

Mr. Josep Borrell Fontelles

High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Vice-President of the European Commission
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels, Belgium

Subject: Iran's Nuclear Threat

To the Honourable HR/VP Josep Borrell Fontelles,

On behalf of ELNET (the European Leadership Network), the leading European organization dedicated to Europe-Israel cooperation, we express deep concern over the recent reports on severe Iranian breaches of the JCPOA, which bring Iran's nuclear breakout capacity to dangerous levels. As the new administration in the United States and its European allies are preparing to re-engage Iran over its nuclear program and other destabilizing activities, we call on the European Union to take firm action against this highly dangerous Iranian brinkmanship.

Iran's initiation of uranium enrichment up to 20% as well as uranium metal production, which typically serves for development of nuclear warheads, and the installing of additional and more sophisticated centrifuges were confirmed by the IAEA in the past weeks. These are serious developments with grave consequences for the stability of Europe and the Middle East. We note with particular concern the statement by the US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken on 1 February 2021, that Iran is months away from being able to produce enough material to build a nuclear weapon, and that timeframe could be reduced to "a matter of weeks" if Tehran further violates restrictions it agreed to under the nuclear agreement.

In light of these developments, we urge the EU, as well as the governments of the E3, the UK, France, and Germany, to firmly respond to the imminent threat that the Iranian nuclear activity poses to Europe and its allies in the Middle East.

On behalf of the EU and in your role as the JCPOA's Joint Commission Coordinator, you repeatedly called on Iran to reverse all actions that are inconsistent with its JCPOA commitments. The time has come for urgent dialogue and close consultation with regional allies, including Israel, to be followed by decisive action to block Iran from acquiring the breakout capacity to a nuclear weapon.

ELNET calls on the EU to go beyond rhetoric and apply sanctions on Iran for continuous and egregious violations of the JCPOA. The EU should also take firm action against Iran's destabilizing activities across the Middle East, development of ballistic missiles, engagement in terror and severe violations of human rights.

At this critical juncture, time is of the essence. We call on you to take all measures necessary at the EU level to protect the security and stability of Europe and its regional allies. As we join hands in battling the pandemic and its economic fallout, we cannot stand idly by in the face of the looming nuclear threat that endangers us all.

Respectfully Yours,



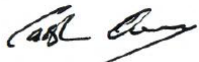
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CC: Hon. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France
Hon. Heiko Maas, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany
Rt. Hon. Dominic Raab MP, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development
Affairs and First Secretary of State of the United Kingdom