

Iran- Europe Union Relations: Obstacles and Challenges¹

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ABSTRACT

The Iran-Europe relations have always been marked with ups and downs. At some points, Iran viewed Europe as an actor replacing the US and tried to tap Europe's political and economical capacities. The purpose of this paper is to investigate the causes of barriers to expansion of relations between Iran and Europe Union. Over the last thirty years and particularly in recent years, Barriers and limitations preventing the expansion of relations between Iran and the European Union are causing. Pressures on America, Iran's nuclear program, EU disagreements on issues like terrorism and Iran to Europe, Approach to developments in the Middle East, especially the Palestinian West and human rights issues in Russia, And the unwillingness of Arabic countries and Israel closer alliance between Iran and Europe, including barriers to expansion of relations between the two sides. Some barriers in Iran's relations with Europe Union are not real and are based on speculation. If it is removed, and the common prejudices that provides mutual benefit and trust it will allow for cooperation. If it is removed, and the common prejudices that provides mutual benefit and trust it will allow for cooperation.

KEYWORDS: Iran, European Union, Foreign policy, Human rights, EU-Iran relations

INTRODUCTION

Following the collapse of the bipolar system of the Cold War, a new space has been for the EU role in international politics. Europe Union is composed of feature rich and influential countries in the international system and thus has the potential collective power Union is now one of Europe's major players in the international system. In the realm of economics and trade, the EU should be considered the greatest actor of international Union in Europe with more than 9000 billion dollars of GDP, about 29 percent of world trade [1].

While the share of other countries such as America and Japan in the 21 and 11 percent respectively. Investment in the European Union with more than 8000 billion Euros is the largest foreign investor.

The European Union has been able to rely on their enormous economic power among all major international institutions can influence The most important of these institutions can be the World Trade Organization, International Monetary Fund and World Bank. The other European countries such as Britain and France are permanent members of the Security Council, and members of NATO are basic The European Union is an international organization is very important However, although the European Union is one of the major international institutions and the global economic system is crucial, But it seems that the EU is still not in the realm of foreign policy, security and defense, acting independently and become effective.

Europe Union, NATO, more than 60 percent of the workforce to make huge investments in Europe the establishment of NATO has done. But the European Union has a long way to having a powerful army in Europe [2].

Europeans want to secure survival and even expansion of NATO because NATO will inevitably see them on the global stage. One of the major issues that the European Union is grappling This has led the European Union as a whole in the international politics of the game is not commensurate with its economic power In many global issues can be passive or conflicting opinions on international issues to the United States to leave the game. In general, the European Union and its member states important to the topic of human rights, Promoting democracy and the rule of law in its relations with third countries are regulated all agreements on economic cooperation - EU trade with third countries, of human rights there. Europe's human rights dialogue with the EU, there are a number of countries and the EU as a foreign policy tool has been designed to serve EU Wants Europe on human rights and democratization in other countries might be affected However, despite its importance, the topic of human rights in European countries and the European Union In many cases, as a political tool by the Europe Union and its member states in their relations with third countries, it is Human Rights in the EU's relations with third countries regulate the overall effect relationship between economic and political interests of Europe Union And overall vision of the European

1. This paper presents the subject of a thesis presented "Political relations between Iran and Europe Union and its development in the field of international relations and political development" that has been done Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Union and those countries are simply not fit into the framework of human rights issues. The collapse of the Soviet Union, the prospect of a united Europe to the fact that its components instead of EU Europe is on the rise Join with Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Malta and Cyprus, Greek Islands settlement process that was started after the collapse of the Soviet Union ended successfully. Despite the differences and the dangers of the spread of Europe is supported by all EU Member States. They strongly believe that the process is beneficial to all. The European Union's position in the international system and the role of regional and strategic Iran needs to establish a relationship of mutual reinforcement between the two sides, there is West Union is an important part of the world that, despite some competition from commercial and political tactics vary The principles and objectives are shared with America and on both sides of the Atlantic as strategic partners positions on many international issues of common interest. European Union after the Treaty of Maastricht in 1992, an important step in achieving a unified foreign and security policy has taken. European Union foreign policy crises, and on some parts of the union expressed the desire to play an active role and influence on the policy of the international However, although the EU is a powerful economic bloc But it seems to be still far from reaching the floor beam strength is great. European Union foreign policy of the two major components to provide consistent, unified and powerful approach to international issues and challenges and also enable rapid reaction force to act in time of international crisis. Particular crises in Bosnia and Kosovo in the EU, such as what happened during the 1990 lack. The absence of a centralized executive authority to pursue foreign policy, European the EU reference method based decisions on important international issues facing Europe Union is the administrative bottlenecks However; it should be said about the relations between Iran and Europe Union [3]. During the three decades that have passed the Europe Union's relations with Iran have been many ups and downs. In general, relations between Iran and Europe Union have been established for over three decades and have had numerous variations and faults in the context of this discussion are to break the link between Iran and Europe Union is recognized. The variables involved in Iran's relations with Europe in terms of positive and negative factors to be considered Positive social and economic factors in order to qualify for the realization or development can be expected to strengthen relations between Iran and Europe Union The negative factors are hindering obstacles and political variables that are Iran's relations with Europe and the EU have created numerous faults and break it, and the status and level fluctuations may have established stable and transparent, not[4].

Human Rights

Human rights is one of the challenging factors in relations between Iran and the European Union human rights policy to keep pace with America's security policy against the Islamic Republic of Iran has nuclear The relationship between Iran and the EU on human rights grounds should be noted that in general there are two views on human rights Some countries, such as Western governments to respect human rights standards, and some other countries, the definition of human rights as part of its sovereignty Europe Union in the international system as a normative power and civil society has defined. Supporting Human Rights and Democracy based on philosophical principles of liberalism's normative power supplies and provisions knows. This view of the conflict between Iran and the Europe Union and the bilateral relations has been affected. The Islamic Republic of Iran is based on a system of faith and values in some cases especially in relation to human rights in conflict with the views of the liberal West, and particularly that of Europe. The recognition of human rights is an essential element of the Europe Union's foreign relations Europe Union special attention to the human rights situation in Iran Europe Union positions at various positions on the human rights situation in Iran has Europe resolution on human rights in the 27 member UN General Assembly Third Committee adopted on 21 November 2008, jointly pledged Europe calls for EU recognized standards of human rights in Iran Capital punishment, death, arrests, repression, discrimination against ethnic, religious and linguistic rights, prisoners' rights, freedom of speech and of the press, etc. such that the union of Europe reacts to it. Europe Union choose to engage Iran to meet its international obligations on human rights, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Treaties Terms of Europe Union to improve the human rights situation has improved ties with Iran In all human rights is an important element in the Europe Union's foreign relations In 2002, based on the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Political and Religious Rights, which Iran has ratified it, Europe Union and Iran have decided that a bilateral dialogue on human rights begin. The other talks from 2004 onwards refused. Europe Union each year, an assessment of the human rights situation in Iran will be released. In 2007, the Europe Union's annual report on Iran is as follow [5] "Serious human rights violations in Iran have continued. Progress or no progress in the main areas of concern at Europe Union has been done since the last annual report, In many ways the situation is worse. Frequent use of the death penalty for child offenders are to be included Freedom of expression is severely restricted. Reports of torture are frequent. Human rights defenders and freedom to report harassment and intimidation continue. Sixty-first sessions of the UN Human Rights Commission and non-aggregate views and opinions of the member states were America, Canada and the European Commission of Human Rights, not a general reference to other members of the proposed resolution against the Islamic Republic of Iran to achieve The Canadian

government supported by America and its European partners and other international supporters in the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly resolution condemning Iran had provided our This time the progress and positive developments in human rights and the breakdown of votes and the support of the European members Unable to provide a resolution condemning Iran's human rights commission and a special report on the sixty-first session of the final determination of the action. Europe Union and Iran sixty-first session of the UN Human Rights agreements reached The interaction of multilateral cooperation in resolving disputes between the field of human rights should be In this meeting, the two sides reached an agreement on a joint assessment of the last four rounds of talks on human rights act Union, Europe, and India one-day meeting on Wednesday on the seventh of May 2005 the two sides were held with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs President of the European Commission's representative in Europe, Luxemburg, whose country held the EU's rotating presidency, was iranian delegation at the meeting, a day made up of representatives of the judiciary and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs In the European session, with some suggestions regarding the necessity of some form of change in work and Talks continue to receive calls from Iran's commitment to human rights and the rule of law. The fifth round of human rights talks between Iran and Europe Union in Brussels, capital of Belgium, the seat of the Persian date 2005 Europe Union held. In Europe the EU Although the human rights situation in Iran believe that positive change is occurring But the country's human rights record in areas such as women's rights, allegations of torture, prosecute certain specific minorities, freedom of press and is still causing concerns part of its effort to develop closer ties with Iran in regular dialogue with Iran to get involved in these issues. The study looked at issues related to human rights, one of the issues going left and right in Europe. Europe Union wants free speech right to remove penalties for defendants scratches, violence, reform prisons and various discrimination Public opinion in Europe is sensitive to human rights issues and organizations such as the Europe Union Parliament expects Europe. Strict policy on human rights issues in Iran already in place. Europe Parliament resolution of numerous human rights abuses in Iran has ratified in several resolutions against Iran, it has shown sensitivity although the resolution is not binding on Parliament. But representatives' of the Member of Parliament representing the views of their impact on public opinion in Europe and the world, leaven In 2002, a resolution was passed by the Parliament on parliamentary relations between Iran and Europe Union was emphasized The resolution of the age of marriage for girls to 13 years were more critical. In another resolution, the stoning of women in Iran has been criticized for the bad image of the human rights of the world has to offer Parliament that Europe is willing to exchange information and experiences in the field of law with clear legislation to combat drug trafficking and money laundering systematic cooperation with Iran The remarkable thing is that European countries issued a separate report on human rights violations in Iran have criticized For example, in October 2002 the Ministry of Foreign magazines Banned in Iran And detained a number of journalists in prison sentences for a number of MPs, activists Detained Science - Religious sentences for participants in the conference.

Akbar Ganja continued detention and the number of students who have been tortured after the incident Persian date public flogging is critical. Union for Europe of the frustration people have expressed concern that the reform process in fact, the EU's relations with Iran and Europe over human rights issues in a way that the Ahmadinejad era, America was close to the Europe Union. The issue of human rights beyond their defined areas has spread to many other issues And forming broad base their decisions is One of the crucial issues of human rights in many countries including the Europe Union's Foreign Policy Europeans clearly, further expansion of ties with Iran human rights and the quest for democracy in Iran knows. Human Rights in Iran has always been one of the topics of discussion during the Europe Union has been critical and constructive dialogue. While EU countries in Europe, the human rights issues in bilateral negotiations with Iran have pursued Union for Europe of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights are closely Europe Union is actively regulated by the Commission on Human Rights passed a resolution against the Islamic Republic of Iran is participating EU talks with Iran on human rights in Europe can be found in two general circumstances. The first violation of the law and the need to join Islamic Republic of Iran to all human rights conventions and weaknesses, and any failure to fully implement the international standards of human rights is separation and identification of. What Europe Union as a violation of women's rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran poses Commission on Human Rights resolutions against Iran has also been stressed? For example, Mr. Copithorne in his 2002 report to the Human Rights Commission on Women has: "The status of women in much of the women's requests is considered and their fans clearly improved. Terms of discrimination still exist and legislative efforts to change this situation by the conservative elites stop. Support women in the Islamic Republic's accession to the EU continually Europe Convention on the Prevention of Discrimination against Women calls. In case of accession to the Convention shall modify or change some Islamic laws that are most important are [6]:

- 1 - Lack of equality between men and women in the Retribution.
- 2 - Male and female compensation inequality.
- 3- Inequality between men and women's inheritance.
- 4 - Marriage.

- 5 - Guardianship of children.
- 6 - Custody and maintenance of children.
- 7 - Inequality between men and women in obtaining some good jobs.
- 8 - Termination of Marriage.
- 9 - The right to divorce.
- 10 - Department of Family and accommodation options.
- 11 - Polygamy.
- 12 - Harsh penalties.
- 13 - Freedom of speech, the press, intellectuals and political activists.
- 14 - Minority Rights.
- 15 - Rights of the child and others.

Nuclear power

The Islamic Revolution in Iran (1979) and then the Iran hostage crisis, which took place immediately after new leader Ayatollah Khomeini's criticism about the USA and Israel and lasted for 444 days, led to the application of economic and diplomatic pressure on Iran[7].

Although the nuclear activities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the EU's New Threads But has deep roots in effects between the two sides This is the main factor in stopping the bilateral talks between Iran and Europe Union. And even initiate some sort of multilateral sanctions in the United Nations and the Union of Europe against the Islamic Republic of Iran. When the Board issued a resolution Ellyn strong emphasis on stopping Iran's nuclear activities Including the uranium enrichment process that seeks to join unconditionally Iran's IAEA Additional Protocol wreathes condition generally caused Iranian nuclear effort to the international community and led to strict International Atomic Energy Agency to monitor More members need to sign the Additional Protocol, the international system Iran insisted it would continue and enhance cooperation Stance on this issue from a different range of industrialized countries and the developing world was expressed The Iranian nuclear program became an international issue Europe was the most important actors in the EU policy, and an active attitude towards it adopted And track issues related to Iran's nuclear activities was the main agenda.

Union representatives met with Iranian officials and officials in contact with the various external and it has continued to pursue its related entities, and actually one of the most important parties. And actors became involved in the nuclear equation. India finally ready to join the Protocol after it was Europe Union foreign ministers prominent presence at the negotiations and consultations in Tehran on Iran's nuclear activities, Tehran, and were persuaded to adopt the decision on This alone proved decisive and active role in the Europe Union's nuclear-related events and trends of the international aspect is especially Important role in the Europe Union on the Iranian nuclear issue and the firm has continued steadily. Europe Union is an international force influence on the behavior of a nuclear Iran. The whole issue of weapons of mass destruction and nuclear weapons in the world, one of the concerns addressed in the Europe Union foreign policy has been Union for Europe of the spread of global fixed-weapons safety and greatly reduce International environment will lead to unsafe. Since the Iraq war, the issue of weapons of mass destruction in Europe has become a top agenda issue [8].

Iraq War for Europe provided a background to the issue of WMD proliferation to further consider and policies to combat the threat are re-examined This development reflects a general response to the pragmatic policy of closer relations with Europe to America to rebuild the trans-Atlantic and intra-European relations after a gap caused by the Iraq war. With regard to the issue of weapons of mass destruction and nuclear issues has always been one of the Europe Union in negotiations with Iran. Transparency and adherence to the Europe Union wants Iran to have a nuclear obligations and has emphasized that the program should be in full compliance with the requirements of the institutions and In one of the documents published by the Commission of European Communities and the Council of Europe has come to the park in India decided to develop ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction, especially a major concern for the Union of Europe. This document is referenced in the Europe Union, Iran urged Treaties relating to the security pact signed up to bring. Iran has repeatedly stated that the agreement in this area, including a possible desire to pass the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty subject to earlier removal of restrictive measures against the international export of the country's civilian nuclear program. The Europe Union is not a prerequisite. Some evidence suggests that America and Europe Union on Iran not getting nuclear weapons have to work together and exchange ideas. And jointly have pushed Russia to refrain from any action for the furnishing of such weapons to Iran. However, it is emphasized that, despite the common interest of Europe and America in the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the world, their approach was different about Iran's nuclear program. America's policy of confrontation and intimidation to accept international monitoring of Iran presses. Europe than America has long Private. Europe Union wants Iran to halt its uranium enrichment program and regular monitoring is unlimited. And declared that Iran's civilian nuclear deal if it will work. In general, during the last years of the EU dealing with Iran and Europe on such programs Council of Europe as well as in the third paragraph of

computing its meeting on 29 September 2003 stated that Iran's nuclear program remains a serious concern for Europe Union. Also, according to a draft statement prepared by the Italian Presidency of the Council of Europe haste foreign ministers in July 2003, his growing concern about Iran's nuclear program and the threat of proliferation was noted. The Europe Union has repeatedly declared the issue of weapons of mass destruction is one of the main areas of concern in its relations with Iran. Chris Patton Europe Union Europe in August 2003 stated that the Commission While Iran's rights as a member of the Non-Proliferation Treaty NPT to develop nuclear energy Recognizes peaceful purposes, The Europe Union has repeatedly declared The issue of weapons of mass destruction is one of the main areas of concern in its relations with Iran. Chris Patton Europe Union Europe in August 2003 stated that the Commission While Iran's rights as a member of the Non-Proliferation Treaty NPT to develop nuclear energy Recognizes peaceful purposes, Join the discussion of important issues related to Iran's nuclear program to the IAEA's Additional Protocol. The reaction and comments were followed by many international actors. Europe Union through its position and orientation in his time as one of the most important parties involved in the discussion. Prior to the announcement of Additional Protocol to the Europe Union's acceptance Adopting a tough stance toward Iran's nuclear program and Fully support the agency's consideration of the payment menu. Especially after the June 2003 IAEA report on Iran's nuclear program, the Iranian Europe Union pressure volume increased. This report was prepared by IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei claimed NPT Non-Proliferation Treaty, which Tehran has not adhered to fully Because informed EU Commissioner Chris Patton said Europe's response to IAEA report Commission for Europe of the International Atomic Energy Agency reported in June will welcome. Europe Union foreign ministers meeting later in June in Luxembourg the specific issue of Iran's nuclear activities, the IAEA report and examined. Them in meeting their serious concerns about the Iranian nuclear program trying to hide Used for building nuclear weapons fields. Europe Union foreign ministers meeting in June to accept the Iranians have called for more oversight. The emphases on the monitoring parameters were correlated with the Protocol. Another signature of the protocol will set out the doubts. Council of Europe on September 29 once again declared that Iran's nuclear program is a matter of serious concern for Europe Union. Europe announces expansion of ties with Iran contingent on Iran to cooperate fully with the IAEA and in the absence of cooperation; the EU will reconsider its relations with Iran. But it was stuck and the European Union on the use of nuclear energy by Iran would endorse [9].

Terrorism

Between Iran and the European Union in view of terrorism is to use common sense. In some instances that mean that the Islamic Republic of Iran Introduced in Europe as terrorism can learn from them as a liberation group. From among them Hamas and Hezbollah Named. While in other cases a blatant alignment between the views of two sides, such as Al Qaeda and the Taliban are seen. Iranian terrorist group MEK knows best examples of apparent Records reveal that terrorism in Iran and Iraq. Although Europe as a de facto group on its terrorist list has But the casual and the political interests of the group freedom to act. In Europe, the EU, Iran to Tehran's support for terrorism, the most important challenge of some Palestinian groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad, as well as its relationship with Hezbollah Lebanon is concerned. America as well as Europe union believes that any Palestinian group that killed an Israeli civilian lead is considered terrorism. While Iran denies any military support and arms from the group and stated that the support of these groups is purely spiritual [10].

Israel & Middle East

In terms of America's security commitments to Israel and the European Union for reasons such as geographical proximity to the Mediterranean And Near Eastern history and commitment Join Israel's Mediterranean Dialogue, Their responsibility to protect and safeguard the security of the nation On the other hand, Israel has a very strong lobby among different groups on both sides of the Atlantic Due to certain problems with the Islamic Republic of Iran The lobby has been used throughout history against Iran after the Islamic Revolution. On the other hand, Attitude of Islamic Republic of Iran and the Middle East peace are more ideological[11]. This means that Iran is trying to support the aspirations of the Palestinian people and in these way Anti-Israeli movements such as Hamas Even Hezbollah Helps. The Root of Terrorism and the Middle East peace process, the EU is in crisis and it can solve the Middle East crisis management Be effective. Moreover, the EU is one of the main obstacles to lasting peace in the Palestinian conflict, Israel, Foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran In support of the above holds, Opposed to the peace. Europe calls for changes in EU Stance toward Iran and the Middle East peace process and demands that the country's position of support And positive in this regard has been taken Or at least, to avoid objections[12].

Arabs country

Arabic countries have tried Obstacle to the normalization of relations between Iran and the EU, America and Europe are well developed. The gap after the 2003 war against Iraq and the 2006 regional geopolitical lebanese Shiite bloc has become and even the political orientation between the Arabs and Israel against the Islamic Republic of Iran. After following the Islamic Revolution of Iran in the interests of Europe and America, and to some extent

the effects of this revolution was in danger. Europe to America Sought to avoid the effects of these while also fueling the rumors Start with the West Iran would face destruction. In this regard, important events such as the war began Hezbollah War Lebanon and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Israel At the close of Arabic and Western countries against Iran have been effective. Hence it can be concluded that Arab role in the destruction of the Islamic Republic of Iran faces the Europeans have had. Arabic countries concerned when Iran's growing ties With the West, especially Europe has above is confirmed [13].

Russia Positions

Another obstacle to development of political relations between Iran and Europe Union is Russia's stance. Russia from becoming Iran as a manufacturer and exporter of gas to Europe is concerned Union and Europe as well as the continuation of military relations between Iran and Russia is unhappy Moreover, the EU, Russia and Europe as well as the emergence of a powerful Iran in the nuclear boundaries is afraid of it. This has caused Russia to the Group 1 +5 against Iran's nuclear dossier to adopt a tough stance. The Russian position was flexible and just about any use of force and is characterized by the intensification of sanctions. Russia plans to establish an international consortium to enrich the soil of Russia in this respect [14].

Conclusions

Iran-Europe relations at the bilateral level with staff and union officials at the macro level there is But bilateral ties with opened last Iran's relations with the EU Member States, Has always been a priority. Bilateral cooperation in the European countries of uniform and coordinated policies that he did not comply. Economic differences across countries, with some fluctuation, but the desire on both sides is always maintained Relations with Europe Union countries after the Maastricht Treaty, Entered a new phase. Iran also tried the new conditions, to manage relations with the EU. Started negotiations with the EU in this policy are considered Trays kayo. Various incidents and disagreements in relations with Europe had tried to prevent the formation of a legal framework and institutional cooperation between Iran and Europe Union has but these problems are due to the distinctive features that distinguish the two sides together, Hope for the future is to expand and deepen relations kept alive. Iran's rich oil and gas reserves, the country's central role in regional developments and finally the internal market of Iran Decisive stimulus to wish all of Europe Union Hoary with Iran. In contrast, for the union of Europe to attract capital and technology and the use of power mediate in international affairs, is important. In particular, due to its historical background, overall, the negative feelings toward Europe than in America is lower. But in addition to these factors, facilitators, over the last thirty years and particularly in recent years, Barriers and Muddy tsar have prevented the expansion of relations between Iran and the European Union. Pressures on America, Iran's nuclear program Differences Union, Europe, Iran on issues such as Terrorism west approach to developments in the Middle East, especially Palestine and human rights Arabic countries and Israel's unwillingness The closeness between Iran and Europe Union Among the barriers to the expansion of relations between the two sides. Some barriers in Iran's relations with Europe Union are not real and are based on speculation. If it is removed, and the common prejudices that provides mutual benefit and trust it will allow for cooperation. However, measures and strategies to overcome these barriers can think of; including through the development of relationships between the different areas, especially areas that are less controversial, Such as economic and cultural spheres, Provide a fertile field for further mutual understanding and trusting fact, lack of understanding, determining role in the relations between Iran Vat handy Nhadynhmnd Europe. In other words, Images and perceptions regarding the importance of improving relations between Iran and Europe, influenced by the agenda of talks between traditional subjects has been Atmosphere of mutual trust between the two parties for this and the importance of decisive importance. Iran-Europe Relations goes on to examine in detail the recent issues of conflict between Iran and Europe: disputes over weapons of mass destruction; allegations of Iranian support for terrorist groups in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Iraq and Lebanon; disagreements over human rights; the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Middle East peace process. It concludes by suggesting ways in which Iran-Europe relations can be encouraged to develop positively, overcome current obstacles and nourish the opportunities and common interests that lie beneath the surface.

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