# Dangerous Words of Escalation: Trump Threatens to Abandon Iran's Nuclear Deal as Israeli Officials Call for Action Against Iran

By Timothy Alexander Guzman
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*Once again, the annual United Nations General Assembly is taking place in New York City with U.S. **President Donald Trump** set to take center stage as he is expected to focus on the North Korean Crisis and the 2015 Iran Nuclear Deal also known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).*

As the Western media's attention has been focused on the North Korea crisis (which is also another very serious matter), another development has been taking place in Tel Aviv, as calls for action by Israeli officials against Iran's Nuclear Program although it's not a new development (it's been going on for many years). *Channel 2* on *Israeli TV* reported that Mossad chief **Yossi Cohen** is calling on the Israeli government to take action against the Iranian government. *The Times of Israel* reported that

> "Channel 2 on Sunday paraphrased Cohen as asserting that "Today's Iran is the North Korea of yesterday, and so we need to act now so that we don't wake up to [an Iranian] bomb."

The report also mentioned that other security officials

> "are warning that Israel should not be pushing the US into another Middle Eastern adventure, given what happened when the US tackled Iraq and Saddam's ostensible weapons of mass destruction over a decade ago."

However, Netanyahu wants the 2015 Iran nuclear deal to be amended or canceled.

> "Our position is straightforward. This is a bad deal. Either fix it — or cancel it. This is Israel's position," said Netanyahu in Buenos Aires" the report said.

Netanyahu will meet with Trump and will hold a brief press conference before they go behind closed doors to talk about the Iran Nuclear Deal, Syria and Israel's future conflict with Hezbollah. *The Associated Press* (AP) mentioned that the Trump administration has threatened to walk away from the nuclear deal:

> U.S. President Donald Trump warned Monday that Washington will walk away from a nuclear deal it agreed to with Iran and five other nations if it deems that

the International Atomic Energy Agency is not tough enough in monitoring it

U.S. **Energy Secretary Rick Perry** quoted Trump at the U.N. agency's annual meeting in Vienna according to the AP report and said that the deal could either *"stand or fail on IAEA access to Iranian military sites, declaring "we will not accept a weakly enforced or inadequately monitored deal." Arutz Sheva 7* (www.israelnationalnews.com) also reported on what Amos Yadlin, the Executive Director at the *Tel Aviv University Institute for National Security Studies* had said about **Barack Obama** who he claims was not an appropriate partner and that the Trump White House was supportive to Israel's cause:

> According to Amos, Netanyahu did not act before now because former US President Barack Obama was not an appropriate partner.
>
> "In 2015, I suggested the Prime Minister sit with the US government and make a strategy for dealing with this problematic agreement," he explained. "Back then, Netanyahu said we didn't have a partner in the White House."
>
> "Thankfully, today we have a supportive government which understands the threat very well, especially in light of what is happening with North Korea. We can't let this opportunity deteriorate into simple rhetoric, we need to make a general strategy. We need to fight Iran determinedly in every way, including those not included in the Iran deal, such as ballistic missiles, Iran's support of terror, and their involvement in Syria. We also need to strengthen our supervision of them and collect better intelligence.
>
> "There needs to be an Israeli-American agreement which supports our understanding that Iran cannot acquire a nuclear weapon, and detailing when and how we will work together to ensure our success"

The *International Atomic Energy Agency* (IAEA) **Director General Yukiya Amano** confirmed that Iran is implementing its nuclear-related commitment's. Amano said that the

> "the nuclear-related commitments undertaken by Iran under (the 2015 nuclear deal) are being implemented." Amano continued "the verification regime in Iran is the most robust regime which currently exists. We have increased the inspection days in Iran, we have increased inspector numbers … and the number of images has increased," he said, "From a verification point of view, it is a clear and significant gain."

Will the Trump administration ignore the IAEA's statement that Iran is in compliance with the nuclear deal? *Haaretz* also reported what **Yisrael Katz**, Israel's Intelligence Affairs Minister had said about Iran's Nuclear Deal:

*Intelligence Affairs Minister Yisrael Katz (Likud) said:*

> "The first mission of the Israeli prime minister during his upcoming visit to the United States is to demand that the U.S. president suspend, amend or annul the nuclear agreement with Iran," said Katz. "Iran is the new North Korea. Action should be taken against it now, lest we regret tomorrow what we did not do yesterday"

Israel wants Iran destabilized just like its neighbor, Iraq to weaken its political and economic

standing in the Middle East. Iran's allies are Hezbollah and Syria, enemies to both Israel and Saudi Arabia.  Iran is an economic and military power which can challenge the U.S. and Israel's hegemonic power in the region. Netanyahu is trying to influence Trump's decision to terminate the nuclear deal, which would put the U.S. on the fast track to war with Iran. Netanyahu would welcome an attack on Iran by U.S. forces which would free Israel's military and allow it to focus on Hezbollah and possibly Syria in the next conflict with help from Saudi Arabia. It's been a long-term goal of Washington's political establishment and Netanyahu to realign the Middle East in Israel's favor. With Trump in the White House, the Israeli's see an opportunity while the rest of the world sees pure madness.

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