The day finally has come. President Trump has pulled the U.S. out of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). It has been the right decision to confront the Iran’s hostility in the Middle East.

Since the signature of the JCPOA, as Friends of Israel Initiative strongly alerted, the JCPOA has enabled Iran to keep the nuclear infrastructure intact, it has allowed to carry out advanced nuclear R&D, it has established an insufficient inspection and verification regime and it has set out sunset clauses that postpone the problem, far from solving it. In the meantime, the Iran’s long-range ballistic program is active and expanding, the Iran’s regional domination in Yemen, Syria Iraq and Lebanon has been enhanced, Iran heads once again the list of countries sponsors of terrorism, and the regime is not moderating, as the world witnessed during the last heavily-oppressed citizen protests at the end of 2017.

P5+1 powers, especially the U.S., the U.K., France and Germany have now an historic opportunity, posed by the U.S. President Donald Trump’s position on the JCPOA, to correct the mistakes of the past and work together towards a safer, better future.

We are hereby convinced that a future agreement on Iran, if possible, must make “anytime, anywhere” inspections real, prohibit the development of long-range missiles capable to carry nuclear warheads, erase the possibility of Iran to acquire nuclear weapons, ban the advanced nuclear R&D, and stop the funding of terrorist groups such as Hamas or Hizballah. Other Western powers-led arrangement that does not deal with these issues would be futile.

In the Friends of Israel Initiative, we take the Iranian constant threat to “wipe Israel off the map”, as the Iranian leaders have constantly claimed, very seriously, and the Western powers should do the same. A no-nuclear deal scenario is preferable than the Iran’s nefarious internal and external agenda enhanced nowadays by the JCPOA.

The disastrous nuclear deal that has allowed Iran to be richer, stronger, better equipped and to build a Shia Crescent across the Middle East that now endangers the existence of Israel. The security of our allies is at stake. One day after the Trump’s decision, Iran attacked Israel, violating all military and international conventions. A regional war is now closer due to the hostility of Iran in the Middle East. The JCPOA did not stop this eventuality.

The JCPOA is a bad deal that has worsened the global security since its implementation. In July 2015, a big opportunity was wasted. During the period of negotiations opened by President Trump’s decision in January, another
opportunity to reach a better framework was lost. This time, the U.K., France and Germany have a third chance to conceptualize, along with the U.S., to achieve a common, long-lasting, and safe solution.

We therefore urge them to eliminate the danger of a nuclear Iran and roll back its global malign activities that threaten us and our allies.

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**FOII’S ACTIONS ON IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL**

Since its foundation, the Friends of Israel Initiative has sought to avoid reaching a bad deal with Iran, since it would be not only an existential threat to Israel, but also to the entire Western world. Here are some examples of FOII's relentless efforts.

**Statements:** FOII's Board Members have crafted open statements outlining the same points regarding Iran's nuclear ambitions.

- "Why we should be side by side with Israel now,” (March 2012)

- "Statement on the Geneva Interim Agreement over the Iranian Nuclear Program,” (November 2013) after the interim nuclear deal in Geneva was signed.

Op-eds: FOII's Board Members and collaborators have also published op-eds and analyses on the international media, in which they explained how detrimental it would be to open the gate of the nuclearization to Iran.
- "Netanyahu, Churchill, and Congress" by Col. Richard Kemp, Gatestone Institute, March 1, 2015.
- "Congress must demand a better deal", Jose María Aznar and Lord David Trimble, The Hill, September 9, 2015
- "The consequences of a bad deal with Iran", Ambassador John Bolton, Los Angeles Times, July 26, 2015
- "The battle of perceptions" Carlos Alberto Montaner, August 31, 2015
- "Moderate Iran is a fantasy” Ambassador Giulio Terzi, POLITICO, January 27, 2016
- "Iran is as belligerent as ever” Ambassador Giulio Terzi, Israel Hayom, June 30, 2016.
- "The Deal with Iran: One Year of Deceit”, Rafael Bardaji, El Medio, July 15, 2016
- "Interests First: Discarding Bad Agreements”, Professor Andrew Roberts, Hoover Institution, November 21, 2016
- "Iran's Western partners risk blood on their hands,” Ambassador Giulio Terzi, POLITICO, December 19, 2016
- Puppet-state Lebanon a pawn for ambitious Iran, Major General Andrew Molan, The Australian, April 24, 2017
- “How to Get Out of the Iran Nuclear Deal” Ambassador John Bolton, National Review, August 28, 2017
- “Thanks to Obama, America is two steps behind Iran in Middle East,” Ambassador John Bolton, The Hill, October 23, 2017
- “Iran deal devotees try in vain to save a sinking ship”, Ambassador John Bolton, The Hill, September 11, 2017
- “Trump Not Expected to Certify Iranian Compliance with the Nuclear Deal”, Lee Smith, The Weekly Standard, October 4, 2017
- "Iran is the Greatest Threat to World Peace", Colonel Richard Kemp, Majalla, November 4, 2017
- “What Is Wrong with Europe’s "Iran Policy”?” Ambassador Giulio Terzi, Jerusalem Post, November 15, 2017
- “Failure to support Israel against Iran could end in war”, Colonel Richard Kemp, The Times, February 12, 2018
- “Iran: The Europeans Are Wrong Once Again”, Rafael Bardaji, La Gaceta, March 22, 2018

Letters: To P5+1 members: During the final stages of the negotiations at 2015, FOII carried out an intense campaign to warn about the consequences of reaching a bad deal to European leaders of the E3+3 group: David Cameron, Angela Merkel, François Hollande, Donald Tusk, Jean-Claude Juncker, and Federica Mogherini. We advised them about the counterproductive deal in geopolitical terms and how a sanctions-free regime will undoubtedly expand Iran's ballistic missile program that, only a few weeks ago, rolled out a new long-range cruise missile, capable of targeting Central Europe. Besides, agreeing to a deal would be rewarding Iran's belligerency.
To the U.S. Congress: During the last stage of negotiations of the JCPOA, FOII also sent letters to the majority and minority leaders in the House of Representatives Kevin McCarthy (Rep.) and Nancy Pelosi (Dem.), as well to the majority and minority whips Steve Scalise (Rep.) and Steny Hoyer (Dem.), warning them about the bad consequences that the JCPOA implementation and about the historic moment to encourage the U.S. government to reach a better deal with Iran.

Working Papers: Our educational area has been very active regarding Iran's nuclear threat. As such, some of the most renowned experts on the matter have authored working papers — widely spread throughout FOII's network — explaining the implications in case that a bad deal was reached.


Major Reports. FOII has elaborated two major reports to assess and evaluate the implementation of the JCPOA and to provide solutions and measures to fix the nuclear deal and to adopt a new policy on Iran.

- "The Iran Deal a Year On: Assessing Iranian Ambitions", jointly with the Henry Jackson Society.
- “Walking Away from the Bad Deal with Iran” Ambassador John Bolton, Lee Smith and Emily Landau.

This report was presented at the White House before President Trump decertified the JCPOA and outlined a new policy on Iran.

Dispatches and Alerts: As a tool of communications covering views, achievements, events, and more related information, FOII releases monthly Dispatches — and occasional Alerts— to its approximately 11,000 subscribers. The danger of a nuclear Iran has also been a core issue covered by our Dispatches and Alerts.

- April 2012 Alert: “A Last Chance for Iran?”
- November 2013 Dispatch: “A Bad Deal Is Worse than No Agreement.”
- December 2013 Dispatch: "Interim Agreement in Geneva: Iran Has Won."
- March 2014 Dispatch: “Klos-C: Iran's Real Intentions.”
- April 2015 Dispatch: “The Day after the Bad Deal.”
- July 2015 Dispatch: “The Iranian Deal”
- October 2015 Dispatch: “The JCPOA Augurs a Dark Future”
- February 2017: “The Need to Revert the Bad Effects of the Nuclear Deal with Iran”
- October 2017: “It Is Time to Walk Away from the Bad Deal with Iran”
PRESENTATION OF THE HLMG’S REPORT “HIZBALLAH’S TERROR ARMY” AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

On April 25, Lord General Richard Dannatt and Colonel Richard Kemp led the launch of the High Level Military Group’s new extensive study “Hizballah's Terror Army: How to Prevent a Third Lebanon” (read) at the House of Commons in London.

The launching event was attended by the MP’s Bob Blackman, Andrew Bowie, Jo Churchill, Simon Clark, Alberto Costa, Luke Graham, Robert Halfon, Fabian Hamilton, Simon Hoare, Phillip Holloborne, Paul Scully and Michael Tomlinson; and by journalists Rober Boyes (The Times), Douglas Murray (The Spectator) and John Ware (BBC).

Also, Lord David Trimble (Nobel Prize Laureate and Friends of Israel Initiative Board Member), Lord Leslie Turnberg, Lord Stuart Polak, Baron Toby Harris, Baroness Elizabeth Redfern and Baroness Jane Scott were among the attendees.

During the presentation of the Hizballah's Terror Army report, both Lord General Dannatt and Colonel Kemp raise awareness about the prospects of a new war in Lebanon against Iran’s proxy Hizballah, extensible to the whole region.

Lord Dannatt pointed out that “a new and serious war is thus brewing, premised on Iranian religiously driven Imperialism and implacable enmity to Israel. Such a war will be grave in extent and it is important to understand the context from a military perspective,” and warned that “Iran and Hizballah are breaking Israel’s red lines making conflict likely.” In Lord Dannatt’s view, Israel will require all of its friends in the West to assert this in the face of the inevitable severe internal and external chorus of propaganda against it.

Colonel Kemp highlighted that “there is no reason for Iran and Hizballah’s enmity against Israel on a diplomatic, legal or geo-strategic basis. It is based as a central facet of a religiously motivated Iranian Islamist imperialism in the Middle
East that threatens not just Israel, but Western interests." Colonel Kemp ended his intervention alerting that Western policy and influence is failing and Iran has substantial levels of control now, in Iraq, in Syria, in Lebanon and further afield.

STAY TUNED - FOII IN SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow FOII on social media to keep informed about our activities and to receive interesting feeds on Israel, the Middle East, and the West.

Since the agreement, Iran’s bloody ambitions have grown only more brazen.
Donald Trump

Help us now

We have been able to carry out major actions thanks to the efforts of friends like you.

To continue this important endeavor, we need your support.

Support the Friends of Israel Initiative now!

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