

22nd November 2017

IRAN STATEMENT

We are a group of former heads of government and senior ministers, who have just held their annual conference on the future of Eurasian relations.

We come from different countries, and different political traditions. North, south, east, west; left, right, and centre.

Despite, and because of, our different perspectives, we share a common view about the Iran nuclear agreement – the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

We believe that the JCPOA is already making a positive contribution to international peace and security. The IAEA has nine times concluded that Iran is fulfilling its obligations under the JCPOA. Iran has had to have its heavy water reactor at Arak taken permanently out of use; to cut significantly the number of its operational centrifuges, and its stockpile of uranium; and has to accept intrusive inspections of all nuclear-related sites by over 400 inspectors, and much electronic surveillance.

We would therefore hope that the United States authorities will on reflection recognise the crucial importance of the JCPOA, and not to undermine the agreement.

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H.E. Kjell Magne Bondevik, OStO, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Norway (1997 – 2000, 2001 – 05)

Dr. Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria (2000 – 04); European Union Commissioner for External Relations (2004 – 09); Chair of the ECFA Advisory Council

The Hon. Franco Frattini, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Italian Republic (2002 – 04, 2008 – 11)

H.E. Václav Klaus, President of the Czech Republic (2003 – 13)

H.E. Aleksander Kwaśniewski, President of the Republic of Poland (1995 – 2005)

The Rt. Hon. Lord Lamont of Lerwick, Chancellor of the Exchequer of the United Kingdom (1990 – 93)

The Rt. Hon. Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Trade & Industry for the United Kingdom (1990 – 92); Deputy Leader of the Conservative Party (1997 – 99); Vice-Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Kazakhstan

The Rt. Hon. Jack Straw, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom (2001 – 06)

H.E. Boris Tadić, President of the Republic of Serbia (2004 – 12)

Dr. Danilo Türk, President of the Republic of Slovenia (2007 – 12)

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