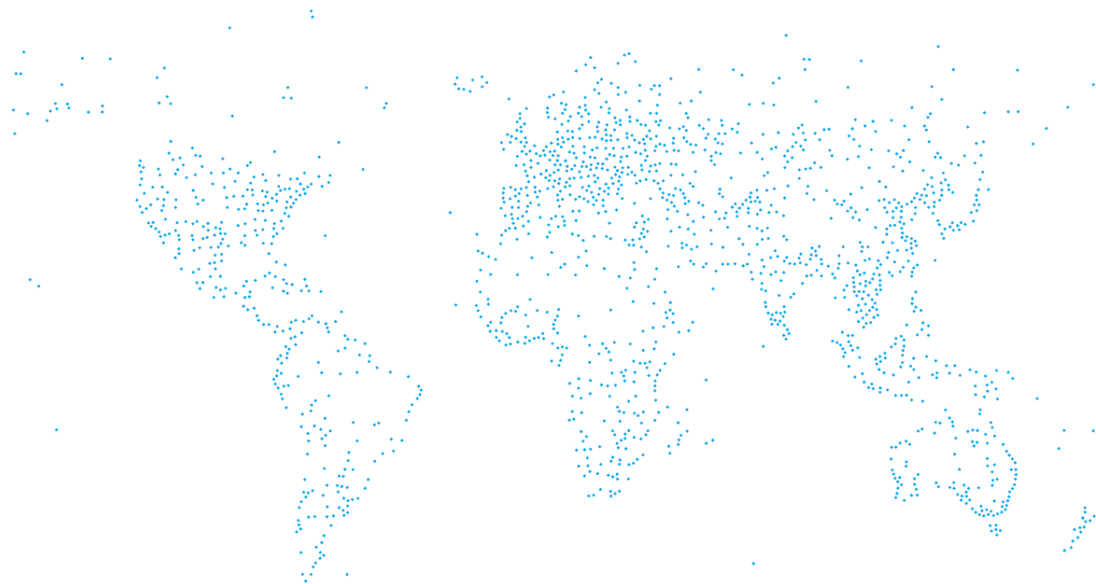


Return From The Wilderness: Risks, Opportunities and Limitations in Post-Deal Iran

Oxford Analytica Client Conference Call
Wednesday, 29th July 2015, 16:00 UK Time



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Return From The Wilderness: Risks, Opportunities and Limitations in Post-Deal Iran

After months of negotiation, Iran and world powers agreed a landmark deal on July 14 to end the dispute over Iran's nuclear programme. The deal paves the way for Iran's re-emergence from international isolation and its reintegration into the global economy.

Under its terms, Iran has accepted heavy restrictions on its nuclear activities in exchange for sanctions relief. This could re-open one of the region's largest economies to international trade and investment but also add some 0.8 million barrels per day of oil to an already glutted market in 2016.

The deal could also transform Iranian politics. President Hassan Rouhani and his allies in the centrist and reformist camps have won a strategic victory against hard-line conservatives that puts them in a strong position ahead of the 2016 parliamentary election.

On the regional stage, the deal improves security. It reduces the risk of direct military action by Israel and the United States against Iran and provides a new channel for diplomacy between Tehran and Washington on Iraq, Syria and other regional crises.

Join our Client Conference Call on July 29 at 16.00 BST to understand the implications of these changes for Iranian politics and economy, investment and regional geopolitics:

We will assess the risks, opportunities and limitations for:

- domestic politics and political stability in Iran;
- renewed foreign investment and trade;
- the energy sector and global oil markets;
- Iran's relations with the United States; and
- Israel, the Gulf states and the regional military balance.

Chair

Paul Maidment, Director of Analysis and Managing Editor, Oxford Analytica

Paul Maidment joined Oxford Analytica in December 2014 as the Director of Analysis and Managing Editor of the Oxford Analytica Daily Brief.

He is an award-winning journalist who founded the New York-based digital editorial consultancy Bystander Media in 2010. A pioneer in combining digital and print journalism, he was previously Editor of Forbes.com and Executive Editor of Forbes, transforming a magazine website into the leading online destination for business, finance and up-scale lifestyle. Before joining Forbes in 2001, Paul was the founding Editor of the Financial Times' award-winning web site FT.com and Assistant Editor of the newspaper. His early career as an editor and foreign correspondent encompassed The Economist, the Asian Wall Street Journal and the BBC in the U.K. the U.S. and Asia — a depth of journalistic experience and breadth of media that gives him a unique perspective on the changes transforming publishing and the world economy. Paul was inducted into the Digital Hall of Fame in New York in 2010.

Panellists will include:

Afshin Molavi, Senior Advisor, Oxford Analytica

Afshin Molavi is a senior advisor at Oxford Analytica and a contributor to the Daily Brief, a senior fellow at the New America Foundation and a former director of the World Economic Roundtable. A former journalist for Reuters and the Washington Post, he has been based in Dubai, Riyadh, Jeddah, Tehran, and Washington.

He has lectured and taught Masters courses on the geopolitics and external relations of the Middle East region for US government agencies for more than a decade. He has also served as an analyst at the International Finance Corporation, the private sector development arm of the World Bank, and as a Middle East risk specialist for Fortune 100 companies.

Sanam Vakil is a professorial lecturer in the Middle East Studies department at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS Europe) in Bologna, Italy.

She teaches courses on regional and Persian Gulf politics in a comparative perspective, political leadership in the Middle East, U.S. foreign policy to the region, and religion and nationalism in the Middle East. Prior to this, she worked as an assistant professor of Middle East Studies at SAIS Washington, DC.

Dr. Vakil provides commentary and political risk analysis for Oxford Analytica Rastah Ideologistics and Dunia Economic Research. She has also worked for PFC Energy providing Middle East country risk analysis. She was a Senior Researcher managing a large research project on the Iranian diaspora for Management Systems International. She has served as a research fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations' Iran Project and as a consultant to the World Bank Group's Middle East and North Africa Division.

She is the author of *Action and Reaction: Women and Politics in Iran*, (Bloomsbury 2011 & 2013.) She has also published commentary for the Financial Times, Beirut Daily Star, Baltimore Sun, Current History, International Journal of Middle East Studies, the National Interest and the Washington Quarterly among others. In the United States & Europe, she has been consulted by high-ranking government officials.

Dr. Vakil was born in Tehran, Iran. She received her BA in Political Science and History from Columbia University and earned her MA and PhD in International Relations with a specialization in Middle East Studies at Johns Hopkins University-SAIS.

Kevan Harris, Sociologist and Associate Director of the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies

Kevan Harris earned a Ph.D. in Sociology at the Johns Hopkins University in 2012. He was awarded the Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship in 2009–10 to conduct fieldwork in Iran, and was a US Institute of Peace Jennings Randolph Peace Scholar in 2011–12.

His dissertation, "The Martyrs Welfare State: Politics of Social Policy in the Islamic Republic of Iran," analyzes the post-revolutionary trajectories of Iranian state and society through the lens of welfare policy. The study utilizes archival research, interviews with government officials, fieldwork in three provinces, and ethnographic observation to argue that the Islamic Republic's state-building project intertwined with and depended upon a welfare-building project. By transforming the country's social structure, Iran's welfare system provided durable institutions upon which the political elite aspired to craft a developmental state. Yet these structural changes, Harris argues, also generated new social and political challenges to the post-revolutionary order which continue to the present.

Since 2012, he has been a postdoctoral research associate at Princeton University's Department of Near Eastern Studies, and in 2014 he was named the Associate Director of the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies.