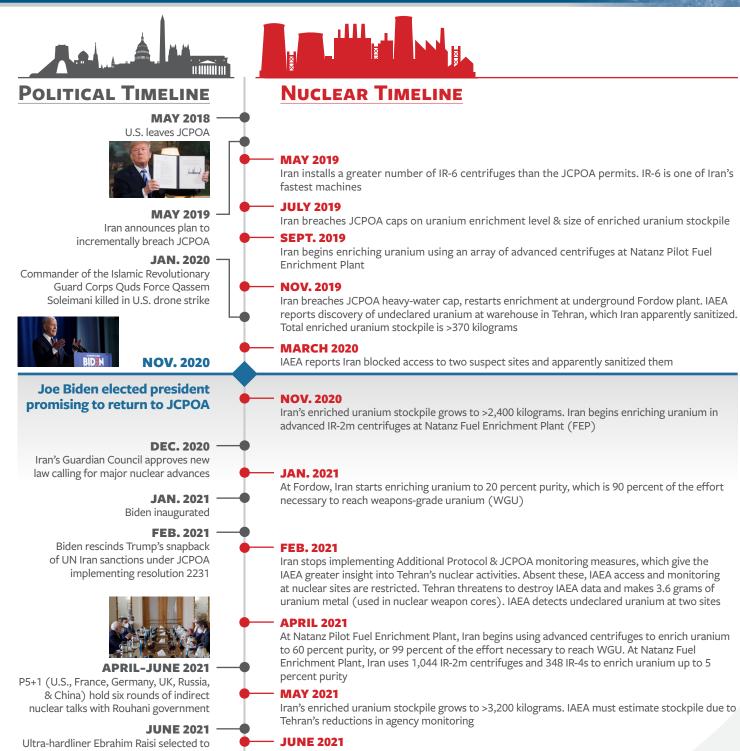
# FDD

**Exploiting America's Declining Pressure:** Iran's Nuclear Escalation Over Time





Despite a temporary political arrangement it reached with the IAEA in February, Iran refuses to confirm that it continues to collect and hold in its custody IAEA monitoring and surveillance data at sites Tehran has barred the agency from visiting

#### AUG. 2021

Iran produces 200 grams of uranium metal enriched up to 20 percent

#### **DEC. 2021**

Iran starts enriching 20 percent uranium using a cascade of IR-6 centrifuges at Fordow plant, providing a fast route to WGU production at a highly fortified facility

#### **DEC. 2021-JAN. 2022**

Iran relocates advanced centrifuge manufacturing and assembly capabilities to underground sites at Natanz and Esfahan

be president of Iran; nuclear talks stall

#### AUG. 2021

Raisi inaugurated



**NOV.-DEC. 2021** P5+1 & Raisi government restart nuclear talks

# **POLITICAL TIMELINE**

# **NUCLEAR TIMELINE**

#### **MARCH 2022**

IAEA and Iran agree to a timetable for Iran to cooperate with IAEA investigation into undeclared nuclear material and activities

Tehran reduces IAEA monitoring and announces plans to install hundreds more IR-6 centrifuges

#### Iran's demand that the U.S. lift terrorism designation of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps

Nuclear talks stall, apparently due to

#### **JUNE 2022**

**MARCH 2022** 

IAEA Board of Governors passes censure resolution against Iran

#### NOV. 2022

IAEA Board passes new censure resolution

# at Natanz FEP

**JUNE 2022** 

Iran produces 60 percent enriched uranium at Fordow and plans to install some 2,600 IR-6 centrifuges there

#### - JAN. 2023

Iran violates IAEA safeguards agreement by not declaring change to enrichment configuration at Fordow; IAEA detects presence of uranium particles enriched to 83.7 percent, near weapons-grade, which is 90 percent

#### MARCH 2023

Independent estimates find Iran has enough enriched uranium to make WGU for seven atomic weapons within three months. Iran's enriched uranium stockpile grows to >3,700 kilograms. IAEA reports no progress regarding investigation into undeclared nuclear material and activities; Iran and IAEA reach joint statement regarding Tehran's cooperation into IAEA investigation and improved monitoring

#### AUG. 2023

Independent estimates find Iran has enough enriched uranium to make WGU for 10 atomic weapons within four months. Iran's 5, 20, and 60 percent enriched uranium stockpiles grow despite reported informal arrangement with the U.S. to limit 60 percent stockpile. IAEA reports no progress on investigation or monitoring issues despite joint statement from March 2023

#### **SEPT. 2023**

Iran reportedly ejects French and German IAEA inspectors from the country

#### NOV. 2023

Independent estimates find Iran has enough enriched uranium to make WGU for 12 atomic weapons within five months



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### MARCH 2023 —

IAEA Board fails to pass new censure of Iran

#### MAY 2023 -

U.S. and Iran reportedly discuss informal nuclear limits on Tehran in exchange for unfreezing of Iranian oil assets in foreign countries

#### JUNE-JULY 2023

U.S. authorizes Iraq to release \$10 billion in previously frozen Iranian assets

#### AUG.-SEPT. 2023 -

U.S. and Iran announce swap of five U.S. hostages for five Iranians convicted of or being held on charges, plus unfreezing of \$6 billion in Iranian assets

#### SEPT. 2023 —

For a third consecutive meeting, the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) fails to pass new censure resolution. Sixty-three countries, including the U.S., and the EU release joint statement calling for Iran's cooperation with IAEA investigation. U.S., France, Germany, and UK release separate statement indicating the IAEA Board may act failing Iran's compliance

#### ост. 2023 —

Hamas, an Iran-backed terror group, launches war on Israel, killing an estimated 1,200 Israelis. Israel responds by launching ground war in Gaza with goal of destroying Hamas and freeing hostages

#### NOV. 2023 -

For a fourth consecutive meeting, IAEA Board fails to pass new censure resolution despite Tehran ejecting inspectors in September; Iran-backed militias launch numerous attacks against U.S. positions in Iraq and Syria and against global maritime shipping, with limited U.S. kinetic responses

# **POLITICAL TIMELINE**

Former Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) head Ali Akbar Salehi claims

Iran launches first direct attack on Israel in regime's history. Ahmad Haghtalab, commander in charge of nuclear security for the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, claims Iran could "review [its] nuclear doctrine and deviate from [previous] considerations"

Iran has everything it needs to build

## **NUCLEAR TIMELINE**

#### — DEC. 2023

IAEA reports Iran has tripled production of 60 percent enriched uranium, reversing June-Nov. slowdown

#### – **JAN. 202**4

Independent estimates find Iran could construct crude nuclear devices in under six months, in fashion that provides only two months' notice for world powers to intervene

#### FEB. 2024

Iran installs six new advanced centrifuge cascades, bringing total of installed advanced machines to nearly 7,400, and total of installed early-model centrifuges to about 14,600, in reversal of Nov.-Feb. slowdown. IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi decries comment by former AEOI chief Salehi about Tehran's nuclear weapons capabilities, noting this augments agency concerns about correctness and completeness of Iran's IAEA safeguards declarations

#### nuclear weapons, but in a disassembled fashion

**APRIL 2024** 

**MAY 2024** 

FEB. 2024

# - MAY 2024

Kamal Kharrazi, adviser to Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, claims, "should Iran's existence be threatened, the regime may reevaluate its nuclear doctrine"

#### JUNE 2024 —

Despite initial Biden administration opposition, the U.S. and Europe lead passage of IAEA board censure against Iran

#### · JUNE 2024

**JULY 2024** 

Media reports U.S. and Israeli intelligence observed Iranian scientists working on computer modeling and metallurgy relevant to nuclear weapons development. IAEA reports Iran installing nearly 1,400 advanced centrifuges at Fordow, tripling plant's capacity to make 60 percent HEU and enhancing breakout capabilities

U.S. Office of Director of National Intelligence omits usual phrase in report to Congress that

Iran is not working on nuclear-weapons activities. Independent estimates find Iran progressing

construction at deeply buried nuclear site near Natanz that could house secret enrichment plant

Independent estimates find Iran has enough enriched uranium to make WGU for 13 atomic

weapons within four months. Iran's enriched uranium stockpile grows to >6,200 kilograms.

implementing March 2023 joint statement with Iran

IAEA reports Iran is failing to disclose plans to build new nuclear sites, reports no progress on

#### JULY 2024 -

AEOI chief Mohammad Eslami claims Iran exporting key nuclear commodities on global market. Washington asks for clarifications from Iran regarding nuclear weaponization activities and accepts Tehran's denials and explanations

#### AUG. 2024 —

U.S. officials claim Iran's breakout time is only 1-2 weeks. Chairman of U.S. House Intelligence Committee announces Iran could declare itself a nuclear weapon state by year's end

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