



Council of the
European Union

**Brussels, 20 July 2015
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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	Council
On:	20 July 2015
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Subject:	Council Conclusions on the agreement on Iran's nuclear programme

Delegations will find attached in the appendix the Council Conclusions on the agreement on Iran's nuclear programme as adopted by the Council on 20 July 2015.

**COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON THE AGREEMENT ON IRAN'S NUCLEAR
PROGRAMME**

1. The Council welcomes the 14 July 2015 agreement reached in Vienna between Iran and China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, with the facilitation of the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign and Security Policy, on a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). In the context of the long-running diplomatic efforts to reach a comprehensive, long lasting and peaceful solution to the Iranian nuclear issue, this is an historic moment.
2. The Council expresses its appreciation for the coordinating role played by the High Representative, which was instrumental in bringing these negotiations to a successful conclusion and acknowledges the support by the Austrian government in hosting the final round of the talks. The Council acknowledges the role played by France, Germany and the UK since launching the negotiations in Tehran in 2003 with the Tehran Agreement.
3. The Council recognises that the full implementation by Iran of its commitments under the JCPOA, including the Roadmap agreed with the IAEA will contribute to building international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of the Iranian nuclear program.
4. The Council endorses the JCPOA and commits to abide by its terms and to follow the agreed implementation plan.
5. The Council fully supports the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015) unanimously adopted on 20 July 2015 endorsing the JCPOA and urging its full implementation.

6. The Council underlines the necessity for all sides to work now towards implementing this JCPOA. The Council requests the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to continue playing a coordinating role during the implementation of the JCPOA. The Council reiterates that EU actions and commitments under the JCPOA related to the lifting of the sanctions will be carried out in accordance with the timeline and modalities specified in the JCPOA; and that the lifting of economic and financial sanctions would come into effect once the International Atomic Energy Agency has verified that Iran has implemented its nuclear-related commitments as stipulated in the JCPOA. The Council notes that the provisions under the Joint Plan of Action agreed in Geneva in 2013 have been extended for a further six months, to cover the period until the IAEA has verified that Iran has taken these actions.
7. The Council acknowledges the important role of the IAEA in the verification of the JCPOA and calls upon all countries to support the IAEA in fulfilling this important task, including through financial means.
8. The Council expresses the expectation that this positive development will open the door to a steady improvement in relations between the European Union, its Member States and Iran, as well as improved Iranian regional and international relations, and that it will constitute a basis for a more stable and secure region.
9. In light of the agreement in Vienna, the Council invites the High Representative to explore ways in which the EU could actively promote a more cooperative regional framework and to report back to the Council in the coming months.
