



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

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

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, which is 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 Pilot Fuel Enrichment Plant, Iran begins using advanced centrifuges to enrich uranium to 60 percent purity, or 99 percent of the effort necessary to reach WGU. At Natanz Fuel Enrichment Plant, 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

POLITICAL TIMELINE

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 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

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

NUCLEAR TIMELINE

MARCH 2022
IAEA and Iran agree to a timetable for Iran to cooperate 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

POLITICAL TIMELINE

FEB. 2024
Former Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) head Ali Akbar Salehi claims Iran has everything it needs to build nuclear weapons, but in a disassembled fashion

APRIL 2024
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"

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

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

JAN. 2024
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

MAY 2024
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. IAEA reports Iran is failing to disclose plans to build new nuclear sites, reports no progress on implementing March 2023 joint statement with Iran

JUNE 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

JULY 2024
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