

The next round of economic sanctions on Iran, which will S t a r t g o i

n g i n t o e f f c t 0 n Ν 0 V • 4 ? will mainly target the country's oil and gas industries. These sanctions were eased after

the 2015 signing of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal, but are being phased back in following President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from

the accord six months ago. Iranian women protest in Tehran against U.S. President Donald Trump's decision to walk out of the 2015 nuclear deal, May 11, 2018. REUTERS/Tasnim News Agency

Trump's goal in reinstituting the sanctions

is to kill the nuclear deal, to bring Iran's economy to the point of total collapse, to contain Iran's regional involvement in Syria, Iraq and Yemen, and, i n S р i

t e o f W a s h i n g t o n , s d e n i a 1 s 2 presumably to

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a t e t h e c o 1 1 a p S e of Iran's ruling regime. The White House's official position is that, by increasing economic and political pressure, it

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reasons why Trump's strategy will fail. First, while the United States seeks to cut Iran's oil exports to Z e r 0, it has become clear that this is impractical; there

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Second,	
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war with China and the U.S. imposition of economic sanctions against Russia make Beijing and Moscow less likely to work with Washington on Iran. Moreover, the White House cannot count on cooperation

from the European Union, which initiated nuclear negotiations with Iran in 2003 and which sees the JCPOA as one of its signature foreign policy achievements. Further, the EU increasingly views extraterritorial sanctions

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the "outcome of that crisis with Iran will be the chance for Europe to have its own independent financial institutions, SO we can trade with whoever we want." In the past, cooperation

with all major powers was critical to creating an effective Iran policy. Third, U.S. sanctions have laid the groundwork for а historic change in the global financial system. For many decades,

the

U.S.

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However,

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their local currencies to trade with Iran. If Europe succeeds in creating а financial S y S t e m that is separate from the U.S. dollar, other states can use euros

in trade with Iran, diminishing U.S. domination of global markets. Fourth, the remaining signatories to the JCPOA view the nuclear deal as а means to counter American u n i 1

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r i t y C 0 u n i l r e s o l u t i o n 2 2 3 1, which the Trump administration exited unilaterally and

is now trying to р u n i S h other nations for implementing. Any capitulation to Washington on this issue would further buttress the current U.S. approach. То avoid this, both

Iran

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Only

handful of regional allies – namely Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Israel – S u р р 0 r t e d Trump's decision to withdraw from the deal while other major regional players

such as Turkey, Oman and Iraq continue to support the accord. A t t h e S a m e t i m e , d e v e 1 0 p

m e n t s i n o t h e r r e g i o n a l c r i s e s d o n o t f

a v o r t h e U n i t e d S t a t e s a n d i t s a l i t e s a :

B a s h a r a l - A s s a d , b a c k e d b y R u s s i a a n d

Ι r a n i s w i n n i n g S y r i a , v i i l w а r; the U.S. campaign in Afghanistan

h a s f a i l e d; Saudi Arabia has been u n a b l e t o d e f e a t the Tehranbacked Houthis in

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b 1 0 c k a d e • These developments will make it easier for Tehran to find workarounds to sanctions imposed by Washington. For the past six decades,

the

United States has been the region's hegemonic power. However, Trump's unilateralist approach and the future of JCPOA may change the calculation by creating a r i f t among the transatlantic allies,

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Moreover,

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Europe,

China, Russia and India ___ to preserve international agreements without the United States. This, coupled with American withdrawal from the international scene, has the potential to transform international power politics, shifting from

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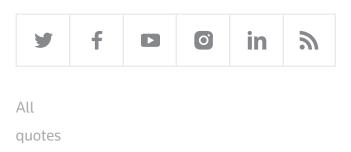
University and а former spokesman for Iran's nuclear negotiators. His most recent book, "Iran and the United States: An Insider's view on the Failed Past and the Road to Peace" was published in 2014. The

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