Middle East energy: Global risks and repercussions 21 April 2015

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Iran - Energy Negotiations and Potential Opportunities

Dentons Global Energy Summit, London 21st of April 2015

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3 Themes:

- 1) JCPA: What was agreed?
- 2) Comprehensive Deal: What remains to be agreed?
- 3) The Future: Opportunities, Contracts, SWOT

1) JCPA: What was agreed?

- **Enrichment** level / stockpile limited (only Natanz / Fordow research)
- **Centrifuge** development limited
- Redesign of Arak reactor core (no reprocessing, export)
- Enhanced access of IAEA (implementation modified Code 3.1)
- **UNSC** Resolution:
 - endorse JCPOA
 - terminate previous resolutions
 - restrictions maintained
- EU terminate / US cease application of sanctions

http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/.premium-1.650509et





2) Comprehensive Deal: What remains to be agreed?

- Two different fact sheets:
 - US: heavy on restrictions
 - Iran: heavy on continuation / sanctions relief
 - **Overlap** between fact sheets: But: differences remain
 - UNSC Resolution: balistic missiles?
 - Sanctions relief:
 - Iran: when implementation begins
 - USA: when implementation verified

امنیت لغو و همه تحریمهای اقتصادی و مالی جندجانبه ارويا و يكجانبه آمريكا فورا لغو خواهند شد.

http://iranmatters.belfercenter.org/blog/translation-iranian-factsheetnuclear-negotiations





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3) The Future: A) Potential Opportunities

- Drop in crude production
- **Damage control** on oil fields (due to reduced prodcution)
- Development of gas sector
- Development of domestic pipeline network

mb/d Iran Crude Production 3.6 3.4 3.2 3.0 2.8 2.6 2.4 Sep Mav Jul Jan Jan Mar Nov 2015

https://www.iea.org/media/omrreports/2015/0315/0315image39.png

- Development of gas export network
- Caspian Sea resources under explored

3) The Future: B) Buy-Back to Iran Petroleum Contracts

- Former "Buy-Back" structure:
 - no booking of resources
 - only exploration / development
 - short duration
- **New structure** several improvements:
 - joint venture, includes production
 - allows for **booking of barrels**
 - longer duration
- Potential flexibility on Caspian Sea
- Iran still plans conference in London (end 2015) to present new contracts / projects



facilities_2004.jpg



3) The Future: C) SWOT Analysis

SWOT Analysis

Strengths:

- Trained pool of domestic experts
- FIPPA and reformed taxation
- Government eager to attract foreign direct investment (FDI)

Weaknesses:

- Difficult and time consuming decision making process
- Involvement of IRGC in sector (reputational risk)
- Structure of contracts (Buy Back)

Opportunities:

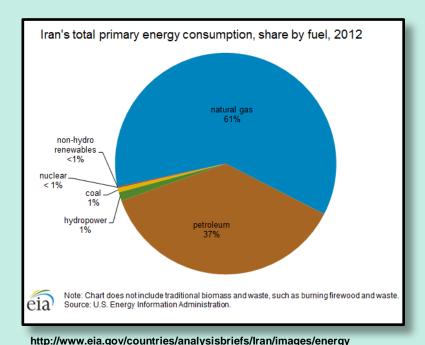
- FDI needed in all energy sectors
- Domestic infrastructure needs upgrate
- Iran still depends on energy exports

Threats:

Snap back provisions for sanctions

consumption fuel.png

- IRGC unlikely to simply retreat from projects
- Deterioration of regional situation possible (see for example Yemen, Syria, Iraq)







Questions?

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- A Tale of Binary Markets either 'open' or 'closed'
- The deal pipeline at USD 50-60 per barrel National Oil Companies and forecast investment
- Local Debt Market Liquidity uncertainty on the horizon
- Traditional international commercial bank market lending is expected to continue to 'thin'
 - Strategic retrenchment to home jurisdictions
 - Less capital to deploy shrinking capital bases, Basle 3/capital usage, 'high-grading' of deals
 - Perception of heightened/sustained political risk
 - Questions as to longer term oil price
- Unclear as to whether alternative sources of funding may ultimately be available
 - Understanding of the region significant education process
 - Pricing and tenor considerations
 - Negative carry, no-call provisions, secondary markets

Mobilisation of Capital – Key political risk considerations for both debt and equity investors



Classic Political Risk Categories	 War and Civil Disturbance Transfer and Inconvertibility Expropriation/Nationalisation (including Sovereign/quasi-Sovereign breach of contract)
Emergence of External 'Political' Risks	 'Reputational' Risk Stakeholder perception of firms doing business in particular markets Shareholders Regulators Customers General Public Industrial and financial players now typically have dedicated staff/function to evaluate impact on stakeholders Formal process with representation from Compliance, Legal and Senior Management Regulatory Risk Embargoes – general, specific and potential Capital Allocation (Financial Institutions)



- Export Credit Agencies have a mandate to support home country exports while Multilaterals focus on supporting selected less developed economies
- Done via direct loans, comprehensive insurance cover, political risk only cover or combination thereof
- As the first source of debt capital for emerging jurisdictions, they are a key catalyst for longer term access to commercial debt sources
- They are also able to fill funding gaps where commercial lenders might otherwise participate – direct loans, comprehensive cover, political risk insurance, etc.
- Participation of ECAs/Multilaterals also provides 'soft' support for debt mobilisation

Sir Dominic Asquith Senior Advisor, Dentons Former British Ambassador to Iraq, Egypt and Libya DENTONS

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CHALLENGES FACING POLITICAL/BUSINESS LEADERS IN THE REGION

- Leadership changes: KSA, Oman, UAE, Iran. Ageing leadership faces mounting fiscal challenges and is in generational transition
- Borders/coherence of state: Syria/Iraq, Libya, Yemen
- Balance of power/regional dynamics: "security"
 - Sectarian
 - Sunni discordance: Political Islam anti ISIS coalition hold together Turkey
 - Dominant Iran dealt back into region/excluded on what terms?
 - US retrenchment
 - Russian ambitions
 - Oil price effect
 - After effects of Arab Spring: Weak structures and fragile social cohesion



CONVENTIONAL DRIVERS ARE INTERDEPENDENT

- US retreat/reluctant re-engagement vacuum regional proxy wars
- Iran if no deal, why?

• Supreme Leader believes:

- US on the run: no need to come to a deal?
- Obama can't deliver?
- a deal means end of the regime (lose its revolutionary raison d'être)?

• KSA/UAE:

- Iran hegemony (locked into conflicts?)
- Political Islam
- Turkish neo-Ottomanism

• Effect: Regional powers focus on priorities:

- Iran
- ISIS
- Yemen
- Egypt
- GCC security alliances
- Non-Arab allies (Pakistan, Turkey)

DEEPER PROBLEMS

- The solution is not in NE Syria. ISIS is a symptom
 - Fragmentation of society
 - Differences have become existential threats
 - opponent suffering from Samson complex
 - Dissent = treasonous activity during a war on terror
 - Legitimacy. Chaos of breakdown of status quo. Who is the source of ultimate authority: God, King, People or Army?
 - Who is responsible?
 - Gulf view: victim of others' mistakes
 - Western view: dysfunctional structures
- **Reality**: State dismantled; society fragmented; relationship ruler/ruled changing. Deterioration of the welfare state and development of new information environment which redefined individual, collective and transnational identities
- Kings will be tyrants by policy when subjects are rebels from principle



RESULT (1)

- Jackson Pollock no longer Cold War chess: retreat of state and rise of social movements (especially Islamist) to fill the vacuum
- Politics as annihilation: Muslim world confused about political Islam. Religious/state separation? Or transform "moderate" Islam into a religion which accepts state authority?
- West in a twist about "ideology" misinterpreted what was happening. Democratisation does not necessarily have a moderating effect on Islamist parties





- If we get hooked on ideological, fail to recognise major problem: basis of social contract fraying
 - Urban/youth population
 - Structure of economy
 - Energy subsidies
 - Employment
 - State patronage when less money
- Who is responsible for guaranteeing security?
 - Regional alliances displacing the US
- States failing to provide: Fukuyama



FINAL ASSUMPTIONS

- More chaos to come
- Regionalism and fragmentation
- Greater accountability: media, political Islam, economy
- Next generation

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