Iran Opposes IAEA Access to Damaged Nuclear Facilities



photo: BBC

Iran has said it will not allow the United Nations nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), to inspect its key nuclear facilities that were damaged in U.S. and Israeli airstrikes last year.

The announcement came after the first round of talks in Switzerland aimed at ending the conflict in the Middle East. Tehran's position emerges as international diplomatic efforts intensify to ease tensions across the region.

Earlier, reports indicated that Iran and the United States had signed a preliminary memorandum of understanding. Under the framework, both sides were given a 60-day deadline to pursue a lasting agreement on major issues, including Iran's nuclear program and the lifting of sanctions.

Diplomatic sources say discussions surrounding a potential final deal are now accelerating at both regional and global levels.

As part of these efforts, a senior Iranian envoy may visit Pakistan, which is expected to play a mediating role. At the same time, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio is reportedly preparing to visit key Gulf allies.

Meanwhile, diplomatic discussions are also underway in Washington regarding the possibility of direct talks between Lebanon and Israel.