



Iranian Nuclear Agreement – “Can the world draw a deep breath?”



In this broadcast we examine two questions: 1. Did Iran really ever present a nuclear danger that this agreement now should be a reason for the world to draw a deep breath? And 2. Is the nuclear danger now banished from the world with this Iranian agreement that it would be justified to say, “the world draws a deep breath”?

On 15th of July 2015, the Swiss Radio and TV, SRF, among others reported on their website that the Nuclear Agreement with Iran has been settled and concluded, I quote: “The world can draw a deep breath.” - In this broadcast we examine two questions: 1. Did Iran really ever present a nuclear danger that this agreement now should be a reason for the world to draw a deep breath? And 2. Is the nuclear danger now banished from the world with this Iranian agreement that it would be justified to say, “the world draws a deep breath”? To question one, if Iran really ever presented a nuclear danger, the German journalist and former federal-parliament member Jürgen Todenhöfer speaks completely clearly. Todenhöfer was actively promoting the move by the US-government to – after all - take up again diplomatic negotiations with Iran. Todenhöfer doesn't believe that Iran wants nuclear weapons and indicates on his website five good reasons, which are arguments against an Iranian aim of acquiring nuclear weapons:

- 1) A handful of bombs doesn't help as long as Iran is surrounded by bombs. The USA possesses 7,300 nuclear warheads, France and the UK possess 525, and Israel between 80 and 400. Also, let's not forget Russia's arsenal of 8,000 nuclear warheads!
- 2) The Supreme Leader of Iran's irrevocable Fatwa, stating that the bomb was against Islam.
- 3) There is national Iranian agreement against nuclear weapons, which is supported by both the government and the opposition.
- 4) The well-known fact about nuclear strategy that, with the exception of the USA and Russia, there's a general rule for everyone: “Whoever shoots first will die second.” Iran would cease to exist only twenty minutes after having carried out a nuclear attack on Israel.
- 5) The power ratio: Iran's military budget amounts to less than 4% of the US budget. Unlike the USA or Israel, Iran is no offensive-militaristic country.

Considering these reasons, the danger currently emanating from Iran, seems to be very low – if there is a danger at all. Jürgen Todenhöfer put it in a nutshell, why particularly Iran is constantly persecuted with reproaches of being a nuclear risk, I quote: “Behind the massive US pressure on Iran is the attempt to break an islamic country which refuses to dance to the US tune.” Let's turn to question number two, if the nuclear danger now is banished from the world with this Iranian nuclear agreement. The answer is clearly: NO. Let's have some numbers and facts speak for themselves: Officially there are five nuclear powers: The USA with supposedly 1.950 operational nuclear warheads worldwide (situation at the end of 2012). In Germany alone there are supposed to be about 300 operational nuclear warheads. Then Russia with 1.740 active warheads, France with 290, Great Britain with 160 and China with an unknown number. These numbers are based on official information and according to insider circles they might be substantially higher. These five nuclear powers signed the non-proliferation treaty and with that committed themselves “to conduct negotiations in good faith

[...] on a treaty for general and complete disarmament ...” Unofficially one has to add India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea who did not sign the non-proliferation treaty. Especially Israel is to be mentioned which intensely criticized the nuclear agreement with Iran right away. In fact, the Israeli Government never provided any specific information about quantity and quality of their arsenal of nuclear weaponry but according to the magazine “Spiegel” issue 5/2004 it is certain, that Israel has had atomic bombs at least since 1967. In 1986 a former technician of the Israeli nuclear research center Negev, named Mordechai Vanunu, gave more detailed information, photos and documents to the press. So the Israeli peace activist Yonathan Shapira, a former captain and pilot of the Israeli air force, said, I quote: “I’m more worried about the atomic bombs that Israel already has [...] than about the atomic bombs Iran does not have.” Furthermore at this year’s Review Conference to the non-proliferation treaty, the UN reprehended the lack of determination of the member states. Specifically they complained about the stagnation of the nuclear disarmament in the world, as SRF reported on 27th of April 2015. So this is anything other than a reason to draw a deep breath. At the same time, when SRF was able to say “the world draws a deep breath”, they admitted that the agreement is not confirmed yet. The US-Congress is allowed to examine the agreement within 60 days and then vote if the suspension of the sanctions against Iran, which are linked to the agreement, can be implemented. Severe resistance of the US-Congress against the agreement is already coming up. So the speaker of the House of Representatives (the Republican John Boehner) said: “We will do everything to stop it.” Also Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that Israel would probably concentrate its efforts on the US-Congress to block the agreement there. Ladies and Gentlemen, so far the facts which indicate, that there is no reason to be relieved of the worries about nuclear danger. On the one hand the world is far from a nuclear disarmament and on the other hand nuclear agreements, which are not even dealing with a real danger, are combated to the utmost. The statement “the world draws a deep breath” seems to be once more a targeted diversionary tactic to hide the real dangers for humankind. Think about it. I say goodbye and I’m looking forward to seeing you again soon.

from dd.

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