

U.S. and Iran set for nuclear talks

President Donald Trump says that the United States will engage in “direct” negotiations with Iran in a last-ditch effort to rein in the country’s nuclear programme



Donald Trump

IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL TIMELINE

Ali Khamenei

■ **2015:** Iran and six world powers agree **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)** – deal curbs Iran’s nuclear work in return for limited sanctions relief

■ **2018:** Trump withdraws from agreement and reimposes economic sanctions on Iran

■ **2019:** Iran begins curbing its compliance with JCPOA

■ **2020:** U.S. drone strike in Iraq kills Iran’s Quds Force commander **Qassem Soleimani** (right). Iran says it will no longer abide by limits set by JCPOA



■ **Jan 2021:** Iran starts enriching uranium to 20% level, further exceeding JCPOA limit of 3.67%



■ **Apr:** Indirect talks begin between Iran and administration of U.S. President **Joe Biden** (left), aiming to restore nuclear deal

■ **2022:** Talks stall amid Tehran’s violent crackdown against nationwide unrest

■ **Nov 2022:** Iran begins enriching uranium to 60% – level just short of 90% required for weapons use

■ **Oct 7, 2023:** Iran-backed Hamas militants launch attack on U.S. ally Israel, prompting Israeli military campaign in Gaza

■ **2024:** Israeli strikes on Iran-linked targets in Syria and killing of Hezbollah chief **Hassan Nasrallah** (right) trigger two Iranian attacks on Israel. U.S. helps shoot down Iranian missiles and drones



■ **2025:** Trump threatens to bomb Iran if it does not make nuclear deal with Washington. Iran’s supreme leader **Ayatollah Ali Khamenei** says any U.S. attack would prompt “strong reciprocal blow”

■ **Apr 8:** Trump announces U.S. and Iran will hold direct talks on Apr 12. Iran says negotiations will be indirect, with Oman acting as intermediary