranian sites on June 13. A US-brokered ceasefire brought the 12-day conflict between Israel and Iran to a halt on June 24.

Trump noted that Iran appears "very different now" than it was weeks ago. "I think Iran wants to meet. I think they want to make peace, and I'm all for it," he stated.

On Syria, Trump said the US lifted sanctions to offer the country a chance at recovery, following requests from several Middle Eastern nations.

Trump also reiterated his willingness to lift US sanctions on Iran "at the right time," emphasizing

his desire to see Iran "rebuild peacefully" and end hostile rhetor