

Trump Signals New Iran Talks as Tensions Rise



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WASHINGTON, April 19— U.S. President Donald Trump said American officials are heading to Pakistan for a new round of negotiations with Iran, as tensions escalate following renewed developments involving the Strait of Hormuz.

In a social media post, Trump said the U.S. delegation would engage in talks with Iranian representatives and warned of possible strikes on infrastructure, including power facilities, if a

deal is not reached.

Meanwhile, Iranian parliamentary officials stated that the Strait of Hormuz would remain closed unless U.S. sanctions and restrictions are lifted, further heightening regional uncertainty.

Despite the escalating rhetoric, Iran's chief negotiator said on state television that Tehran still seeks "a lasting peace," though he acknowledged that significant gaps remain between the two sides in reaching a final agreement.

The latest exchange follows weeks of fluctuating tensions, with both Washington and Tehran combining warnings with diplomatic signals. Earlier ceasefire efforts have struggled to hold amid continued disputes over sanctions, security guarantees, and maritime access routes.

International reactions continue to emerge, with global leaders urging restraint and renewed dialogue. Religious and diplomatic voices have also called for de-escalation and a return to sustained negotiations to prevent further regional instability.

Efforts are now expected to continue through backchannel diplomacy and scheduled talks in the coming days, as both sides weigh pressure tactics against the possibility of a negotiated settlement.