



POLITICAL TIMELINE

NUCLEAR TIMELINE

MAY 2018
U.S. leaves JCPOA

MAY 2019
Iran announces plan to incrementally breach JCPOA

JAN. 2020
Commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Quds Force Qassem Soleimani killed in U.S. drone strike

NOV. 2020
Joe Biden elected president promising to return to JCPOA

DEC. 2020
Iran's Guardian Council approves new law calling for major nuclear advances

JAN. 2021
Biden inaugurated

FEB. 2021
Biden rescinds Trump's snapback of UN Iran sanctions under JCPOA implementing resolution 2231

APRIL-JUNE 2021
P5+1 (U.S., France, Germany, UK, Russia, & China) hold six rounds of indirect nuclear talks with Rouhani government

JUNE 2021
Ultra-hardliner Ebrahim Raisi selected to be president of Iran; nuclear talks stall

AUG. 2021
Raisi inaugurated

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

MARCH 2022
Nuclear talks stall, apparently due to Iran's demand that the U.S. lift terrorism designation of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps

JUNE 2022
IAEA Board of Governors passes censure resolution against Iran

NOV. 2022
IAEA Board passes new censure resolution

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 IAEA Board 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

OCT. 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

MAY 2019
Iran installs a greater number of IR-6 centrifuges than the JCPOA permits. IR-6 is one of Iran's fastest machines

JULY 2019
Iran breaches JCPOA caps on uranium enrichment level & size of enriched uranium stockpile

SEPT. 2019
Iran begins enriching uranium using an array of advanced centrifuges at Natanz Pilot Fuel Enrichment Plant (PFEP)

NOV. 2019
Iran breaches JCPOA heavy-water cap, restarts enrichment at underground Fordow plant. IAEA reports discovery of undeclared uranium at warehouse in Tehran, which Iran apparently sanitized. Total enriched uranium stockpile is >370 kilograms

MARCH 2020
IAEA reports Iran blocked access to two suspect sites and apparently sanitized them

NOV. 2020
Iran's enriched uranium stockpile grows to >2,400 kilograms. Iran begins enriching uranium in advanced IR-2m centrifuges at Natanz Fuel Enrichment Plant (FEP)

JAN. 2021
At Fordow, Iran starts enriching uranium to 20 percent purity, or 90 percent of the effort necessary to reach weapons-grade uranium (WGU)

FEB. 2021
Iran stops implementing Additional Protocol & JCPOA monitoring measures, which give the IAEA greater insight into Tehran's nuclear activities. Absent these, IAEA access and monitoring at nuclear sites are restricted. Tehran threatens to destroy IAEA data and makes 3.6 grams of uranium metal (used in nuclear weapon cores). IAEA detects undeclared uranium at two sites

APRIL 2021
At Natanz PFEP, Iran begins using advanced centrifuges to enrich uranium to 60 percent purity, or 99 percent of the effort necessary to reach WGU. At Natanz FEP, Iran uses 1,044 IR-2m centrifuges and 348 IR-4s to enrich uranium up to 5 percent purity

MAY 2021
Iran's enriched uranium stockpile grows to >3,200 kilograms. IAEA must estimate stockpile due to Tehran's reductions in agency monitoring

JUNE 2021
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

MARCH 2022
IAEA and Iran agree to a timetable for Iranian to cooperation with IAEA investigation into undeclared nuclear material and activities

JUNE 2022
Tehran reduces IAEA monitoring and announces plans to install hundreds more IR-6 centrifuges at Natanz FEP

NOV. 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

DEC. 2023
IAEA reports Iran has tripled production of 60 percent enriched uranium, reversing June-Nov. slowdown