

Qatar-Gulf crisis: All latest updates (Aljazeera)



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The latest news after some of the Gulf states and Egypt cut ties with Qatar and imposed a land, sea and air blockade.

SUMMARY

- Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Egypt, Yemen, eastern government of Libya, Maldives, Mauritania, and Senegal cut diplomatic ties with Qatar
- Jordan and Djibouti downgrade diplomatic relations with Qatar
- Saudi border closure forcing Qatar to import food by air
- UAE ambassador to US says economic pressure on Qatar set to increase

The latest developments since several countries, including Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt, cut ties with Qatar on June 5. (All times local Doha time).

3:30am - UN chief backs Kuwait mediation initiative

- United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says he thinks the most likely successful mediation of the row between Qatar and Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries should be regional - like the current effort led by Kuwait's emir.
- Guterres, added, however, that if the United States gets involved in mediation, "that, of course, will be welcome if they are able to do so in an effective way".
- Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad Al Sabah, the emir of Kuwait, said on Sunday that all parties in the dispute had a duty to preserve regional unity and called for dialogue to resolve the crisis.
- In a speech, the emir said he hoped the remaining days of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan would create "the atmosphere for resolving unfortunate differences and ending the rift through dialogue and communication" in the Gulf.

20 June 2017

10:46pm - [QNA hacking linked to states 'laying siege to Qatar'](#)

Qatar's Attorney General Ali Bin Fetais al-Marri said in Doha on Tuesday: "Qatar has evidence that certain iPhones originating from countries laying siege to Qatar were used in the hack [of Qatar News Agency]".

He did not name the countries.

10:40pm - [NHRC's chairman: Qatar's blockade is a new Berlin Wall](#)

- Qatar's Chairman of National Rights Committee Ali bin Samikh al-Marri has said that the blockade imposed on his country is like a "new Berlin Wall".
- Speaking at a European Parliament meeting in Brussels, Marri urged the body to visit the [NHRC](#) headquarters to see what he referred to as the suffering of Qatari citizens by the new regulations of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.
- "This is not just a case of diplomatic ties being cut off," Marri said. "What is happening is not a boycott but an unjust blockade and a collective punishment for Qatar's citizens and residents."

9:22pm - [US 'mystified' by Gulf states position towards Qatar](#)

- US state department has said it is "mystified" that Gulf states have not released details about their grievances towards Qatar more than two weeks after they imposed a blockade on the country.

- Heather Nauert, the state department spokesperson, said in Tuesday's press briefing that the more time goes by "the more doubt is raised" about Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirate's anti-Qatar measures.
- "At this point, we are left with one simple question: Were the actions really about their concerns regarding Qatar's alleged support for terrorism or were they about the long-simmering grievances between and among the GCC countries," she said, referring to the Gulf Cooperation Council.

6:44pm - UAE wants US, European monitors for any Qatar deal

- Anwar Gargash, UAE's foreign minister, said in Brussels on Tuesday that "we do need to create some sort of monitoring system of Qatar's obligations".
- He said he hoped US and European officials from countries like Britain, France and Germany could take part.
- Gargash said he expects the crisis to drag on because "the Qataris are still in a state of denial".

5:06pm - Qatar reassures US about LNG exports stability

- Qatar's finance minister told US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin during a trip to Washington last week that Qatar was committed to maintaining stability around its exports of liquefied natural gas to the global energy market, according to a statement by Qatar's government communication office.
- "They discussed Qatar's efforts to counter terror financing... and Qatar's commitment to maintaining stability around its exports to the global energy market," the statement said.

2:50pm - [Qatar sovereign fund deposited dollars in local banks](#)

- Qatar's sovereign wealth fund made US dollar deposits in some local banks last week as a precaution after Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states cut diplomatic and transport ties with Doha, Qatari commercial bankers said.
- One Qatar-based banker, whose own institution received funds, said new deposits in the banking system by the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) at the end of last week were believed to total several billion dollars. He described the deposits as "pre-emptive".
- At a recent meeting between top commercial bank executives and central bank officials, the executives said they did not need dollar liquidity at present, the banker told Reuters news agency, declining to be named because of commercial sensitivities.

10:45am - Qatar FM to travel to US to discuss Gulf rift

- Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, Qatar's foreign minister, said he plans to travel to the US next week to discuss the impact of restrictions on Qatar's economy.

1:50am - HRW delegation meets Qataris affected by blockade

- A delegation from Human Rights Watch has met with officials from Qatar's National Human Rights Council (NHRC) and Qatari citizens affected by a blockade imposed by a Saudi-led bloc of neighbouring countries against Qatar.
- During the meeting, which took place at the NHRC's headquarters, the delegation was informed about the legal and humanitarian consequences resulting from the moves against Qatar.
- A large number of Qatari citizens listed their complaints, including violations of their right to education, right to own property, right to mobility and the right to family reunion. The NHRC says it has so far received more than 1,750 complaints.

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