



Iran Conflict: Trump Pauses 'Operation Freedom' Amidst Falling Oil Prices

Description

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi met with his Chinese counterpart in Beijing on Wednesday. This meeting comes just a week before US President Donald Trump visits China. It is the first face-to-face meeting between the top diplomats of Iran and China since the war began.

Araghchi's visit is part of his recent diplomatic tour aimed at gaining support for Iran and addressing the conflict with the US. China, a major importer of Iranian oil, plays an important indirect role in the conflict. It has provided financial support to Tehran and has acted as a mediator behind the scenes. Recently, Trump suggested that Beijing helped bring Iran to negotiations.

US officials have called on China to use its influence over Iran to encourage reopening the Strait of Hormuz, an important shipping route for global trade. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent expressed the hope that China would pressure Iran to ensure safe passage for ships through the strait.

In response, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio accused Iran of "holding hostage the global economy." He urged China to inform Iran that its actions are isolating it internationally. Following the meeting, Araghchi stated that cooperation between Iran and China would become "stronger than ever." Trump's visit to China is scheduled for May 14-15.

Vocabulary List:

1. **counterpart** /'kaʊntərpɑːt/ (noun): someone who has the same job elsewhere
2. **diplomats** /'dɪpləməts/ (noun): people who represent a country in talks
3. **mediator** /'miːdi,etər/ (noun): a person who helps people make an agreement
4. **negotiations** /nəˌɡɒʃi'eɪʃənz/ (noun): formal talks to reach an agreement
5. **influence** /'ɪnfluəns/ (noun): the power to change what others do
6. **isolating** /'aɪsəˌleɪtɪŋ/ (verb): making someone or something separate from others

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice



1. Where did Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi meet his Chinese counterpart?

- Option: Tokyo
- Option: Beijing
- Option: Seoul
- Option: Moscow

2. What significant event is happening a week after Araghchi's meeting?

- Option: Iran's presidential election
- Option: US President Trump's visit to China
- Option: China's National Day
- Option: Iran signing a peace treaty

3. Which country is a major importer of Iranian oil?

- Option: Japan
- Option: India
- Option: China
- Option: Saudi Arabia

4. Who is the US Secretary of State mentioned in the article?

- Option: Scott Bessent
- Option: Marco Rubio
- Option: Donald Trump
- Option: John Kerry

5. What is the Strait of Hormuz known for?

- Option: Being a military base
- Option: Being an important shipping route for global trade
- Option: Being a tourist destination
- Option: Being a natural park

6. When is Trump's visit to China scheduled?

- Option: April 12-13
- Option: May 14-15
- Option: June 20-21
- Option: July 10-11

True-False



7. Abbas Araghchi's meeting with the Chinese counterpart was the first since the war began.
8. US officials are confident that China will not influence Iran's actions.
9. Scott Bessent is the US Secretary of State.
10. Trump has accused China of helping Iran come to negotiations.
11. Cooperation between Iran and China is expected to weaken in the near future.
12. The meeting took place in 2022.

Gap-Fill

13. Abbas Araghchi met his Chinese counterpart in Beijing on _____.
14. The meeting is part of Araghchi's diplomatic tour aimed at gaining support for Iran and addressing the _____ with the US.
15. China plays an important indirect role in the conflict, as it is a major importer of Iranian _____.
16. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent expressed hope that China would pressure Iran to ensure safe passage through the _____.
17. Following the meeting, Araghchi stated that cooperation between Iran and China would become _____ than ever.
18. Trump's visit to China is scheduled for May _____-15.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Beijing 2. US President Trump's visit to China 3. China 4. Marco Rubio 5. Being an important shipping route for global trade 6. May 14-15

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. Wednesday 14. conflict 15. oil 16. strait 17. stronger 18. 14



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What term refers to the general increase in prices and fall in the purchasing value of money?

- Option: Deflation
- Option: Inflation
- Option: Recession
- Option: Stagnation

2. In economics, what does the term 'core' typically refer to?

- Option: Core Curriculum
- Option: Core Inflation
- Option: Core Competencies
- Option: Core Values

3. What does 'affordability' most closely relate to?

- Option: High Income
- Option: Purchasing Power
- Option: Wealth Distribution
- Option: Economic Growth

4. Which of the following is a synonym for 'surpass'?

- Option: Fail
- Option: Exceed
- Option: Meet
- Option: Drop

5. What does the word 'exert' mean?

- Option: To decrease
- Option: To apply
- Option: To neglect
- Option: To escape

6. What term is used to describe payments made to workers for their labor?



- Option: Wages
- Option: Investments
- Option: Tax
- Option: Savings

7. What legal status is declared when an individual or organization can't repay their outstanding debts?

- Option: Insolvency
- Option: Foreclosure
- Option: Bankruptcy
- Option: Liquidation

8. What term is used for the money provided for a particular purpose?

- Option: Sponsorship
- Option: Investment
- Option: Funding
- Option: Donation

9. What does 'renovation' typically refer to?

- Option: Destruction
- Option: Restoration
- Option: New Construction
- Option: Financial Investment

10. What does it mean to 'invest'?

- Option: To spend money for profit
- Option: To save money
- Option: To borrow money
- Option: To lend money

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

- 11. The media has the power to _____ public opinion.
- 12. The _____ of voters supported the new policy in the election.
- 13. The _____ gathered for the international summit to discuss peace.
- 14. The _____ were crucial to achieving a consensus among the parties.
- 15. The company is _____ a new promotion for its customers.



16. The policy was criticized for _____ certain communities.
17. Employees will be _____ for any expenses incurred during the trip.
18. The new law aims to have a positive _____ on the environment.
19. The event was _____ due to unforeseen circumstances.
20. The department needs to stick to its _____ to avoid overspending.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Every year, the town celebrates a festival that is part of its long-standing tradition.
22. The rising cost of living has become a significant issue of concern for many families.
23. A mediator played a vital role in facilitating the discussion between the two parties.
24. The company's expanding operations have led to increased job opportunities in the area.
25. The CEO met with her counterpart in Europe to discuss the merger.
26. Smart investors know how to manage their portfolios effectively to maximize returns.
27. Employees expect to benefit from the new health care plan introduced by the company.
28. The project faced criticism for not meeting the environmental standards.
29. The impact of climate change is becoming increasingly evident across the globe.
30. The affordability of housing has become a crucial topic in urban development discussions.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Inflation 2. Core Inflation 3. Purchasing Power 4. Exceed 5. To apply 6. Wages 7. Bankruptcy 8. Funding 9. Restoration 10. To spend money for profit

Gap-Fill: 11. influence 12. majority 13. diplomats 14. negotiations 15. offering 16. isolating 17. reimbursed 18. impact 19. canceled 20. budget

Matching sentence: 1. tradition 2. of concern 3. mediator 4. expanding 5. counterpart 6. invest 7. benefit 8. criticism 9. impact 10. affordability



CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL3

POST TAG

1. B1
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. Iran
5. Level 3
6. oil prices
7. Strait of Hormuz
8. Trump
9. War

Tags

1. B1
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. Iran
5. Level 3
6. oil prices
7. Strait of Hormuz
8. Trump
9. War

Date Created

2026/05/07

Author

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM