

NATO Defense Neutralizes Iranian Missile Entering Turkish Airspace Near Gaziantep



Published on March 9, 2026

Document Date: Wed, Jun 17 2026 02:27:54 am

Category: ,English,International - ,Snippets

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Source: Anadolu Agency

ANKARA / GAZIANTEP: Turkish defense authorities confirmed Monday that a ballistic missile launched from Iran toward Türkiye was intercepted and neutralized by NATO air and missile defense systems deployed in the Eastern Mediterranean.

According to a statement issued by the Turkish Ministry of National Defense and shared on social

media platform X, the missile entered Turkish airspace before being engaged by NATO defense assets. Following the interception, debris from the missile reportedly fell on vacant land in the Sahinbey district of Gaziantep province. Officials confirmed no casualties or injuries were reported and no damage to residential areas occurred.

The ministry emphasized that Türkiye remains committed to maintaining regional peace and good neighborly relations while safeguarding its territorial integrity and airspace. It stressed that decisive measures will be taken against any threat targeting the country.

In a separate statement, Türkiye's Communications Director Burhanettin Duran confirmed that the missile was detected and neutralized by NATO's integrated air and missile defense units operating in the Eastern Mediterranean. He reiterated Türkiye's warning to all parties, particularly Iran, to avoid actions that could threaten regional stability or endanger civilians.

The incident follows a similar development last week when another ballistic munition fired from Iran toward Turkish airspace was intercepted by NATO defense systems.

Regional tensions escalated after a joint military strike by Israel and the United States against Iran, which Tehran says caused significant casualties. Iran later responded with missile and drone strikes targeting Israel and several countries hosting US military facilities.

Officials continue to monitor the situation closely amid heightened regional security concerns.

