

Assad's collapse comes as Iran 'dramatically' increased uranium enrichment

Tehran may try to compensate for the loss of Assad, a key element in their regional strategy, by moving toward a nuclear weapon, experts warn

By Lahav Harkov / December 10, 2024

The collapse of Bashar al-Assad's regime in Syria may motivate Tehran to further ramp up its nuclear program, experts warned on the heels of the rebels' victory on Sunday, days after International Atomic Energy Agency Director-General Rafael Grossi warned that Iran had "dramatically" increased its uranium enrichment.

[...]

Danny Citrinowicz, a research fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies, said that after Assad's fall, "the biggest question mark concerns Iran's nuclear program."

"Tehran could theoretically enrich uranium to a military-grade level of 90% as early as tomorrow and attempt to build a nuclear device within a few months," Citrinowicz wrote in Ma'ariv this week. "This could theoretically compensate for the damage to the axis [of resistance] and significantly strengthen Iran's deterrence. This is also why senior regime officials (current and former) have repeatedly emphasized the need to reconsider Tehran's nuclear strategy."

At the same time, Citrinowicz said that without Hezbollah's "protective umbrella" and following Israel's strikes within Iran and the election of Donald Trump as president, advancing the nuclear program is more dangerous than before, deepening Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei's dilemma.

For full article:

<https://jewishinsider.com/2024/12/assad-regime-fall-syria-iran-nuclear-weapon-uranium-enrichment/>