

## Germany Signals Readiness to End Hormuz Blockade



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BERLIN: German Chancellor Friedrich Merz has reaffirmed Germany's commitment to ensuring freedom of navigation in the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, stating that Berlin could consider military engagement if required conditions are met.

Speaking during a visit to the Bundeswehr facility in Munster, Merz warned that any prolonged blockade of the vital waterway would result in "massive economic damage" globally. He

emphasized that Germany remains aligned with its allies in maintaining stability and safeguarding international trade routes.

Merz also praised the role of the Bundeswehr, describing its work as a crucial contribution to a strong and united NATO.

Meanwhile, tensions between Berlin and Washington have escalated in recent days. US President Donald Trump indicated that Washington is reviewing the possibility of reducing troop presence in Germany.

The two leaders have also exchanged criticism over the Iran conflict, with Merz questioning US strategy and Trump responding sharply, highlighting growing transatlantic differences on handling the crisis.