

This Is Not a Grand Bargain With Iran. Good.

by [Michael Singh \(/experts/michael-singh\)](/experts/michael-singh)

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Michael Singh \(/experts/michael-singh\)](/experts/michael-singh)

Michael Singh is the Managing Director and Steven D. Levy Senior Fellow at The Washington Institute.



Articles & Testimony

Although the United States and the world needed shipping to resume through the Strait of Hormuz, negotiating a nuclear agreement is not a postwar priority.

President Trump's preliminary agreement with Iran appears (<https://www.nytimes.com/2026/06/17/us/politics/us-iran-agreement-deal-text.html>) at its core to be a simple trade—Iran will reopen the Strait of Hormuz and the United States will end its blockade of Iranian ports, waive oil-related sanctions and unfreeze certain Iranian assets—dressed up with promises to negotiate a grander bargain down the road. It is already under fire. Critics on the left charge that it compares unfavorably to the 2015 nuclear agreement that Mr. Trump tore up; hawks on the right, many of whom supported the war, argue that Mr. Trump should have held out for more nuclear concessions from Iran. Concerns about what may come next, be it renewed fighting or a flawed final bargain, are well founded. But notions that the United States should have held out for more upfront nuclear concessions get things backward...

[Read the full article on the New York Times website.](#)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2026/06/18/opinion/iran-nuclear-deal-trump.html> ❖

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