

Trump sets deadline for Hamas to accept Gaza ceasefire



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WASHINGTON, Oct. 3 President Donald Trump has given Hamas until Sunday evening to accept his ceasefire and prisoner exchange proposal, describing it as the group's "last chance."

Speaking on Friday, Trump said Hamas must agree to the deal by 6 p.m. Eastern Time or face devastating consequences. "If not consented to by then, all hell, like no one has ever seen before,

will break out against Hamas,” he warned in a statement on Truth Social.

Trump claimed more than 25,000 Hamas fighters have been killed since October 2023 and that the group’s remaining forces are “surrounded and militarily trapped.” He urged civilians to evacuate to “safer parts of Gaza,” without specifying which areas, while Israel’s offensive in Gaza City continues to intensify.

The United Nations said Thursday that more than 417,000 people have been displaced from northern Gaza since mid August, with relief operations severely hampered by ongoing fighting.

UN humanitarian chief Tom Fletcher warned that displacement orders “do not absolve parties to conflict from responsibilities” to protect civilians.

Israel has enforced a blockade on Gaza, home to 2.4 million people, for nearly 18 years. Rights groups say recent bombardments, which have killed nearly 66,300 Palestinians, most of them women and children, are driving famine, disease and mass displacement, leaving the enclave on the brink of uninhabitable collapse.