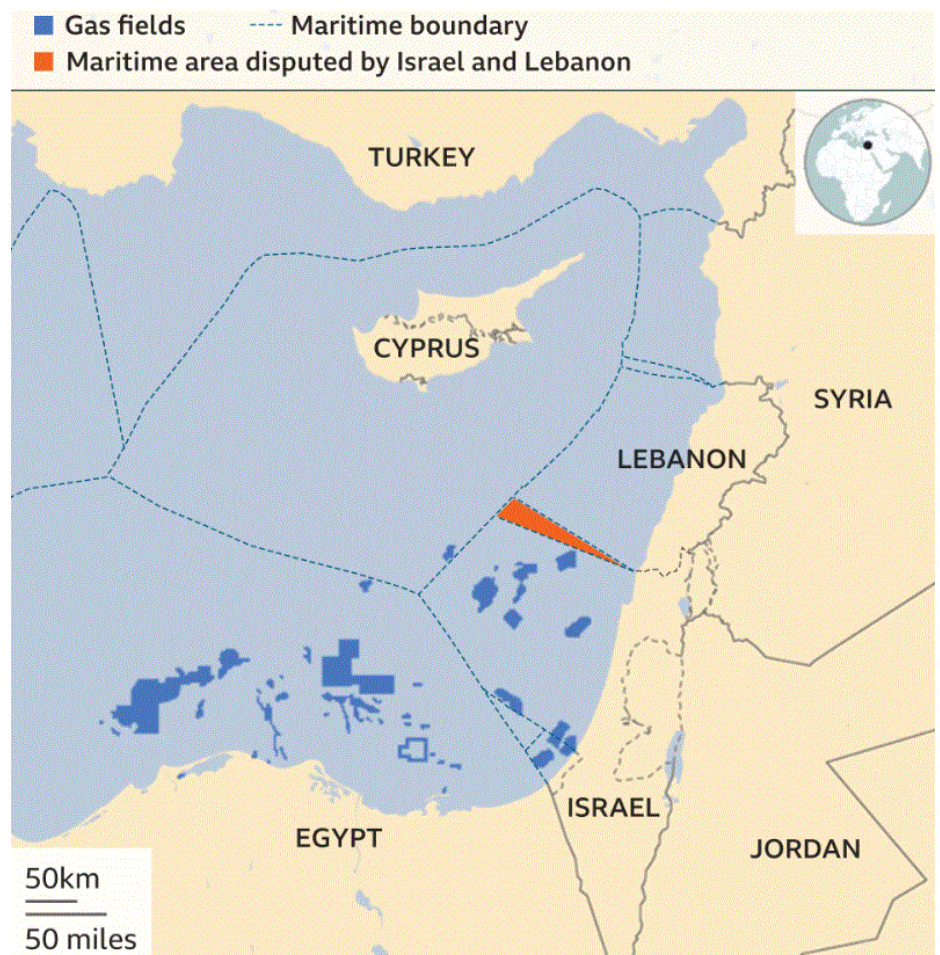


Israel and Lebanon gas field dispute plunges area into armed conflict

Discussion over the disputed Karish and Qana gas fields has collapsed and recrimination has now escalated into conflict. **Lebanese** Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah has called this a "red line" and a drilling rig from London listed firm Energean has been destroyed. An **Israeli** task force has amassed on the Lebanese border and is set to invade. They are reportedly under current drone attack. **Iran** has not only warned Israel that it will defend Lebanon but it has shockingly revealed that it

has become a nuclear power. Tremors indicate a major underground test explosion has just taken place. **USA** has mobilised the sixth fleet. The **UAE** has announced its support for Israel in a dramatic statement. **Türkiye** (Turkey) has offered to mediate but this has not yet been agreed. **Egypt** has said it is better placed to mediate.



Gas prices are again surging.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres has called for an immediate crisis committee to resolve this rapidly deteriorating situation.