

Interview article of Dr.Soli Shahvar published 24th of October, NIKKEI morning edition

By the negotiation between Iran and 6countries,there is a symptom that the Iranian nuclear issues would move forward. How does Israel, which is the confronted country with Iran, see the current situation? We asked the specialist in Israel, Dr.Soli Shahvar, the Director of the Ezri Centre for Iran and Persian Studies

--How do you evaluate Geneva's nuclear talking held 15th-16th of October?

Iran is trying its best in order to do what is necessary to diminish or bring about the removal of the sanctions on Iran and they seem to be succeeding in doing this. Europe and the US, none of these countries want to take a hawkish attitude that would lead to war. The Iranian willingness to go into negotiations and to put forward certain suggestions which are more compromising than before will be something the Western countries want to accept.

--How will Israel react against Western appeasement policy to Iran?"

Israel will continue trying to do what it has been doing in recent weeks which is to try and point to the hidden and true intentions of Iran which Israel believes. I don't think Israel will succeed to convince Europe and the Western countries to be extremely careful during the negotiations and with removing sanctions. Israel will continue to be very active on the diplomatic front .I believe the Iranians are trying to isolate Israel. The more Netanyahu produces hawkish statements while the negotiations move forward, and the more Iran is successful in removing the sanctions and improving its relations with the west.

--Do you think the current nuclear talking is effective? What is the best solution against the Iranian nuclear issue?

Since Iran and Israel are not talking directly, and this creates escalations. If there could be a kind of Camp David situation for the Iranian problem with secret talks between Israel and Iran, even through mediators, this could help.

No other country, except the Saudis, feel the threat that Israel does. Since the 6 countries don't feel the immediate danger as clearly and as present as Israel and the Saudis, the result of these talks can't really be so effective. In order for the talks to be truly effective you would have to include in the talks the countries who feel the threat most and that could be harmed most from Iran's nuclear capability. Israel and Saudi Arabia feel more endangered and have to be part of the process if it is to be effective.

Even the best agreement between Iran and Europe will not be acceptable to Israel and the Saudis and this only increases the potential for military problems.

--Do you think Rouhani can persuade the conservatives in Iran including the supreme leader?

I think President Rouhani gets permission and the green light from the supreme leader for everything he negotiates. Their main intent is the survival of their regime and how to best bring that about.