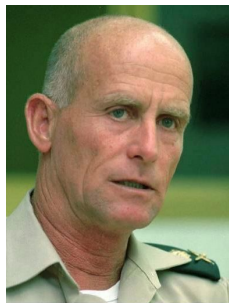


Nuanced Views from Israel on the Iran Nuclear Deal

The US and Israeli media have given the impression that everyone in Israel-- from far right to left--is opposed to the Iran nuclear deal. That conclusion overly simplifies the situation.

There are voices emerging within Israel, including from former generals and security experts, who argue that much of the Israeli rhetoric about the deal is exaggerated and that the deal does have merit.



Ami Ayalon: Former head of the Shin Bet; former Navy commander-in-chief

The agreement is “the best possible alternative from Israel’s point of view, given the other available alternatives... In the Middle East, 10 to 15 years is an eternity, and I don’t believe that 10 or 15 years from now the world will stand by and watch Iran acquire nuclear weapons.”



קבוצת המומחים לשלום ולביטחון
Peace and Security Association

The Peace and Security Association: Represents hundreds of Israeli security experts, IDF veterans, Mossad, Shin Bet and police

“Although the agreement signed in Vienna between the world powers and Iran is not optimal, it should remove the immediate threat of an Iranian breakthrough leading to a nuclear military capability within a few months.”



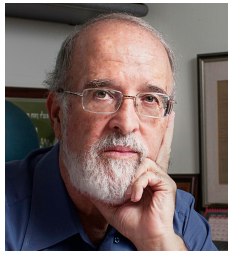
Efraim Halevy: Former Mossad Director; former Head of the National Security Council

“Without an agreement, Iran will be free to act as it wishes, whereas the sanctions regime against it will crumble in any case... if the nuclear issue is of cardinal existential importance, what is the point of canceling an agreement that distances Iran from the bomb?”



Chuck Freilich: Former Israeli Deputy National Security Advisor

“This is the agreement that was reached — and despite its faults, it is not a bad one. Crucially, it will contribute to Israel’s security.”



Yitzhak Ben-Yisrael: Chair of Israel's Space Agency; former IDF general

"The agreement is not bad at all, it is even good for Israel... It prevents Iran from getting a nuclear weapon for 15 years."



Uzi Even: Former lead scientist at Israel's Dimona nuclear reactor

"I am sure the deal that was signed is preferable to the current situation because it delays Iran's ability to develop a nuclear bomb by at least 15 years and in practice ends its nuclear aspirations."



Eran Etzion: Former Deputy Head of the Israeli National Security Council; former Head of Policy Planning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

"The agreement prevents Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon for 10-15 years. Obama says and he is right--this agreement is not about trust, it's about verification. No agreement can be perfect. We live in the real world and it is the best agreement that they could reach."



Israel Ziv: Former Israeli Major General

"This agreement is the best among all other alternatives, and any military strike – as successful as it may be – would not have delayed even 20% of what the agreement will delay."



Eli Levite: Former Deputy Director General of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission

"In the next 15 years, if Iran will respect its obligations, Iran won't be a nuclear country, period. They won't have the materials. The question is whether they will respect their obligation, and that is the hard question."