

Khamenei's Diplomatic Gambit: Iran Ratchets Up Aggression While Ayatollah Signals Readiness To Negotiate

The Islamic Republic's leadership seems to believe that if Vice President Harris wins in November, Iran doves will steer America's Mideast policy.

Benny Avni / Aug. 27, 2024

Even as the Islamic Republic of Iran ratchets up aggression across the Mideast, its supreme leader is signaling readiness for negotiations with the "enemy" over a renewed, albeit ever-elusive nuclear deal.

[...]

Mr. Araqchi's threats to attack Israel aside, however, Iran is moving ever-closer to becoming a nuclear state. "There are a lot of suspicious activities that might not yet indicate an Iranian decision to break through to a nuclear weapon, but seem designed to shorten the process in case such a decision is made," **an Iran researcher at Tel Aviv University, Raz Zimmt**, tells the Sun.

The Iranian top interest is to ease sanctions, Mr. Zimmt says. "They are seeking a sort of less-for-less: fewer sanctions in return for a minimal roll-back of the nuclear capabilities that they acquired in recent years. And in any case, we are not talking about a process that could start in earnest before the next administration is in power."

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