

Ex-Mossad official: Iran likely to ignore EU pressure for new ‘Trump deal’

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By Yonah Jeremy Bob / January 21, 2020

Despite threats from the EU-3 to trigger snap back UN sanctions on Iran if it does not return to compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal, the Islamic Republic will likely reject a new “Trump deal” for the time being, a former Mossad official said on Tuesday.

Former top Mossad analyst and current **INSS** fellow **Sima Shine** wrote a position paper stating, “even if Iran chooses to take some relative steps to moderate in the coming months, it is unlikely that it will give a positive answer to the European partners to the deal.”

Shine said the chances of rehabilitating the nuclear deal or of a new negotiation toward a modified “Trump deal” were “medium to low.”

Further, the position paper continued that if Tehran and the EU do not reach an understanding to reduce the tension associated with the nuclear standoff that, “the likelihood will grow that the Iranian issue will be referred to the UN Security Council.”

At that point, “Iran’s stubbornness could increase and lead to more extreme steps on its part.”

All of this will occur against the backdrop of the broader dynamics in which Iran is “continuing to erode its compliance with the deal,” while the US “clings to its policy of ‘maximum pressure’,” said the former Mossad senior analyst.

All in a period of two weeks, the US assassinated top Iranian official Qasem Soleimani, Iran announced that it was no longer bound by any of the restrictions of the nuclear deal and the EU-3 threatened to snap back global sanctions against Iran.

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