

Foreign Affairs Committee

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Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
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On 8 May 2018, the US announced its withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). You said following the announcement that the UK had “no intention of walking away” from the agreement. In an appearance before the FAC in March however, you said that, while it was possible to maintain the JCPOA without the US, it would “be very difficult to achieve.”

I am writing on behalf of the Committee to seek clarification on the following points:

- If it is the intention of the Government to continue to respect the provisions of the JCPOA without US involvement, what steps has it taken to ensure the agreement will continue to be implemented?
- What assurances has the Government received from Iran that it will continue to abide by the terms of the agreement following US withdrawal?
- Has the Government held discussions with the US regarding how to continue to enforce the main elements of the JCPOA with regards nuclear non-proliferation despite the US withdrawal?
- EU Heads of State unanimously agreed on 16 May to activate the Blocking Statute that forbids EU companies from complying with the extraterritorial effects of US sanctions. How will the Blocking Statute work in practice, and what steps are the Government taking to assist UK businesses in complying with it while protecting them from being penalised by US secondary sanctions?
- Will the Government continue to align itself with EU sanctions policy on Iran and the JCPOA after 29 March 2019?
- What talks have been conducted with France, Germany and the EU to ensure future cooperation on the JCPOA?
- What extra resources will be devoted to the task given the withdrawal of US support?

As you will be aware the Committee has requested to see the Minister of State for the Middle East on 3 July and looks forward to your response before his appearance.

We will be placing this letter and your response in the public domain.

Tom Tugendhat MP
Chair