

Middle East: situation update as of 11 March 2026

● Key developments over the past 24 hours (non-exhaustive selection)

- **Continuation of US–Israeli air raids in Iran**, which have focused on infrastructure linked to internal security in the western and north-western provinces (including western **Tehran**). Three merchant vessels were struck by projectiles in the **Strait of Hormuz** following CENTCOM’s announcement that 16 Iranian minelaying vessels had been destroyed. The United States ordered Iranian civilians to avoid ports amid growing tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, described by the French president as a “theatre of war”.
- **Iranian and proxy retaliation against Israel**: a significant aerial offensive launched from Iran, which described it as its “most intense operation since the beginning of the war”, during the night of 10–11 March. Sirens were triggered several times across a large part of the territory, particularly in **Haifa** and **Tel Aviv** (material damage from interceptions, no casualties).
- **Arabian/Persian Gulf**: new interceptions early on 11 March of Iranian attacks directed at **Saudi Arabia (Prince Sultan Air Base and the Eastern Province)**, **Kuwait (US Camp Arifjan)**, **Qatar (Doha)** and the **UAE** (two drones crashed near **Dubai International Airport**, four civilians injured). A fire broke out in the **Port of Salalah** in **Oman** following a drone attack on fuel storage tanks on **11 March**.
- **Lebanon and regional spillover**: continued large-scale Israeli strikes in **southern Lebanon** (districts of **Tyre** and **Bint Jbeil**) and the **Bekaa Valley** (north of **Zahlé**). Continued wave-based bombardments of **Beirut’s southern suburbs**, including **Haret Hreik**. A second strike hit central **Beirut** (a residential building in **Aisha Bakkar**, near **Verdun**) outside evacuation zones during the night. Deployment of additional ground forces (Golani Brigade) in the border area. In **Iraq**, further drone attacks by pro-Iran militias targeted diplomatic missions in **Baghdad** and **Erbil**. The **Iraqi Prime Minister** condemned the “unjust war” against Iran, banning the use of Iraqi territory as a launch point for attacks.

✈️ Airspaces closed

- **Bahrain**
- **Kuwait**
- **Israel** (repatriation flights to Israel)
- **Iraq** (at least until the 11th)
- **Iran**

✈️ Airspaces restricted

- **UAE / Qatar** (evacuation/repatriation flights only - Do not go to the airports without confirmation)
- **Lebanon** (almost exclusively Middle East Airlines)

✈️ Airspaces open

- **Saudi Arabia**
- **Oman**
- **Jordan, Syria**
- **Türkiye, Egypt**

Recommendations

Maintain regular contact with diplomatic authorities and airlines; choose reliable and official sources of information.

Gulf countries: postpone future travel. Travellers in transit in the country should prepare for departure continuing to **shelter-in-place** (home/hotel) during alerts, avoid open areas and windows indoors, and follow instructions given by the authorities. Maintain contact with your security coordinator. Ensure communication means remain active and operational at all times so you can be contacted.

➔ **Alert systems & official resources**

Lebanon: postpone travel. Within the country, avoid all travel to all regions south and east of Beirut, prepare for departure by contacting diplomatic authorities and Middle East Airlines.

Jordan: increased risk related to interceptions and falling projectiles. Limit non-essential travel and follow local alerts. Avoid the vicinity of the US Embassy.

Israel: postpone future travel. Inside the country, it is essential to take shelter at every air raid alert, also notified via the Tzofar app ([Google Play](#) & [App Store](#)).

Iraq / Syria: postpone travel (risk of strike expansion targeting US assets and indirect incidents).

Iran: major deterioration of the internal and security environment; liaise with diplomatic authorities.