Impact of Ukrainian Crisis on Iranian Nuclear Choice

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Some facts:

1. After beginning of Ukrainian crisis the number of the nuclear status opponents increased in Ukraine
2. Ukrainian Ambassador to Iran in 2010 – 2014 Oleksandr Samarsky said in March 2014 in his official interview to Iranian news agency “ILNA”:

   “Ukraine made a big mistake when it gave up nuclear weapon”
   
   Source: Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry website

3. A lot of publications of Iranian experts are devoted to the Ukrainian topic. This reflects Iranian interest in the Ukrainian events

The Influence of the Ukrainian Crisis on the Nuclear Negotiations with Iran:

The Opinion of Some Iranian Experts:

Budapest Memorandum with Ukraine = The future nuclear accord with Iran

Unlikely Iran will sign or implement this accord

Other opinion:

Budapest Memorandum has no similarities with the nuclear agreement with Iran. Furthermore thanks to Ukrainian crisis Iran could receive very profitable agreement which slightly limits its nuclear program. Probably the western powers are forced to approve this questionable agreement because they want to concentrate their resources on containing Russia in Europe, and in these conditions they are not able to pressure Iran effectively. Furthermore the cooperation with Iran could limit Russia’s possibilities in oil and gas markets and weaken its economic position in Europe.

The Implications of Reaching Nuclear Agreement with Iran for International Security, the Ukrainian Crisis, and NPT Regime: Two Possible Options

Option 1

Iran’s economic power will considerably grow after lifting sanctions

Iran will use its growing economic capabilities to further destabilize situation in Yemen and even in Saudi Arabia

After such destabilization of Gulf region the oil prices will increase (after temporary decreasing), and Iran’s role in the region will grow

Thanks to high oil prices Russia will not suffer from western sanctions very much and might increase its activity in Ukraine

Iran might use this turbulent situation to withdraw from the nuclear agreement. The NPT regime would weaken

Option 2

Iran’s economic power will grow after lifting sanctions

The western powers will actively support the anti-Iranian moderate opposition in Syria and anti-Iranian forces in Yemen. Iranian growing resources will be dispersed to fight against ISIL and moderate opposition in Syria and Yemen. In this case western powers

At the same time the western powers maintain a limited co-operation with Iran in gas and oil trade. As a result the oil prices will decrease

The anti-Russian economic sanctions will be more effective

Iran will have a theoretical possibility to obtain nuclear weapon, but this would be unlikely because Iran would be more economically vulnerable and it would understand Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Turkey could try to follow suit

Source:

http://iran.mfa.gov.ua/ua/press

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