

<http://www.studentnewsdaily.com/daily-news-article/u-s-iran-explore-option-of-10-year-nuclear-freeze/print/?part=article>

Questions

1. In negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program this week, what compromise is the U.S. considering?
2. How do critics of the Obama administration's negotiations with Iran view this compromise?
3. Why does the Obama administration say it does not need Congressional approval to make this deal with Iran? What will it need Congress to do?
4. Why is Israel so opposed to the deal the U.S. and others are negotiating with Iran?

5. Sanctions are actions that are taken to force a country to obey international laws by limiting or stopping trade with that country, by not allowing economic aid for that country, etc. In January 2014 it was reported that the sanctions imposed on Iran by the U.S., EU and UN:

have helped to wreck Iran's economy. In particular, the vital oil industry is on its knees. In June 2013, Iran was still the second-biggest oil producer in Opec after Saudi Arabia, pumping 3 million barrels per day. By this September, its daily production had tumbled by 400,000 barrels to 2.6 million. Given that oil prices exceed \$100 per barrel, that fall represents a loss of billions of dollars. So Iran needs to compromise over its nuclear ambitions in order to ease the burden of sanctions. America and its allies, meanwhile, want to contain a nuclear program that advances month by month and would eventually give Iran the option of building the ultimate weapon.

Read the "Background" below. Then watch the interview with Foreign Policy expert Michael O'Hanlon. Iran's secret nuclear weapons program was discovered in 2002. The U.S. and others have been negotiating with Iran on and off for 10 years.

Do you think the U.S. should make this agreement with Iran now, or continue or increase sanctions instead as a way to force Iran to completely disband its nuclear program? Explain your answer.

6. In a recent speech, former NYC Mayor Rudy Guiliani said:

So let's review the agreement.... Iran wants, it says, the peaceful use of nuclear power. Iran has 300 years of natural gas and oil reserves and they haven't started fracking or hydraulic drilling yet. They may have 1000 years of reserves.... Iran does not need a nuclear power plant for power. They got plenty of energy, plenty of energy to export to the rest of the world. There is no reason in the world for them to have the peaceful use of nuclear power. Maybe

France needs it. Maybe countries without natural resources need it, but Iran doesn't need it. So why have they been doing this? They've been doing this because they want to become a nuclear power. Not only that, they have written that, they have said that, they have described that. The president reformer who runs Iran, Rouhani, in '03 and '05 continued to enrich uranium while they had a standstill agreement with us. He did it secretly and bragged about it, and we're negotiating with them. This is like playing poker with a guy who cheated you twice before. You know who does that? A moron. An agreement with Iran with regard to nuclear power should be very simple. Iran should not be allowed to have any form of nuclear power.

Most of us, maybe not all of us in this room, went through the Cold War. Those of us in the Reagan administration certainly remember it. General Shelton fought it, the Cold War, because it wasn't always a cold war. And the big fear during the Cold War was that a madman would come along and be able to get his finger on the button in the U.S. or Russia, and all of a sudden we could destroy the world. We saw movies about that, we saw Broadway plays about that, we saw comedies about that, and we read books about that. And we were afraid of that. And it never happened, thank God. These people in Iran, the Ayatollah and the mullahs, have already told us they are insane. They have already described to us in words and deeds the actions of insane people. I didn't say irrational, I said insane. I believe the Ayatollah is truly insane. He lives in a different world than the real world in which we live, which is probably the best definition of insanity you can have. He's like the guy walking around Bellevue Hospital thinking he's George Washington. He's a madman. He's announced that he wants to destroy the state of Israel.

And we are upset that Prime Minister Netanyahu wants to come here and defend his country? When someone who is a few hundred miles away [from Israel] wants nuclear weapons and has threatened to destroy his country of six or seven million people? It's smaller than New York City. ...

a) Do you agree with Mayor Guiliani's assertion that "Iran should not be allowed to have any form of nuclear power"? Explain your answer.

b) Ask a parent and a grandparent the same question.



Background

ON URANIUM ENRICHMENT:

Enriched uranium is a critical component for both civil nuclear power generation and military nuclear weapons. The UN's International Atomic Energy Agency attempts to monitor and control enriched uranium supplies and processes in its efforts to ensure nuclear power generation safety and curb nuclear weapons proliferation (buildup).

IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM:

- Iran's 20 year secret nuclear program was discovered in **2002**. Iran says its program is for fuel purposes only, but it has been working on **uranium enrichment** which is used to make nuclear bombs. [**NOTE ON URANIUM ENRICHMENT:** *Enriched uranium is a critical component for both civil nuclear power generation and military nuclear weapons. The International Atomic Energy Agency attempts to monitor and control enriched uranium supplies and processes in its efforts to ensure nuclear power generation safety and curb nuclear weapons proliferation (buildup).*]

- **Under the United Nations' NPT (Non Proliferation Treaty) countries are not allowed to make nuclear weapons (except for the 5 that had nuclear weapons prior to the treaty – the U.S., Russia, China, France, the United Kingdom).**
- Safeguards are used to verify compliance with the Treaty through inspections conducted by the UN's nuclear watchdog, the **IAEA** (International Atomic Energy Agency).
- The IAEA has consistently stated it is unable to conclude that Iran's nuclear program is entirely peaceful.
- The IAEA issued a report on Sept. 15, 2008 that said Iran has repeatedly blocked an investigation into its nuclear program and the probe is now deadlocked.
- The U.N. Security Council has already imposed four sets of sanctions on Iran over its nuclear defiance. Despite the sanctions, Iran has refused to end its nuclear program.
- A group of U.S. and Russian scientists said in a report issued in May 2009 that Iran could produce a simple nuclear device in one to three years and a nuclear warhead in another five years after that. The study, published by the nonpartisan EastWest Institute, also said Iran is making advances in rocket technology and could develop a ballistic missile capable of firing a 2,200-pound nuclear warhead up to 1,200 miles "in perhaps six to eight years."
- The Iranian government has called for the destruction of Israel on numerous occasions. It is believed that once obtained, Iranian President Ahmadinejad would use nuclear weapons against Israel.

Read the following article and then answer questions

<http://www.studentnewsdaily.com/daily-news-article/crackdown-on-drones-goes-local/print/?part=article>

Questions

Note: Before answering the questions, watch the interview with Mr. Garodnick under “Resources” below the questions.

1. What potential positive uses does NYC Council Member Dan Garodnick see for drones?

2. What concerns does Mr. Garodnick have with the use of drones in New York City?

3. a) Although he acknowledges many important uses for drones exist, why does he want the City Council to block drone use right now?

b) Is this a reasonable idea? Explain your answer.

4. a) How many states have enacted laws restricting drones in some way, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures, which tracks state laws?

b) What types of drone laws have various states passed?

5. What types of drone laws/rules has the federal government enacted through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)?

6. On Feb. 9, CBS Los Angeles reported:

A pilot reported having a close encounter with a remote-controlled device at 4,000 feet while navigating a Southwest Airlines flight to LAX. He told air traffic control: “Hey, there was just one of those radio-controlled helicopter things that went right over the top of us at 4,000...”

...retired United pilot Cpt. Ross Aimer says drones are a growing concern to pilots. "Everybody's worried that it may be something worse next time," Aimer said. "As these drones start getting bigger and more complicated and more in numbers, we are gonna have huge problems – unless we come up with a real solution."

Aimer says commercial pilots are talking about the recent near-collisions with drones and planes from Dallas to Chicago, all flying well above the FAA allowance of 400 feet.

And on Tuesday, London's Daily Telegraph reported:

Police spotted at least five drones flying over sensitive sites in Paris including the US embassy and the Eiffel Tower between one o'clock and six o'clock Tuesday morning.

The first drone was sighted by police guarding the US embassy near the Champs-Élysées around 1.00am. Others were sighted during the night over the Eiffel Tower, the Invalides military museum and the Place de la Concorde, a police source said.

"It could be a coordinated action but we don't know yet," the source said. Police reinforcements were called in but failed to capture the drones or identify those controlling them, the source said.

Last month a drone flew over the president's official residence, the Elysée Palace, and drones have also been spotted flying over 17 nuclear sites in France.

All the drones spotted were described as standard, small models of pilotless aircraft available commercially, which police say are too light to cause significant damage if crashed into a building, even a nuclear power plant.

However, the sightings have raised public [concern] that terrorists could find a way to attach explosives or toxic chemicals to the drones.

- a) Does this change your view of cities (or towns) banning unmanned drones? Explain your answer.
- b) Ask a parent the same question.