



## [The European Union Announces That It Has Put Forward a Final Draft Text to Try and Revive the 2015 Iran Nuclear Deal Following Days of Indirect Talks Between U.S. and Iranian Officials](#)

The European Union (EU) has put forth a final ultimatum to Iran in the last-ditch efforts to revive the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the 2015 agreement to minimize Iran's access and ability to produce weapons grade uranium. This is not the first time that the EU has put forth a deal expressing that it would be final, but after a multitude of attempts, it appears that intermediary negotiators' patience has gradually worn thin. Due to several recent failures, some U.S. officials are skeptical that Iran is prepared to do what it takes to roll back the programs necessary to reimplement the deal. There are analysts and observers however that disagree with that sentiment, saying that Iran has actually inched closer to meeting EU and U.S. demands than previously thought. This includes claims from certain parties involved in the negotiations that Iran has made notable concessions on two terms: the rolling back of the stipulation that the United States remove the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) from its official list of foreign terrorist organizations and no longer demanding a guarantee from the United States that a future president will not withdraw from the deal – as was done by former President Trump back in 2018. These have been a couple of the main roadblocks impeding the prospects for revival of the deal.

Joseph Cirincione, a nuclear policy expert, stated that “We are closer than we have been since the deal was all but done last May, before the talks suspended for the Iranian elections.” He went on to voice his belief that this could happen. Other analysts are not as optimistic. For example, Ali Vaez – the Iran Director for the International Crisis Group – points out that even a single disagreement could entirely derail the possibility of successful restoration and abiding of the JCPOA. A breakthrough in negotiations would give U.S. President Biden a much-needed foreign policy win and potentially boost sagging approval ratings. There is also speculation that it could conversely hurt him even if it is revived, as a host of Republicans have contentions with the deal while some Democrats are opposed to the JCPOA in its original form. Either way, from a domestic standpoint, it is likely to affect the upcoming midterm elections in the United States, with a significant number of Democratic candidates facing tough odds.

For an enduring breakthrough to happen, steps need to be taken by both sides to be in compliance with the new deal, if it were to go through. These measures include ramping down enrichment processes and setting up methods to ensure compliance. This would take months at best and could still lead to a dissolution of the deal, as it is not unprecedented to exit the deal unilaterally. Many critics have also pointed out that even if the agreement to restore the arrangement takes place, Iran still has the material and the means to make a nuclear weapon with their current resources.

Proponents say that if this deal were to go through, it would likely enhance stability in the Middle East and help Iran grow their economy. Skeptics on the other hand argue that it would only take away pressure on Iran and open the door for the regime there to expand its influence.