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Shifting Sands and Shifting Powers: The Effect of the Dissolving of the Iranian Nuclear Deal on the Power Dynamics of the Middle East

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The Effect of the Dissolving JCPOA on the Power Dynamics in the Middle East

McCabe Webb
What is the JCPOA?

“Ensure that Iran’s Nuclear programme will be exclusively peaceful and mark a fundamental shift in their [the members of the JCPOA] approach to this issue...This JCPOA will positively contribute to regional peace and security”

Iran and The JCPOA: A Brief History
1953
The CIA coup overthrows Premier Mosaddeq, and in states the pro-western Shah

1967
1979
The Shah was ousted and the anti-western Ayatollah Khomeini established a theocracy

2015
President Trump decides to pull the U.S. out of the JCPOA, confident a better deal can be reached.

How Does This Affect the Regional Power Dynamics?
I. Financial and banking transactions with Iranian banks and financial institutions as specified in Annex II, including the Central Bank of Iran...
II. Transactions in Iranian Rial
III. Provisions of U.S. banknotes to the Government of Iran
IV. Bilateral trade limitations on Iranian revenues abroad, including limitations on their transfer
V. Purchase, subscription to, or facilitation of the issuance of Iranian sovereign debt, including governmental bonds
VI. Financial messaging services to the Central Bank of Iran and Iranian financial institutions...
VII. Underwriting services, insurance, or reinsurance
VIII. Efforts to reduce Iran’s crude oil sales
IX. Investment, including participation in joint ventures, goods, services, information, technology and technical expertise and support for Iran’s oil... sectors
X. Purchase, acquisition, sale, transportation or marketing of petroleum, petrochemical products and natural gas from Iran
XI. Export, sale or provision of refined petroleum products and petrochemical products to Iran
XII. Transactions with Iran’s energy sector
XIII. Transactions with Iran’s shipping and shipbuilding sector and port operators
XIV. Trade in gold and other precious metals
XV. Trade with Iran in Graphite, raw or semi-finished metals such as aluminum and steel, coal and software for integrating industrial processes
XVI. Sale, Supply or transfer of goods and services used in connection with Iran’s automotive sector
XVII. Sanctions on associated services for each of the categories above
XVIII. Remove individuals and entities set out in Attachment 3 to Annex II from the SDN List, the Foreign Sanctions Evaders List
XIX. Terminate Executive Orders 13574, 13590, 13622, and 13645, and Sections 5-7 and 15 of Executive Order 13628

US labels Iran's elite Revolutionary Guard Corps a 'terror group'

Iran responded to the US move by calling US forces in the region 'terrorist groups', Iranian state TV reported.

Trump vetoes bill to end US involvement in Yemen war

Congress had earlier voted to invoke the War Powers Resolution to try and stop US involvement in a foreign conflict.
Rise of Iran’s Rivals: Saudi Arabia and Israel
Israel
Saudi Arabia


Perrigo, Billy. "Pressure to end the Saudi-Led War in Yemen is Growing." *Time*
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