

WIN WITHOUT WAR



Progressive Foreign Policy Debrief

Intel for Advocacy

TOPLINE TAKEAWAYS

- *Iran nuclear deal opponents are having trouble killing the agreement because it's working.*
- *Experts call the Trump administration's plan for "limited strikes" on North Korea "insane."*
- *SIREN: Trump wants to make our nuclear weapons more "usable." That's a terrible idea.*

TRUMP WAIVES IRAN SANCTIONS AMID CRITICAL DEADLINES

Donald Trump ultimately decided to waive nuclear related sanctions on Iran on Friday as he is required to do every 120 days under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, as the Iran deal is formally known.

He made that decision likely because **the Iran nuclear deal is working.**

Indeed, [nuclear experts](#), current and [former](#) security officials both in the U.S. and [in Israel](#), our [European allies](#), the [American people](#), the [International Atomic Energy Agency](#), and even Trump's [own national security team](#) agree.

At the same time, Trump continues to chip away at the deal by creating uncertainty about its future, thereby scaring away investment in Iranian businesses and denying Iran the economic relief it was promised by agreeing to the deal.

He also promised on Friday he would kill the deal himself in four months at the next sanctions waiver deadline unless Congress comes up with legislation that "fixes" the agreement.

MESSAGING POINTS

- **The agreement does not need to be "fixed."** It is currently succeeding in what it was designed to do: Block all pathways for Iran to build a bomb.
- Congress should oppose any legislation that violates the JCPOA.

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- If Trump kills the deal, he and his enablers **will be responsible** for leaving Iran's nuclear program unconstrained and putting the U.S. back on the path to war with Iran.

See and SHARE our statement here.

TRUMP CLOSE TO AUTHORIZING 'BLOODY NOSE' STRIKE ON NORTH KOREA

The Wall Street Journal [reported](#) this week that Trump administration officials are seriously considering blowing up something that's North Korean to show the U.S. means business in reining in its nuclear weapons program.

Experts widely criticized the plan, [calling](#) it "irrational," "insane," a "bad idea," and "idiotic," and that it would risk "catastrophe" and "[endanger millions](#)."

Indeed, the [Defense Department](#) and the [Congressional Research Service](#) have said that North Korea would likely use chemical and biological weapons in the event of a U.S.-led attack, and that [thousands of Americans](#) would be killed after "a massive mobilization of U.S. forces onto the Korean Peninsula." In addition, at least [one million could die](#) in the [impending global war](#) that would result, costing [trillions of dollars](#).

MESSAGING POINTS

- Diplomacy is the only way to rein in North Korea's nuclear weapons program.
- A "limited strike" will kill any chance at a diplomatic resolution to the crisis, and lead to a catastrophic war killing millions and costing trillions.
- Diplomacy is currently working, as North and South Korean officials [made breakthroughs](#) recently during the first high-level talks in years.
- [Polls show](#) Americans overwhelming support diplomacy over military action with North Korea.

PLEASE SHARE

1. [Our action](#) urging Congress to pass legislation to rein in Trump's power to wage war on North Korea.
2. MoveOn.org's video explaining how North Korea is "the most dangerous crisis since the Cuban missile crisis." [\[Facebook\]](#) [\[Twitter\]](#) [\[YouTube\]](#)

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SIREN: TRUMP WANTS MORE, SMALLER, 'USABLE' NUKES

The Trump administration's Nuclear Posture Review leaked this week and it's ... a bit frightening.

The plan calls for the development of new low-yield nuclear weapons with the goal of, as the Huffington Post, which [exclusively reported](#) on the document, put it, "mak[ing] sure other countries believe that we'd actually use nuclear force."

Experts and advocates called the idea "[batshit crazy](#)" and "[terrifying in every aspect](#)," noting that developing more "usable" nuclear weapons makes nuclear war [more likely](#).

Meanwhile, more than a dozen former nuclear missile launch officers sent a letter to Congress [this week](#) arguing that Trump "**poses a clear and present danger to the country and the world**" and warning that "there are no reliable safeguards" to prevent Trump starting a nuclear war.

SHARE Global Zero's statement on the letter here: [\[Twitter\]](#) [\[Facebook\]](#)

BURIED LEDES

Sen. Todd Young recently [discussed](#) his efforts to **pressure Saudi Arabia to allow humanitarian aid into Yemen**.

More than 100 House Republicans and Democrats [sent a letter](#) to Trump urging him to **acknowledge that climate change is a national security threat**.

Speaking of climate change, it [may have](#) **helped spark the recent protests in Iran**.

Nearly [7,000 Syrians](#) living in the U.S. under a temporary protected status since 2012 **could soon face deportation**.

The Pentagon is [sending](#) more drones, other hardware and at least **1,000 new U.S. combat advisers to Afghanistan**.

Germany's foreign minister [recently warned](#) that **when the U.S. withdraws from the world, Russia and China step in**.

[Vox](#): "The psychiatrist who briefed Congress on Trump's mental state: **this is 'an emergency.'**"