



Craig Whittaker MP

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Iran nuclear deal (EDM 1251)

Members of the Government / Parliamentary Private Secretaries do not, by convention, sign any Early Day Motions, as doing so is likely to breach the Ministerial Code's rules on collective responsibility.

However, together with colleagues across the political spectrum, I regret the US's decision to withdraw from the deal and to re-impose American sanctions on Iran.

The Iran Nuclear deal is the product of 13 years of tireless diplomacy, and it is working, with Iran having reduced its stock of enriched uranium by 95 per cent. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has confirmed nine times that Iran is complying with the nuclear deal, most recently in February.

The IAEA inspection regime agreed as part of the deal is one of the most extensive and robust in the history of international nuclear accords. It remains a vitally important way of independently verifying that the deal is working and that Iran's nuclear programme is exclusively peaceful.

The Foreign Secretary has been clear that the UK Government did its utmost to prevent this course of action by the US. From the moment that President Trump's Administration took office, the UK made the case for keeping the Iran deal at every level.

I am assured that the UK Government is working hard to maintain the deal following the 8 May announcement of US withdrawal

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Whittaker'.

Craig Whittaker MP