Iran nuclear deal

An overview of the deal and what's next for Trump's administration

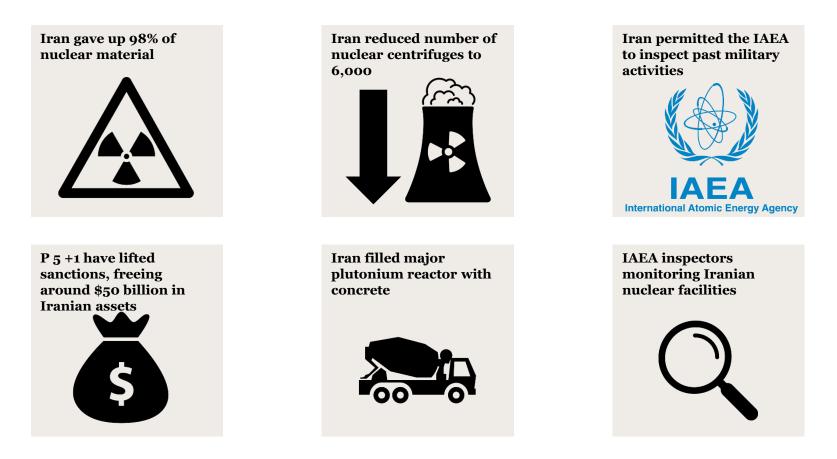
October 16, 2017

Producer *Kathryn Pentz*

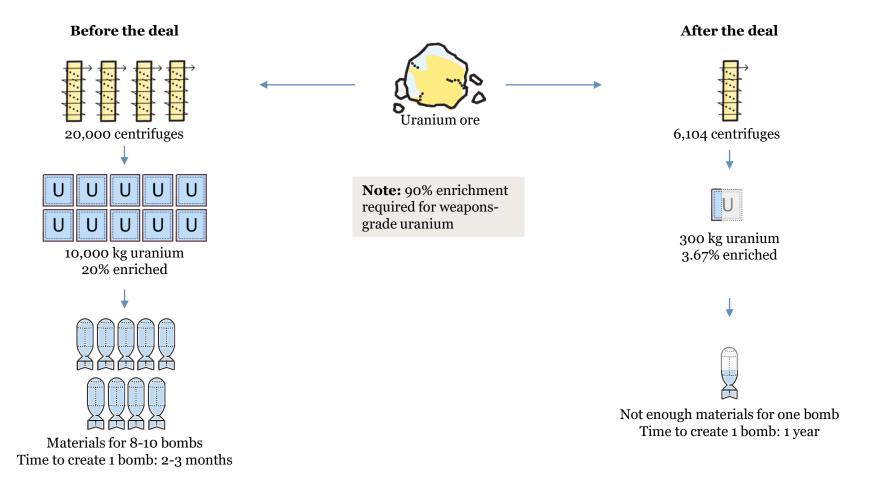
Director Alistair Taylor

JCPOA's main initial provisions were successfully implemented

Major JCPOA provisions implemented



Sources: David Sanger, "Iran Sticks to Terms of Nuclear Deal, But Defies U.S. In Other Ways," The New York Times, July 13, 2016; Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, "Factsheet: Implementation of the Iran Nuclear Deal," January 15, 2016; World Nuclear Association, "Nuclear Power in Iran," May 4.



Sources: The White House, "The Historic Deal that Will Prevent Iran from Acquiring a Nuclear Weapon"; New York Times, "The Iran Nuclear Deal – A Simple Guide," July 14, 2015.

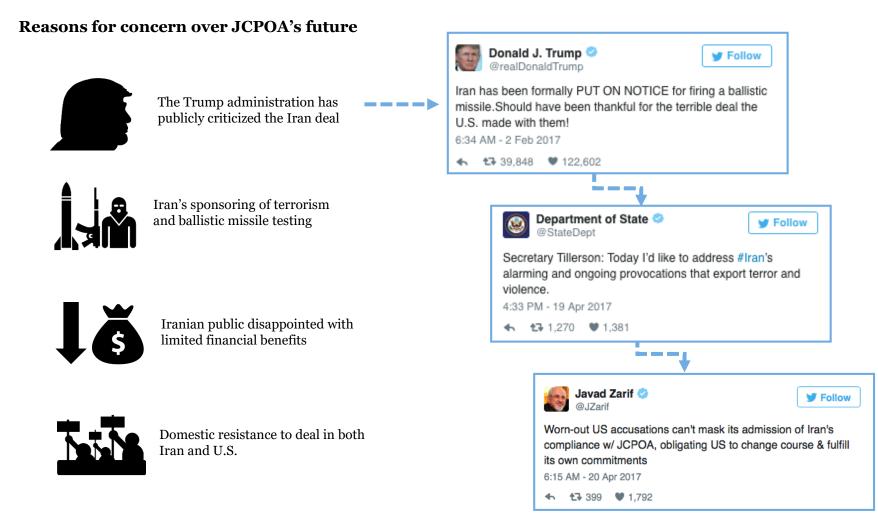
Sunset clauses: dates after which restrictions imposed on Iran by the nuclear deal will not apply

Timeline of JCPOA sunset clauses

Oct. 🤇	U.N. conventional arms embargo lifted
2020	U.N. will lift conventional arms embargo on Iran. Alternatively, this could occur earlier if the IAEA declares that all nuclear activities in Iran are peaceful.
Oct. (¹ UNSC lifts ballistic missile sanctions
2023	The United Nations Security will lift all ballistic missile sanctions against Iran. However, Iran must seek ratification of the Additional Protocol on Nuclear Safeguards. The EU must also lift certain sanctions.
March	Iran may test up to 30 advanced centrifuge machines
2024	They may also being manufacturing IR-6 and IR-8 centrifuges.
Oct.	" Termination day " eliminates all U.N. considerations of Iran's nuclear program
2025	Iran's restriction to only 5,000 centrifuges is lifted. UNSC resolution for JCPOA is terminated.
Oct.	No longer any physical restrictions on Iranian nuclear production
2030	Iran is no longer obligated to export heavy water or keep uranium enrichment below 3.67%
Oct.	^D IAEA ends monitoring of Iran's centrifuges
2035	IAEA no longer inspects Iran's centrifuges.
Oct.	IAEA monitoring and inspection of Iran's uranium enrichment ends
2040	Iran is no longer committed to permitting IAEA verification for current and future uranium stores

Sources: Jennifer Williams, "A comprehensive timeline of the Iran nuclear deal," Brookings Institution. July 21, 2015

Concerns over the deal linger due to US-Iran tensions



Sources: National Journal Research, 2017

Timeline of the Trump administration's Iran policy

Most recently, Trump has moved to decertify that Iran is complying with the nuclear deal

Iran tests ballistic missiles		The State Department announces Iran is in compliance with the deal			US renews sanction waivers			IAEA reports Iran is in compliance with limits on enriched materials set by the JCPOA			Trump declares he will not certify that Iran has met the terms for sanction relief under INARA	
January 2017		April 2017	917		May 2017			August 2017			October 2017	
February 2017 The Treasury announces a new wave of sanctions		7	April 20)17		June 2017			9	Septemb	er 2017	
			President Trump ordere a full review o the Iran deal		r of	Counteri Destabili 2017. It v correct p JCPOA, h Act was i	The Senate passes the Countering Iran's Destabilizing Activities Act of 2017. It was amended to correct passages that violated JCPOA, but Iran asserted the Act was in direct contradiction of the spirit of the nuclear deal			In a military parade in Khorramshahr, Iran demonstrates the medium-range missiles tested in January		

Sources: Tom DiChristopher, "Trump's Iran nuclear deal review faces a dangerous path," CNBC, April 25, 2017; Kelsey Davenport, "Timeline of Nuclear Diplomacy with Iran," Arms Control Association, October 2017

Three potential outcomes of Trump decertifying the Iran nuclear deal

Decertifying the May 2015 Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act (INARA) will lead to one of three results

Congress doesn't act on decertification and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) remains unaffected



Congress levies sanctions against Iran and the JCPOA is voided, in which case Iran could continue pursuit of nuclear weapons at the pre-deal rate



Congress amends INARA to add "triggers" to the current JCPOA to generate sanctions automatically if and when the agreement is violated. This is Trump's preferred option



Likely outcomes:

- Decertify that Iran has met the terms for sanctions relief under INARA, which requires the president to certify that Iran is in compliance with the JCPOA every 90 days
- The decertification gives Congress 60 days to respond
- Trump's preferred outcome is that Congress amend the INARA to restrictions of Iran's ballistic missile program and destabilizing activities, including giving support to anti-government Houthi fighters in Yemen
- Sens. Bob Corker (R-TN) and Tom Cotton (R-AR), chairmen of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Senate Armed Services Air Land Subcommittee, respectively, have been working on legislation that would trigger US sanctions if Iran's nuclear program comes within a year of obtaining a nuclear weapon
- Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY) said decertification "harms America's credibility on the world stage," and Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD) said Trump's decision will "put us in a weaker position on Iran negotiations."

Sources: Tara Copp, "Trump to stay in Iran nuclear deal, ask Congress to revise enforcement," Military Times, October 13, 2017.