

Expert: N. Korea summit shows need to stop Iran from getting nukes

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By Yonah Jeremy Bob / March 13, 2019 02:39

The absence of a deal and the dynamics of the February North Korea-US summit in Vietnam showed the importance of stopping Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, **INSS** Arms Control Director **Emily Landau** has said.

In a recent INSS post she co-authored with former senior foreign ministry official **Shimon Stein**, Landau wrote that, "For the international community the lesson is clear: Iran must be stopped before it reaches its goal."

Evaluating the outcome of the summit with North Korea, she wrote that the process "underscores that negotiating with a nuclear state is very different from negotiating with a state that has not yet achieved this goal."

"For Iran, the North Korean experience further underscores the strategic significance of achieving a nuclear weapons capability," which, like with Pyongyang, would give the Islamic Republic "significant leverage over anyone who would have it back down."

In other words, US President Donald Trump held his own by not giving in to North Korea's demands, but he also was unable to find a pressure point to get Pyongyang to accept his demands and must walk lightly since it is already a nuclear power.

In contrast, Landau would argue that greater pressure can still be brought on Iran to make compromises regarding its nuclear program since it does not have nuclear weapons yet.

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