

Important Vocab for the Editorial

1. **deal** (noun) – agreement, pact, compact, treaty.
2. **run out** (phrasal verb) – be used up, be exhausted, be finished.
3. **Iran nuclear deal (or) Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)** (noun) – JCPOA, known commonly as the Iran nuclear deal or Iran deal, is an agreement on the Iranian nuclear program reached in Vienna on 14 July 2015, between Iran and the P5+1 (China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) together with the European Union.
4. **revival** (noun) – re-establishment, reintroduction, restoration, bringing back.
5. **unilaterally** (adverb) – used to indicate something done by a person/country without approval/agreement from other people/countries involved in the situation.
6. **diplomat** (noun) – ambassador, envoy, emissary, consul.
7. **revive** (verb) – restore, reintroduce, re-establish, bring back.
8. **delegation** (noun) – a body of delegates/representatives; diplomatic mission, commission, deputation.
9. **envoy** (noun) – diplomat, consul, ambassador; representative, delegate, mediator.
10. **hold** (verb) – conduct, organize.
11. **(get/bring) back on track** (phrase) – to return to the right direction (after a problem).
12. **ideal** (adjective) – perfect, best possible, consummate.
13. **who will blink first** (phrase) – it refers to who is going to give up/lose in a hi-tension contest between fierce rivals – can be applied to business or war or sports.
14. **enrichment** (noun) – the method of making more powerful or explosive Uranium by increasing the composition of uranium-235 isotope through the process of isotope separation. (The process of concentrating the U-235).
15. **centrifuge** (noun) – a high-precision computer-controlled machining equipment used to enrich uranium (separate uranium-235 isotopes).
16. **sanctions** (noun) – action taken, or an order given to force a country to obey international laws by limiting or stopping trade with that country, by not allowing economic aid for that country, etc (Courtesy: VOA Learning English).

17. **impose** (verb) – force, thrust, inflict (an unwelcome decision).
18. **enforce** (verb) – force, compel, demand, insist on.
19. **road map** (noun) – schedule of a (complex) program.
20. **address** (verb) – tackle, deal with, attend to, try to sort out.
21. **Houthis (rebels)** (noun) – a decades-old resistance movement, born in opposition to Saudi Arabia's religious influence. Yemen's Houthi rebels are leading the fight against a Saudi-led coalition.
22. **Iran-backed** (adjective) – supported by Iran.
23. **militant** (noun) – fanatic, extremist, radical, sectarian/partisan.
24. **reportedly** (adverb) – supposedly, seemingly, apparently, allegedly.
25. **freeze** (verb) – hold/kept in a fixed state.
26. **wary** (adjective) – cautious, careful, circumspect.
27. **compliant with** (adjective) – in accordance with, in agreement with, in conformity with, in line with.
28. **slap** (verb) – impose, add, put on.
29. **seek** (verb) – ask for, request, appeal, demand.
30. **concrete** (adjective) – definite, specific, definitive; factual, actual/real.
31. **measure** (noun) – action, step, procedure.
32. **lack of** (noun) – absence, deficiency, scarcity, dearth.
33. **possibility** (noun) – chance, probability, option.
34. **Shia** (adjective) – relating to Shia branch/sect of Islam.
35. **militia** (noun) – armed forces, military unit, soldiery (from the civil population to support main forces).
36. **base** (noun) – (military) camp, station, settlement, post.
37. **shadow conflict** (noun) – it is a form of armed conflict, conducted secretly in the nexus (connection) between war and peace where different actors utilize different means to obtain their goals. (actor means a participant in an action).
38. **Red Sea** (proper noun) – The Red Sea is a seawater inlet (arm/bay) of the Indian Ocean, lying between Africa and Asia (Arabian peninsula). The Gulf of Aden is connecting it to the Indian Ocean in the south and the Suez Canal is linking it to the Mediterranean Sea in the north.
39. **tension** (noun) – strained relations, strain, unease.
40. **proxy** (noun) – deputy, representative, substitute.
41. **derail** (verb) – obstruct, interrupt, impede/thwart.
42. **diplomatic** (adjective) – (delicate & sensitive) consular, foreign-policy.
43. **exercise** (verb) – use, employ, make use of, utilize.
44. **restraint** (noun) – self-control, self-restraint, constraint, control, restriction, limitation.
45. **in return for** (phrase) – in exchange for.

46. **dismantle** (verb) – remove, demolish, take down, destroy (something).
47. **regime** (noun) – system, arrangement, apparatus, mechanism.

Save the deal: On U.S. and Iran resolving nuclear crisis

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U.S. and Iran should rebuild the lost trust and resolve the nuclear crisis before time runs out

The Vienna talks between the **remaining members of the Iran nuclear deal** — China, Russia, the U.K., France, Germany and Iran — have raised hopes for the revival of the agreement from which then President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew the U.S. in May 2018. After the initial round of talks, European and Iranian diplomats have said efforts to revive the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)**, as the deal is officially called, are on “the right track”. An American delegation, led by Robert Malley, the White House special envoy for Iran, is also in Vienna, though the Americans and the Iranians would not hold direct talks. All sides agree that bringing the deal back on track is ideal, but who will blink first? The U.S. wants Iran to end its uranium enrichment and centrifuge development programmes and return to the 2015 agreement, while Tehran has demanded the U.S. lift all sanctions imposed by Mr. Trump and still enforced by President Joe Biden. The agenda at Vienna, therefore, is to produce a road map for the revival of the JCPOA by addressing these two critical issues — Iran’s nuclear enhanced programme and American sanctions.

The **Biden administration has displayed flexibility** in its approach towards Iran. The President appointed a special envoy, ended the U.S.’s support for Saudi Arabia’s war against the Houthis, Iran-backed militants, in Yemen and promised to lift sanctions if Tehran returns to the JCPOA terms. The administration has also reportedly made an offer to Iran to release \$1 billion of Iranian money frozen in South Korea as part of the sanctions in

exchange for ending its 20% uranium enrichment. But a wary Iran, which was fully compliant with the agreement when Mr. Trump abandoned it and slapped back sanctions, has rejected the offer, seeking more concrete measures from the U.S. The challenge both sides are facing is a lack of time. Iran holds its presidential polls in June. If the U.S.'s best chance to address Iran's nuclear programme is through the revival of the JCPOA, the best possibility of reviving the agreement is to do it (or at least agree on a road map) before the presidential election. There are external dangers as well. Iran-backed Shia militias in Iraq continue to target U.S. forces and bases in Iraq. The Israel-Iran shadow conflict is now being fought inside Syria and on the seas. Last week, an Iranian ship was attacked in the Red Sea. If security tensions rise in the region involving Iran and its proxies, it could derail the diplomatic efforts. The U.S. and Iran should exercise restraint, stay focused on talks and rebuild the lost trust, and take measures to get the deal back on track that would resolve the nuclear crisis in return for dismantling the sanctions regime.

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