

The Iranian Nuclear Deal: 10 Considerations

"The Iranian regime and the Islamic State are two sides of the same medieval coin"

- Marina Nemat, Canadian author and survivor of rape and torture in Iran's infamous Evin prison

FRIENDS OF SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER STATEMENT

Voices of reason from across the political spectrum are justifiably alarmed by the deal with Iran. This is a deal with a nation whose military wing (IRGC) appears on Canada's Terrorism Watch List. Below are ten reasons why Canadians should be concerned about this agreement.

1. Experts advise the deal is a bad one because it leaves too much enrichment capability and infrastructure in Iranian hands, serving to preserve its nuclear program and nuclear breakout capacity.
2. Iran maintains its official call for Israel's destruction and the downfall of America, as evidenced by this past Friday's Al Quds day rally in which the Ayatollah marched with thousands of protestors who yelled, "Death to Israel" and "Death to America."
3. The deal allows Iran to block and delay inspections of its facilities. There will be no surprise inspections, thereby giving Iran sufficient time to cleanse its facilities before the arrival of inspectors. Iran can challenge inspections through an arbitration board that may further delay or hinder inspections.
4. The removal of sanctions (which proved effective) will allow Iran to strengthen its resources and rebuild its war chest. While under the deal limited sanctions can be re-imposed on Iran under a "snap-back" mechanism, experts believe it will be nearly impossible to contain Iranian ambitions under vague and complex agreements.
5. Iran has received tacit approval to re-commence its nuclear program in ten years time, as the country will retain its infrastructure, both physical and scientific. This will encourage an arms race in the Middle East as sectarian conflicts continue to rage. Countries like Saudi Arabia and Egypt have already expressed grave concern about the possibility of a nuclear arms race in the Middle East.
6. Israeli leaders have altogether rejected the deal. According to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, "From the initial reports we can already conclude that this agreement is an historic mistake for the world."
7. Iran is a net abuser of human rights, as reported by the United Nations. Given the "Green Movement" following Iran's 2009 election, when thousands protested the current regime and scores were murdered in cold blood, the current deal will serve to further empower the Ayatollah's stranglehold over his people. Dictators and genocidal madmen the world over will soon realize that the United States, once the greatest guarantor of human rights in the world, can be cowed into submission. The bullies have won.
8. Can Iran change? It has been accused of supporting terrorism, including the 1994 bombing of the Jewish Community Centre in Buenos Aires in which 85 people were killed, and the 1983 Beirut Barrack Bombing in which 241 American Servicemen and 58 French Servicemen were murdered. Iran continues to arm Hezbollah and Hamas, leading a proxy war of attrition against Israel, and remains the greatest friend of Assad's homicidal regime in Syria.
9. Can the future of all humanity afford a "Maybe?" According to the Wall Street Journal's Bret Stephens, "Maybe we'll get lucky. Maybe Iran will change for the better after Khamenei passes from the scene. Maybe international monitors will succeed with Iran where they failed with North Korea. Or maybe we won't be lucky."
10. Canada's reaction: "We will continue to judge Iran by its actions not its words...Iran continues to be a significant threat to international peace and security owing to the regime's nuclear ambitions, its continuing support for terrorism, its repeated calls for the destruction of Israel, and its disregard for basic human rights." - MP Rob Nicholson, Minister of Foreign Affairs.