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UAE attracts a record Dh177.3b in FDI in 2025

DUBAI
Gulf News Report

The UAE attracted a record Dh177.3 billion in foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows in 2025, a 6 per cent increase from the previous year, while the country's total FDI stock climbed to Dh1.17 trillion, according to the latest World Investment Report.

Announcing the results in a post on X, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, said the figures reflected the UAE's growing position as a global destination for investment and opportunity.

The country also advanced to ninth place globally among FDI destinations, while retaining second place worldwide in the number of greenfield foreign direct investment projects.

Sheikh Mohammed said the achievements marked further progress towards the objectives of the UAE's National Investment Strategy, which aims to increase the country's FDI stock to Dh2.2 trillion by 2031 and attract Dh240 billion in annual FDI inflows. "These figures are not merely economic indicators," Sheikh Mohammed said. "They are the result of a national vision, the work of one team, and the confidence the world has placed in a country that has turned ambition into reality and opportunities into achievements. The best is yet to come for the UAE."

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DUBAI
BY STEPHEN N. R.
Senior Associate Editor

US President Donald Trump yesterday declared that the ceasefire with Iran was "over" and warned of further military action, including possible strikes on key civilian infrastructure, after fresh fighting around the Strait of Hormuz.

Speaking at the Nato summit in Turkey, Trump said: "As far as I'm concerned, it's over," referring to the three-week-old ceasefire. He nevertheless left the door open to diplomacy, saying negotiators could continue talking, though he dismissed the prospects.

"I'll let our wonderful negotiators keep talking if they want, but I don't see it. It's just a waste of time dealing with them," he said.

Trump also threatened fresh attacks, saying the US could target Iran's electric and desalination plants if necessary. He warned that Kharg Island, Iran's main oil export terminal, could be struck again and said Washington was considering restoring a naval blockade that would apply only to Iran.

'Big attack'

"It may be a big attack, and it'll knock out a lot of stuff," Trump warned.

"We attacked Kharg Island last night, knocked out a piece. I said, 'Don't touch the oil, because maybe we'll take over Kharg Island,'" Trump said, at the summit. "I said, 'Don't hit the pipes, just hit everything else.' And they hit it. They may hit it again tonight."

The renewed crisis followed Iranian attacks on commercial vessels near the Strait of Hormuz, prompting US Central Command to strike more than 80 Iranian targets, including air-defence systems, coastal radar sites and dozens of Revolutionary Guards fast boats.

TRUMP THREATENS MORE STRIKES AFTER SAYING IRAN TRUCE IS 'OVER'

Uncertainty deepens over Hormuz, oil and diplomacy



AFP

■ US President Donald Trump and Nato Secretary General Mark Rutte, right, attend the Nato Summit at Bestepe Presidential Compound in Ankara, Turkey, yesterday.

CENTCOM said the operation aimed to reduce Iran's ability to attack international shipping.

Iran responded by launching missiles and drones at Bahrain and Kuwait. Kuwait said it intercepted two ballistic missiles and 13 drones, while Bahrain reported attacks near Sheikh Isa Air Base. The Gulf Cooperation Council condemned the attacks.

Nato Secretary General Mark Rutte described the American military action as "absolutely necessary".

The latest escalation further disrupted shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. Maritime data showed only four tankers transited the waterway yesterday.

Oil up again

The renewed fighting pushed Brent crude above \$78 a barrel, while global stock markets fell as investors worried about higher energy prices and prolonged instability.

Despite Trump's comments, analysts said the ceasefire

may not yet have completely collapsed. Ali Vaez of the International Crisis Group said both Washington and Tehran were attempting to negotiate unresolved parts of the MoU through military pressure.

"They believe control of the Strait of Hormuz is the most important achievement they have had in this war," he said, adding that neither side was likely to give up its position easily.

— with inputs from AFP
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GARGASH SLAMS IRAN'S ATTACKS

Dr Anwar Gargash, Diplomatic Adviser to the UAE President, has said Iran's reported attacks on commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz and repeated aggression against Bahrain and Kuwait demonstrate that Tehran is unwilling to commit to de-escalation or move beyond the recent conflict.

In a post on X yesterday, Gargash said the reported attacks on Saudi and Qatari commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, together with the repeated acts of aggression against Bahrain and Kuwait, were "a clear indication that Tehran is incapable of adhering to the requirements of de-escalation and turning the page on war". "The Gulf Arab states cannot continue to be the target of Iran's oscillation between the logic of escalation and the path of rationality, stability and peace," he said. Gargash's remarks came after Saudi Arabia and Qatar separately condemned reported attacks on commercial vessels linked to the two countries while transiting the Strait of Hormuz, with both holding Iran responsible.

—Gulf News Report

IN FOCUS



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