Iran Declares Full Military Control Over the Strait of Hormuz



photo: Al jazeera

Iran has announced that it has established military control and authority over the strategically significant Strait of Hormuz. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said that any vessel passing through the waterway must now coordinate in advance with Iran's military forces.

Security measures have been further tightened in the southern part of the Strait of Hormuz. The naval branch of the force claims that the entire strait is now under strict surveillance and operational control. Under the new rules, military vessels from rival or hostile countries will not be allowed to pass through this route.

However, Iran stated that commercial and civilian vessels from friendly countries will continue to use the waterway as before. This means restrictions are mainly being imposed on specific types of military or high-risk traffic.

In recent days, maritime traffic through the strait had increased slightly. Reports suggested that several dozen vessels linked to Chinese companies had passed through the route. However, after the new directive, no major vessel movement has been reported in the past 24 hours.

Source: Al Jazeera