



A map of the Middle East region with several cities labeled: Aleppo, Nicosia, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Baghdad, Mosul, Hamedan, Tehran, Isfahan, Yazd, Basra, Tabuk, and Cairo. There are several colored markers: a red star over Tehran, a red dot over Baghdad, and several yellow and orange dots in the northern and western parts of the region. The text 'DAILY SUMMARY' is written in orange above the main title.

The Iran–U.S. Trigger List

Golan/Israel – 22 January

Syrian state media [reported](#) Israeli airstrikes against Hama in north-western Syria, which it said caused eight casualties.

Iraq – 22 January

Iran’s diplomatic spokesperson [condemned](#) a suicide [bombing](#) in Baghdad claimed by ISIS, arguing: “Takfiri terrorism... is targeting Iraq again and seeks to disrupt tranquility and stability in this country and create a pretext for continued presence of foreigners”. He further maintained that “Iran stands ready to offer Iraq whatever help and assistance in the fight against terrorism and extremism”. The U.S. also [condemned](#) the attack, calling it “a reprehensible act of cowardice that underscores the dangers of terrorism that millions of Iraqis continue to face”.

Israel/Lebanon – 22 January

The Israeli military [reported](#) downing “a drone that crossed from Lebanon into Israeli airspace”, while asserting: “We will continue to operate in order to prevent any attempt to violate Israeli sovereignty”.

Riyadh/Yemen – 22 January

The Saudi-led coalition [reported](#) intercepting a Huthi “explosive-laden” boat, and separately downing an armed drone bound for Saudi Arabia.

Tehran – 22 January

The IRGC [announced](#) the arrest of a “foreign-backed terrorist” whom it said had “assassinated a police chief in August 2018”.

Tehran/Hormuz/Riyadh/Bahrain/Iraq– 22 January

Foreign Minister Javad Zarif [maintained](#) that Iran would “respond positively to any initiative for regional dialogue advanced in good faith”. He also contended that “neither the U.S. nor its European allies have the prerogative to lead or sponsor future talks. Rather, the Persian Gulf region needs an inclusive regional mechanism to encourage diplomacy and cooperation and to lower the risk of miscalculation and conflict”. He further referred to Iran’s Hormuz Peace Endeavor (HOPE) [proposal](#) and said: “The invitation is still on the table”.

Tehran/Washington – 22 January

Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif [posited](#) that the Biden administration could “still salvage the nuclear agreement”, suggesting that such a process “should begin by unconditionally removing, with full effect, all sanctions imposed, reimposed, or relabeled since Trump took office. In turn, Iran would reverse all the remedial measures it has taken”. “The remaining signatories to the deal would then decide whether the U.S. should be allowed to reclaim the seat at the table that it abandoned in 2018”, he added. Noting a [law](#) mandating the Iranian government “to [boost](#) uranium enrichment and limit UN inspections if sanctions are not removed by February”, Zarif warned: “The window of opportunity for the new U.S. administration will not be open forever. The initiative squarely rests with Washington”.

Updated -> Israel – 20 January

In congratulatory [remarks](#) to the new U.S. administration, Prime Minister Netanyahu said he “look[ed] forward to working with you to further strengthen the U.S.-Israel alliance, to continue expanding peace between Israel and the Arab world and to confront common challenges, chief among them the threat posed by Iran”. Relatedly, Defence Minister Benny Gantz [opined](#) that “the Biden administration is pro-Israel, and I am convinced that even on important issues such as Iran, we will find a sympathetic ear”.