

Israel-Lebanon Talks, Round 4: The Pentagon Takes a Seat

by [Hanin Ghaddar \(/experts/hanin-ghaddar\)](/experts/hanin-ghaddar), [Assaf Orion \(/experts/assaf-orion\)](/experts/assaf-orion), [David Schenker \(/experts/david-schenker\)](/experts/david-schenker)

May 28, 2026, starting at 11:00 a.m. EDT (1500 GMT)

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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Brief Analysis

Join us for an expert conversation exploring the next round of U.S.-brokered talks between Israel and Lebanon as the Pentagon hosts new security negotiations. Watch live starting at 11:00 a.m. EDT (1500 GMT) on Thursday, May 28, 2026.

The fourth round of U.S.-brokered talks between Israel and Lebanon will take place next week, but with one significant shift: because the issue of disarming Hezbollah has obstructed progress in previous rounds, security negotiations will now take place at the Pentagon separate from political negotiations at the State Department. As such, officials in both departments are working hard to find compromises between the two countries' priorities, aiming to move beyond another ceasefire renewal and reach a framework for broader negotiations.

Can the parties resolve thorny issues such as confiscating weapons and securing borders before the Trump

administration's patience runs out? If so, how can U.S. officials help the Lebanese Armed Forces implement the agreed disarmament plan? And what implications do the U.S.-Iran stalemate and other regional dynamics hold for key policy issues like reconstruction and the future of Israeli-Lebanese normalization? To answer these questions, The Washington Institute is pleased to announce a virtual Policy Forum moderated by Executive Director Robert Satloff and featuring:

Hanin Ghaddar, the Institute's Friedmann Senior Fellow and coauthor of its 2025 paper [*A Roadmap for Israel-Lebanon Peace*](#) ([/policy-analysis/roadmap-israel-lebanon-peace](#)).

Brig. Gen. **Assaf Orion** (IDF, Res.), the Institute's Rueven International Fellow, a senior research fellow at INSS in Tel Aviv, and former head of the Israel Defense Forces Strategic Planning Division.

David Schenker, the Institute's Taube Senior Fellow, director of its Rubin Program on Arab Politics, and former assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs during the first Trump administration.

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