



IRANIAN STUDIES OUTREACH | BILINGUAL LECTURE SERIES



Back to the Future The Return of U.S. Economic Sanctions and Iran's Response

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President Trump's unilateral scrapping of the 2015 Iran Nuclear Deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), opens a new chapter in the adversarial relationship between Iran and the United States. The reinstatement of economic sanctions is a major setback to President Rouhani's reformist policies, which aimed at taming high inflation and reducing unemployment while opening up the economy to much-needed foreign investment. It also emboldens the hardliners who use the sanctions as both a reaffirmation of their mistrust in the U.S. and a justification for reclaiming some of their lost political and economic influence. The economic hardship that accompanies such sanctions, meanwhile, is borne by ordinary Iranians who have suffered repeatedly from such crises.

Reza Bavafa



Reza Bavafa is an adjunct professor at the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California, where he teaches courses in Economics and Business Strategy. Dr. Bavafa earned both a Master and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Riverside. He has twenty-five years of executive management experience that spans multiple industries, including telecommunications, health, aerospace, automotive, media, and entertainment. He has worked for numerous companies, including AT&T, IBM, Providence Health, Kaiser, Boeing, Nissan, and The Walt Disney Company.

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