

Trudeau's Broken Promise Part of Build-up to War Against Iran

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Another Liberal broken promise. Before becoming prime minister, Justin Trudeau promised to re-engage with Iran. His government has failed to do so and is beginning to echo the warmongers in Washington and Tel Aviv.

"I would hope that Canada would be able to reopen its mission [in Tehran]," Trudeau told the CBC in June 2015. "I'm fairly certain that there are ways to re-engage [Iran]," he said.

Nearly three years into their mandate the Liberals haven't restarted diplomatic relations with Iran. Nor has Trudeau removed that country from Canada's [state sponsor of terrorism](#) list (Syria is the only other country on the list).

Numerous Canadian sanctions targeting Iran remain and Ottawa continues to present a yearly UN [resolution](#) critical of the human rights situation in Iran. Similarly, Liberal MPs participate in the annual "Iran Accountability Week" on Parliament Hill, which showcases individuals such as Mark Dubowitz, CEO of the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, which helped [kill the nuclear](#) deal and is pushing harsh sanctions against any country doing business with Iran.

Dubowitz is a [senior](#) research fellow at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs. In 2015 Global Affairs Canada gave the Munk School's Digital Public Square [\\$9 million to expand](#) an anti-Iranian initiative, which the Trudeau government appears to have maintained.

Trudeau has continued important components of the Stephen Harper government's "[low-level](#) war against Iran". One major exception had been on the rhetorical front, but that's changing. In January foreign minister Chrystia Freeland put out a statement saying,

"[Canada is deeply](#) troubled by the recent deaths and detentions of protesters in Iran" and two months ago tweeted, "[Our government](#) is committed to holding Iran to account for its violations of human and democratic rights."

Last month Liberal parliamentarians supported a Conservative MP's private member's motion that "[strongly condemns](#) the current regime in Iran for its ongoing sponsorship of

terrorism around the world, including instigating violent attacks on the Gaza border.” In effect, the resolution makes Iran responsible for Israel killing Palestinians peacefully protesting the US Jerusalem embassy move, siege of Gaza and historic theft of their land. The motion also called on Canada to “immediately cease any and all negotiations or discussions with the Islamic Republic of Iran to restore diplomatic relations” and to make the highly provocative move of listing the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist entity.

The Liberals hardline on Iran coincides with Trump withdrawing from the “p5+1 nuclear deal” with Iran and re-imposing tough new sanctions. Now, Washington is threatening to [sanction](#) any country that buys Iranian oil. (If the US succeeds Tehran says it will [seek to](#) block oil shipments through the Strait of Hormuz.)

The US and Israel recently created a “working group” to foment internal protests in Iran. (Demonstrating once again the hypocrisy of US complaints about other countries interfering in its elections.) According to Axios,

“[Israel and](#) the United States formed a joint working group a few months ago that is focused on internal efforts to encourage protests within Iran and pressure the country’s government.”

In May the *Washington Free Beacon* [reported](#) on a three-page paper discussed by the US National Security Council to spark regime change in Iran.

Image on the right: Rudy Giuliani (Source: Israel National News)



Three weeks ago Trump’s personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, called for [regime change](#) at a National Council of Resistance of Iran conference in Paris. ([Harper](#) also spoke at an event led by the Mujahedin-e Khalq, a [cultish group](#) that was previously deemed to be a terrorist organization.) Previously Giuliani said,

“[we got](#) a president who is tough, who does not listen to the people who are naysayers, and a president who is committed to regime change [in Iran].” (In “[Follow The Money](#): Three Billionaires Paved Way For Trump’s Iran Deal Withdrawal” Eli Clifton describes the role of arch Zionist donors, notably casino magnate Sheldon Adelson, in shaping US Iran policy.)

In April Trump appointed John Bolton as his national security advisor. An important proponent of the 2003 invasion of Iraq, Bolton has called for bombing Iran, penning an op-ed in the *New York Times* headlined “[To Stop](#) Iran’s Bomb, Bomb Iran”.

By breaking his promise to restart diplomatic relations with Iran Trudeau has enabled US-Israeli hawks. In taking up their rhetoric the Liberal Party is further empowering those hurtling towards a major conflict. Shame.



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Michel Chossudovsky

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