



B'nai B'rith International and B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission express concern about Reported P5+1-Iran Nuclear Deal

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In light of news reports that the P5+1 (United States, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United Kingdom) and Tehran may be close to reaching a deal on Iran's nuclear program, B'nai B'rith International and The B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission have voiced their ongoing alarm about the viability of the plan, reiterating their long-standing concern about the severe repercussions of nuclear Iran for global security.

With March 31 as the deadline for an agreement fast approaching, B'nai B'rith international and The B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission have urged the White House and the P5+1 to toughen their approach on Tehran and to close gaps in the agreement on such issues as plutonium enrichment, intrusive inspections, and the possible military dimensions (PMD) of Iran's nuclear program.

For years, Iran has made its genocidal intentions about Israel very clear. As such, it would be highly irresponsible and perilous for the world to turn a blind eye in light of the regime's own words and actions.

Just a few months ago, Iranian General Mohammad Ali Jafari said: "The range of (our) missiles covers all of Israel today. That means the fall of the Zionist regime, which will certainly come soon."

Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei stated in that same month: "Whether a nuclear agreement is achieved or not, Israel will be more insecure each day."

As such, it is vitally important that the parameters of an agreement undergo additional scrutiny and debate before any deal is struck. We appeal to the administration and the P5+1 to revisit these issues and others lest we find in a decade or less that Iran is nuclear weapons ready. Reports indicate that a plan is emerging that would limit Iran's ability to produce nuclear material for 10 years, but would include a provision loosening those restrictions in the final years of the deal. This is a major concern to us.

Even during the long months of negotiations, Iran has continued to sponsor international terror organizations, enrich uranium, defy the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), pursue plans to build intercontinental ballistic missiles and hide the military dimensions of its nuclear program. While there is still time, these serious concerns must be addressed by negotiators. Additionally, Iran continues to extend its influence in Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and now Yemen, continues to abuse human rights, denies rights to political opposition groups, and has jailed a Washington Post reporter in Tehran. If Iran is so defiant while negotiations are underway, what can we expect once a deal is signed?

A nuclear-ready Iran has consequences that would resonate far beyond Israel and the United States. It is incumbent on the negotiators to consider this and not enter into a deal that puts Iran one step closer to nuclear weapons capability.