

Israeli Security Experts Urge Acceptance of Iran Deal

The US and Israeli media have given the impression that everyone in Israel-- from far right to left--is against the Iran nuclear deal. But there are voices emerging everyday from the top echelons of Israel's security establishment who believe the deal is worthwhile and should not be opposed.



The Peace and Security Association: Represents hundreds of Israeli security experts, IDF veterans, Mossad, Shin Bet and police

"Although the agreement signed in Vienna between the world powers and Iran is not optimal, it should remove the immediate threat of an Iranian break-out leading to a nuclear military capability within a few months... The agreement is expected to lengthen the break-out time to 12 months for at least 10 years." (7/21/15)



Ami Ayalon: Former head of the Shin Bet; former Navy commander-in-chief

The agreement is "the best possible alternative from Israel's point of view, given the other available alternatives... In the Middle East, 10 to 15 years is an eternity, and I don't believe that 10 or 15 years from now the world will stand by and watch Iran acquire nuclear weapons." (7/16/15)



Efraim Halevy: Former Mossad director; former head of the national security council

"Without an agreement, Iran will be free to act as it wishes, whereas the sanctions regime against it will crumble in any case... if the nuclear issue is of cardinal existential importance, what is the point of canceling an agreement that distances Iran from the bomb?" (7/20/15)



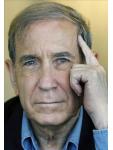
Amram Mitzna: Former major general; former head of army planning

"This agreement is better than no agreement and must not be rejected. If implemented, it will block all of Iran's pathways to a nuclear weapon, and extend the time Iran would need to build a bomb from only two months to more than a year... The time has come to pull our heads out of the sand, accept the deal as fact and begin planning for the future." (7/30/15)



Shlomo Brom: Former brigadier general; former director of army strategic planning division; former deputy national security advisor

"This agreement represents the best chance to make sure Iran never obtains a weapon... The deal deserves Congressional support... While there are aspects of the deal that merit close review, many of these attacks just don't stand up to scrutiny." (7/29/15)



Shlomo Ben-Ami: Former minister of foreign affairs and internal security

"It creates a solid framework to prevent Iran from producing nuclear weapons for the next 10-15 years — and that is a very positive development." (7/21/15)



Uzi Arad: Former national security advisor

"We shouldn't see this as a bad deal... For the security of Israel, the responsible and cautious way ahead is to understand that the agreement is what it is, and that's it." (7/29/15)



Dov Tamari: Former military intelligence chief; former head of special operations

"The Iran deal is an opportunity to strengthen the ties with the US... we will have positive results only if the government will understand that Israel has to integrate and not to segregate itself from the international community." (7/23/15)



Chuck Freilich: Former deputy national security advisor

"This is the agreement that was reached — and despite its faults, it is not a bad one. Crucially, it will contribute to Israel's security." (7/19/15)



Uzi Even: Former lead scientist at Israel's Dimona nuclear reactor

"I am sure the deal that was signed is preferable to the current situation because it delays Iran's ability to develop a nuclear bomb by at least 15 years and in practice ends its nuclear aspirations." (7/16/15)