



## Global Shipping Conditions - 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

### Conflict in the Middle East

Container shipping lines have halted vessel transits through the Strait of Hormuz and rerouted vessels away from the Suez Canal after the US and Israel launched a pre-emptive attack against Iran, plunging the region's key maritime chokepoints into crisis.

Shipping lines have advised, safety and security of their crews, vessels and customers cargo remain their highest priority. These measures are therefore not discretionary but a necessary response to the current conditions and regulatory restrictions. Shipping Lines are closely monitoring developments, which are very fluid, and remain in continuous contact with authorities and security partners.

As a result, services calling ports in the Arabian Gulf may experience delays, rerouting, or schedule adjustments. Carriers are working to minimize disruption and will communicate any material changes to affected shipments as soon as possible.

Customers with cargo already in transit or planned shipments to or from the region are encouraged to contact their mover for shipment-specific guidance.

The consumer must recognise that the moving company, based quotes on services that were offered, if a shipping line suddenly removes a vessel string, changes or omits ports of call, or reroutes the vessel. The mover will need to move the booking to an alternative service which may well have a higher freight cost and potentially longer transit time, but this is totally outside the movers control.

Additionally, it's quite likely that shipping lines will implement war risk surcharges to pass these additional costs to the shipper and consumer, and these can be applied with very short notice and affect areas not typically thought of as impacted by the conflict. Meaning costs can change between the mover quoting the consumer and when the shipment actually departs.

### IN CLOSING

We assure all customers that your BAR Overseas mover is highly experienced and will always use their best endeavours for an efficient and trouble-free overseas move. This update is intended to provide you with unbiased information on the state of shipping, and its many challenges. If you have any questions, please contact your BAR mover.



*The BAR Overseas Group is a dedicated group of over 50 international relocation specialists from within the wider BAR Membership.*

**British Association of Removers, Tangent House, 62 Exchange Road, Watford. WD18 0TG**