



## Iran says US agreement is closer than ever: Araghchi



Iran Foreign Minister Araghchi. Photo: BBC

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has said that the possibility of signing a memorandum of understanding between the United States and Iran is now higher than at any previous time. According to him, if everything proceeds as planned, formal progress on the matter could be seen within the next few days.

In an interview with Iranian state television on Friday (June 13), Araghchi said that ongoing talks between the two countries are moving in a positive direction. Once the memorandum is finalized, both sides will sign it digitally from their respective positions, after which it will be officially released.

He stated that the proposed agreement includes provisions related to ending conflicts in various crisis-hit areas of the region, including Lebanon. He also said that follow-up negotiations on the nuclear issue would begin only after an interim deal comes into effect. As part of the potential agreement, there would also be commitments not to engage in any new conflicts in the future.

Araghchi further noted that plans are in place to begin a second phase of talks within 60 days of signing the memorandum. Through those discussions, both sides aim to move toward a permanent and comprehensive agreement.

Following a ceasefire that came into effect on April 8, the situation remained relatively calm for a short period, but tensions between the United States and Iran have recently increased again. There have also been reciprocal strikes between the two sides. Amid this, former US President Donald Trump warned on Thursday night of strong action against Iran. However, he later stated that he did not authorize any strikes due to a possible agreement. This has renewed discussions about a potential US-Iran understanding.