



## Trump Administration Upholds Iran Sanctions Waiver, Keeping Nuclear Deal Alive

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"Iran condemns the US administration's ill will in its effort to reduce the positive results of the country's implementation of the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action's** (JCPOA) **nuclear deal** commitments by adding individuals to the list of unilateral and illegal extraterritorial sanctions", Ghasemi **said** on his Telegram channel.

The **Trump** administration imposed a new set of sanctions on Iran and its ballistic missiles programme, on Wednesday, but for now, the 2015 **nuclear agreement** remains intact.

The organization was formed days before new US President **Donald Trump** is to decide for the first time whether to renew waivers temporarily suspending US sanctions on Iran.

The US **Treasury Department** extended sanctions on Iran on Wednesday over concerns about its ballistic missile program. In exchange for the **International Atomic Energy Agency** having **more** control over **Iran's nuclear program**, Iran would keep a presence in the region, there would be a guarantee of security of the regime, and the United States would lift sanctions against it.

"The inter-agency actions today demonstrate that the Trump administration is developing a comprehensive strategy to counter the threat from Iran", the official said.

The brinksmanship and its capacity to destabilize the sanctions waiver, depending upon the relationship between Trump and his Iranian counterpart after the elections, has **oil** traders on the edge of their seats.

Trump's upcoming Middle East tour is aimed at getting Saudi Arabia and other Arab states in the region to stand in unity with Israel against Iran, according to Tillerson. "Whether it is imprisoning people arbitrarily, inflicting physical **abuse** and torture, or executing juvenile offenders, the Iranian regime has for decades committed egregious human rights violations against its own people and foreign nations, and this pattern of behavior must come to an end".

Trump has **described** the landmark agreement as the "worst deal ever", saying he would "dismantle the disastrous deal with Iran".

On April 18, Secretary of State **Rex Tillerson** said Iran has complied to date with its requirements under the deal, while calling the deal a failure a day later. Ahmadinejad is the director of Iran's Shahid Bakeri Industries Group, which is responsible for Iran's solid-fueled ballistic missile program, the Treasury **statement** said. "Categorically", former Undersecretary of State Wendy Sherman - who led the U.S. negotiating team at the Iran nuclear talks - said at a panel hosted by the Cato Institute on Tuesday, which included this reporter. Roughly every 120 days following the implementation of the deal in January 2016, the U.S. president must determine whether to issue waivers temporarily suspending some sanctions.

The waiver extension comes as Iranian **President Hassan Rouhani**, whose government pushed hard to achieve the deal, faces off with his rivals in the campaign run for the May 19 presidential vote.