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What Trump should do with the Iran deal



by Emily Landau

Introduction: Making the Best of a Bad Situation

The debate over the fate of the Iran nuclear deal – or Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) – ahead of Donald Trump's inauguration has for the most part been presented in black and white terms. Either the deal is terrible, and should be scrapped altogether, or it is working and should be preserved, even serving as a model for other proliferation challenges. But there is a growing group of experts who are critical of the deal but are nevertheless not advocating that it be renounced by the new administration. Not surprisingly, some supporters of the deal have been quick to mock critics who now say it is better to keep the deal, but this only underscores their inability to incorporate complexity and nuance when it comes to the JCPOA. Because at the heart of the third option is the need to make the best of a bad situation: to take into account what is feasible and realistic at this point, while working to fix what sorely needs fixing.

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maintained on the one hand, and those who believe it to be disastrous and call for it to be disbanded on the other. Taking a position between these poles, Landau advises the incoming Trump administration to maintain the agreement but to take a series of steps that would improve it.

For full article, see:

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