

# MEI Weekly.



An Iranian drone struck a passenger terminal at Kuwait International Airport on 3 June, killing an Indian national and injuring 63 people. While Tehran denied responsibility for the attack, Iran's Revolutionary Guards earlier said it targeted US bases in the Gulf in retaliation for American strikes on an oil tanker and Qeshm Island. Photo: AFP Video Screengrab

## WHAT'S HOT: MEI PUBLICATIONS, PODCASTS, & MORE

**READ:** MEI's latest Perspective analyses how Saudi Arabia's domestic transformation under Vision 2030 may be quietly reshaping its regional and foreign policy. Read the article [here](#).

## WHAT'S NEWS: THE BIG HEADLINES THIS WEEK

### Kuwait Caught in US, Iran Tit-for-Tat Strikes

With diplomacy between US and Iran showing little sign of progress, these exchanges marked the latest test of a fragile ceasefire and sent oil prices up more than 2 per cent. Bahrain also said it intercepted three missiles and several Iranian drones targeting the US Fifth Fleet base there.

### Trump Blasts Netanyahu Over Lebanon in 'Crazy' Call

US President Donald Trump lashed out at Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu over Tel Aviv's escalation in Lebanon in an expletive-laden call. Mr Trump called the Israeli premier "crazy" and accused him of ingratitude, even saying, "you'd be in prison if it weren't for me".



Mr Netanyahu called off planned airstrikes on Beirut's southern suburbs following the highly heated conversation and later reached a US-brokered ceasefire with Lebanon, although fighting soon resumed within hours. Photo: AFP

### Author of 'Persepolis' Dies at 56

Marjane Satrapi introduced millions of readers to the struggles of ordinary Iranians during the turbulent years around the Islamic Revolution with 'Persepolis'. This book was a popular school assignment and among the most-read to explore the interior lives of modern Iranians.

## CALENDAR: MEI EVENTS

### MEI Annual Conference 2026

This year's conference, which will be opened by Singapore's Coordinating Minister for Public Services and Minister for Defence Chan Chun Sing, will focus on the war in Iran and its far-reaching global implications, unpacking how the crisis is reshaping regional dynamics and international responses. It will also examine what a post-war scenario could mean for Singapore, South-east Asia, and the rest of the world. This flagship event will be held both in-person and online at the Orchard Hotel Ballroom and Zoom from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (SGT). Seats are limited so sign up now by clicking [here](#).



The Gulf states such as the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain have borne the brunt of Iranian retaliatory attacks in the war. Photo: AFP

## LOOK AHEAD: WHAT TO KEEP A WATCH ON

### Potus: Hormuz Blockade May Last All Summer

Mr Trump sought to project optimism about reaching a deal to end the war he started against Iran even as he acknowledged the crisis could drag on for several more months. When asked whether the blockade of Tehran would last until Labour Day on 7 September, he said, "I don't know. I mean, it could be, but I think it's unlikely".



Experts warned that oil prices could surge if the strait stays closed, as US petroleum supplies near two-decade lows. Photo: AFP

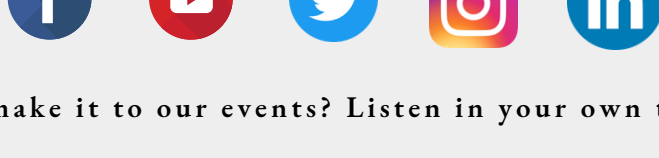
### Gulf States Explore Pipeline Projects to Combat Disruptions

In an effort to bypass the Strait of Hormuz if shipping disruptions persist, Kuwait is reportedly in talks with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates on potential pipeline routes that could connect Persian Gulf oil production to export terminals outside the strategic waterway. The report also said Kuwait City is discussing potential oil storage facilities in Muscat, on the other side of the strait.



Riyadh and Abu Dhabi already operate pipelines that allow some oil exports to bypass Hormuz. Photo:AFP

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