

Iran Rejects Requirements for a Good Deal

As the P5+1 and Iran work towards a comprehensive nuclear agreement, major public gaps remain between the parties. On the five key requirements for a good agreement, elements of Iran's leadership have staked out uncompromising positions that – if they truly represent Iran's positions – will make a good deal unattainable. Congress must continue to press American negotiators to insist that any agreement meet each of these requirements.

1. INSPECTIONS AND VERIFICATION

Inspectors must be permitted unimpeded access to suspect sites.



- “We will never yield to pressure ... We will not accept unreasonable demands ... Iran will not give access to its (nuclear) scientists.”
– Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, May 20, 2015
- “Not only will we not grant foreigners the permission to inspect our military sites, we will not even give them permission to think about such a subject ... They will not even be permitted to inspect the most normal military site in their dreams.”
– Brig. Gen. Hossein Salami, April 18, 2015
- “Visiting military centers is among our redlines and no such visit will be accepted.”
– Defense Minister Brig. Gen. Hossein Dehqan, April 9, 2015

2. POSSIBLE MILITARY DIMENSIONS

Iran must fully explain its prior weaponization efforts.



- “PMD is out of the question. It cannot be discussed.”
– Anonymous Iranian official, Nov.22, 2014
- “Iran ... provided detailed explanations on the documents shown by the [International Atomic Energy] Agency to Iran and provided pieces of evidence that indicate such documents are fabricated.”
– Iranian statement to the IAEA alleging that PMD concerns were fabricated, Dec. 1, 2014

3. SANCTIONS

Sanctions relief must commence only after Iran complies with its commitments.



- “We will not sign any deal unless all sanctions are lifted on the same day. ... We want a win-win deal for all parties involved in the nuclear talks.”

– President Hassan Rouhani, April 9, 2015

- “All sanctions should be removed just when the deal is reached. If sanctions removal depends on another process then why we started to talk?”

– Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Twitter, April 9, 2015

4. DURATION

Iran’s nuclear weapons quest must be blocked for decades.



- “The time frame of the Comprehensive Plan of Joint Action regarding Iran’s enrichment program will be 10 years.”

– Iranian Fact Sheet on Nuclear Negotiations, April 2, 2015

- “Iran will continue its research and development on advanced machines and will continue the initiation and completion phases of the research and development process of IR-4, IR-5, IR-6, and IR-8 centrifuges during the 10 year period of the Comprehensive Plan for Joint Action.”

– Iranian Fact Sheet on Nuclear Negotiations, April 2, 2015

5. DISMANTLEMENT

Iran must dismantle its nuclear infrastructure so it has no path to a nuclear weapon.



- “None of those measures include closing our facilities. The proud people of Iran would never accept that. Our facilities will continue. We will continue enriching, we will continue research and development, our heavy water reactor will be modernized and we will continue the Fordow facility.”

– Minister of Foreign Affairs Javad Zarif, April 2, 2015

- “The export of stocks of enriched uranium is not in our program, and we do not intend sending them abroad. There is no question of sending the stocks abroad.”

– Deputy for Legal and International Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Abbas Araqchi, March 29, 2015