“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit
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“[We share an objective] to foster peace and stability in the region.”

_G7 Biarritz Leaders’ Declaration_

Assessment

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td></td>
<td>+1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<tr>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>European Union</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td>+0.75 (88%)</td>
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Background

The case of Iran’s nuclear ambitions has become a preeminent security issue for the global community. While Iran has consistently insisted its nuclear Programme is peaceful, suspicions led the United Nations Security Council, European Union, and United States to impose wide ranging sanctions in 2010. However, in 2015, Iran reached a deal with the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Russia, France, and China that would limit Iran’s enrichment of uranium and allow international inspections in return for sanctions relief. In May 2018, President Donald Trump pulled the United States out of the deal and reinstated sanctions. In return, Iran stopped abiding by their commitments and as of 1 July 2019, the International Energy Agency confirmed Iran exceeded the 300kg (660lb) limit on its stockpile of enriched uranium.\(^{1106}\) Iran has also been accused of building up a network of non-state alliances that have partaken in violent conflicts throughout Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen.\(^{1107}\)

The G7 has for decades focused on Iran as both a potential nuclear and security threat, in turn taking various steps to promote peace and stability throughout the region. At the 2003 Evian Summit, then G8 members recognized the growing danger of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and highlighted the need for both individual and collective action to tackle the challenge.\(^{1108}\) At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 members were united in their determination to “see the proliferation implications of Iran’s advanced nuclear program resolved” in compliance with its obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.\(^{1109}\) Then in 2007, G8 leaders reiterated their commitment to resolving “the proliferation concerns posed by Iran’s nuclear programme.”\(^{1110}\)

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At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders took a more expansive focus on security policy as they “call[ed] on Iran to play a more constructive role in supporting regional security, in particular in Syria, and to reject all acts of terrorism and terrorist groups.”

On 2 April 2015, Iran and the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council – the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and China – and the European Union agreed to the Joint Comprehensive Plan for Action, also known as the Iran Nuclear Deal. Iran promised to make drastic cuts to its nuclear programme in return for the lifting of sanctions.

At the 2015 G7 Elmau Summit, leaders welcomed the agreement and offered continuous support for ensuring Iran’s nuclear ambitions are exclusively peaceful in nature and that Iran does not acquire nuclear weapons. Additionally, leaders urged Iran to respect the human rights of its citizens and to contribute constructively to regional stability.

In 2016, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the “full and effective implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).” Additionally, they called on Iran to “play a constructive role in its region and thus contribute to the efforts to achieve political solutions, reconciliation and peace, and cooperate to prevent and counter the spread of terrorism and violent extremism” and “comply with its international human rights obligations.”

However, on 8 May 2019, U.S. President Donald Trump announced that the United States would withdraw from the Iran Nuclear Deal and re-impose sanctions on Iran.

Meanwhile, at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to “permanently ensuring that Iran’s nuclear program remains peaceful, in line with its international obligations and commitments to never seek, develop or acquire a nuclear weapon.” Furthermore, leaders condemned “all financial support of terrorism including terrorist groups sponsored by Iran” and called “upon Iran to play a constructive role by contributing to efforts to counter terrorism and achieve political solutions, reconciliation and peace in the region.”

**Commitment Features**

At Biarritz, G7 members highlighted their shared objective to foster peace and stability in the region. Based on historical precedent in relation to Iran, G7 actions toward promoting peace and security in the region have involved the issue areas of nuclear weapons, terrorism, and human rights. “Foster” in this case refers to promoting “the growth or development of.” The region in this case refers to Iran, its neighboring countries, and countries throughout the area, such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Syria.

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1114 G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration Ise-Shima, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 14 October 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/iseshima-declaration-en.html#iran.
In terms of these three issue areas, there are many possible actions that can be taken in order to promote peace and security. In terms of terrorism, members can utilize several different mechanisms, such as military force, financial instruments, or political pressure, such as targeted economic sanctions, in order to promote peace and security. In terms of nuclear weapons, members can make efforts toward developing joint comprehensive frameworks, such as JCPOA, in order to promote the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. Finally, in terms of human rights, members can take actions to reduce conditions, such as poverty and inequality, that lead to the growth of conflict levels. All of these actions must involve the aforementioned region, with specific regards to Iran and its neighbours.

Therefore, in order to achieve full compliance, members must make efforts to ending the proliferation of nuclear weapons, combatting terrorism, and promoting human rights. For partial compliance, members must only focus on one or two of these issues. For non-compliance, members must not make any efforts to promoting denuclearization, human rights, and fighting terrorism.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

### Scoring Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>G7 member has NOT made efforts to promote peace and stability throughout the region by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>G7 member has made efforts to promote peace and stability throughout the region in one issue areas by combatting terrorism OR promoting human rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1</td>
<td>G7 member has made efforts to promote peace and stability throughout the region by combatting terrorism AND promoting human rights.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Compliance Director:** David Manocchio  
**Lead Analyst:** Collin Xia

### Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 8 November 2019, the Government of Canada called upon Iran to end its human rights abuses as part of the United Nations Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review process. Canada recommended that Iran revise its Penal Code to reduce the use of the death penalty and end torture in prisons. Canada expressed its concern over Iran’s legal and political discrimination against “women, ethnic and recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, and LGBTI persons.”

On 26 November 2019, Global Affairs Canada released a statement condemning the violent crackdown on protests and restrictions on communications in Iran. The statement condemned

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“threats made by Iranian officials and the deliberate use of excessive force by Iranian security forces.”[1122] The Canadian government called on the “Iranian authorities to lift all restrictions on the Internet and mobile services and to ensure that all those arrested have access to fair legal process and procedures.”[1123] Canada expressed its support for Iranians exercising their rights to freedom of expression and assembly.[1124]

On 28 November 2019, Global Affairs Canada released a statement condemning the escalating violence in Iraq, and reiterated their support for stability, prosperity, security, and the protection of their “human and democratic rights – including the right to protest and freedom of expression.”[1125]

On 18 December 2019, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution drafted by Canada calling on Iran to stop its human rights abuses, including the detainment of peaceful protestors.[1126] The resolution also condemns Iran’s detainment of dual nationals and its violations against ethnic, linguistic, and other minorities and their defenders.[1127]

On 3 January 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Philippe Champagne commented on the US killing of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani in Iraq.[1128] Minister Champagne urged all sides to “exercise restraint and pursue de-escalation” to ensure the stability of Iraq.[1129] Minister Champagne remarked that the Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps’ (IRGC) Quds Force, led by Qasem Soleimani has “had a destabilizing effect in the region.”[1130]

On 25 March 2020, Canada participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference to discuss COVID-19 pandemic, persecution of Rohingya people by Myanmar, and included broader discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.[1131]

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On 2 April 2020, Canada participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO’s ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces and stabilizing the country.\textsuperscript{1132} NATO reasserted their commitment to protecting Iraqi sovereignty against Daesh.\textsuperscript{1133}

On 28 April 2020, the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), Canada’s financial intelligence unit released an advisory reiterating the risks of doing business with individuals and entities connected to Iran.\textsuperscript{1134} FINTRAC is complying with the Financial Action Task Force’s assessment that Iran has failed to adequately criminalize terrorist financing and freeze terrorist assets in line with relevant United Nations resolutions.\textsuperscript{1135}

Through its condemnation of Iranian human rights abuses and its efforts in the United Nations, Canada has demonstrated its commitment to upholding international human rights. However, no specific anti-terrorist commitments for the region has been announced for the current compliance period.

Thus, Canada has received a score of 0.

\textit{Analyst: Matthew Remedios}

**France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability throughout Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 1 October 2018, France amended its Monetary and Financial code to include Article D561-51 to “ensure better coordination of the state services and supervisory authorities concerned with the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing” to reduce the capital of terrorist groups in the region.\textsuperscript{1136}

On 28 March 2019, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted a French resolution on terrorist financing.\textsuperscript{1137} Resolution 2462 requires that all states “ensure that their laws and regulations make it possible to penalize, as serious criminal offences, the provision or collection of funds, resources and services intended to be used for the benefit of terrorist organizations or

individual terrorists.”1138 Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drain stressed that “the international community must tackle evil at the root and isolate terrorists by drying up their source of financing.”1139

On 31 August 2019, French President Emmanuel Macron had a telephone call with the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Hassan Rohani.1140 Macron discussed taking measures to restore peace and security in the region by urging Iran to end fighting and open negotiations in Yemen.1141 President Macron also insisted Iran exercise restraint in Lebanon to preserve its stability during times of increased tensions.1142

On 23 September 2019, France, the United Kingdom, and Germany released a joint statement condemning Iran sponsored attacks on Saudi Arabian oil facilities on 14 September 2019.1143 The Iran backed Houthi movement claimed responsibility for this attack as part of the ongoing Yemeni civil war.1144 France condemned Iran’s terrorist sponsorship and reiterated French commitment to de-escalation of tensions in the region through resumption of negotiations between the United States and Iran.1145

On 9 October 2019, France issued new travel advisory for French nationals against travelling to Iran.1146 France cited “the arbitrary arrest and detention practices of the Iranian security and intelligence services especially with regard to the contacts of foreign nationals with the population.”1147 This action follows Iran’s arrest of French researcher Roland Marchal and his

colleague Franco-Iranian Fariba Adelkhah. France demands their immediate release and seeks to prevent further arbitrary arrests of its nationals by Iranian authorities.

On 18 November 2019, a Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs Spokesperson stated that France was “closely monitoring the demonstrations currently taking place in several cities in Iran,” and reaffirmed its commitment to the freedom of expression and right to protest.

On 19 November 2019, French troops aided the sixth Iraqi Infantry Division in the rehabilitation of infrastructure in Iraq following damage caused by Daesh. The participation in Iraq’s restructuring constitutes a long-term effort to ensure stability in the region, preventing terrorist activities in the future.

On 20 November 2019, the Government of France expressed “its deep concern over reports of the deaths of many demonstrators in recent days” and called for Iran to respect international human rights. French foreign ministry spokeswoman Agnes von der Muhll called on Iran to respect its international human rights obligations.

On 3 December 2019, France condemned “the violence and disproportionate use of force used against the demonstrators” in Iran. France urged Iran to comply with “its international human rights obligations, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.” France reiterated its commitment to de-escalating tensions in the region and ensuring Iran respects the rights of Iranians to peaceful protest, freedom of expression and free access to communication.

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On 10 December 2019, President Macron called for the release of Fariba Adelkhah and Roland Marchal imprisoned by Iran. Macron stated that “their imprisonment is intolerable.” They must be freed without delay. On 27 December 2019, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs summoned the Iranian Ambassador to reiterate France’s demand for the release of Fariba Adelkhah and Roland Marchal. France has deemed their imprisonment as “unacceptable” and affirmed their continued efforts to obtain their release.

On 3 January 2020, President Macron called on Iran to refrain from any provocation following the US killing of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani. President Macron further stated that he held talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin to review the situation in Iraq and agreed to stay in contact to avoid further escalation.

On 6 January 2020, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom released a joint statement condemning Iran’s involvement in the attacks on Iraqi coalition holdings. The statement called for Iran “to refrain from further violent action.” All three countries reiterated their commitment to stabilizing Iraq and protecting Iraqi sovereignty from Daesh and Iranian-backed terrorist organizations.

On 7 January 2020, President Macron expressed France’s deep concern over increased tensions in the region.

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following the US killing of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani. France called on Iran “to refrain from any measure likely to exacerbate the ongoing escalation of tensions” and to release Fariba Adelkhah and Roland Marchal.

On 16 January 2020, France announced that the Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier would be deployed from January to April “to support French military operations in the Middle East.” President Macron reaffirmed that French forces would remain in the fight against Daesh.

On 31 January 2020, France announced its continued participation of Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq. The purpose of Operation Inherent Resolve is to work with international organizations “to improve essential services, infrastructure and the development of the local economy.” Air Brigade General Stéphane Dupont stressed that “civil-military actions are an integral part of operational planning” in order to achieve long-term stability in the region and a durable defeat of Daesh.

On 9 February 2020, France condemned an Iranian space launch “which employs ballistic missile technologies.” France stressed that “the development of the Iranian ballistic missile program undermines regional stability and affects European security” and that Iran needs to abide by its international obligations.

On 15 March 2020, France, along with the United Kingdom, Germany, and the United States, issued a joint statement on the ninth anniversary of the Syria uprising. The statement condemns violations in international humanitarian law and continued violence by “the reckless military offensive by Assad, Russia, and Iran in Idlib” and asserts that they will demand accountability for the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.

On 25 March 2020, France participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference to discuss COVID-19 pandemic, persecution of Rohingya people by Myanmar, and included broader discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.\footnote{Readout: Minister Champagne Participates in G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/200325-champagne.html.}


On 6 April 2020, President Macron had a phone conversion with President Rouhani of Iran.\footnote{Entretien téléphonique entre le Président de la République & M.Hassan Rohani Président de la République islamique d’Iran, Élysée Palace (Paris) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/04/07/entretien-telephonique-entre-le-president-de-la-republique-m-hassan-rohani-president-de-la-republique-islamique-diran.} President Macron reiterated that French national, Fariba Adelkhah, must be released without delay as her imprisonment is a violation of human rights.\footnote{Entretien téléphonique entre le Président de la République & M.Hassan Rohani Président de la République islamique d’Iran, Élysée Palace (Paris) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/04/07/entretien-telephonique-entre-le-president-de-la-republique-m-hassan-rohani-president-de-la-republique-islamique-diran.}

On 27 April 2020, France condemned the execution of two minors in Iran, Shayan Saeedpour and Majid Esmailzadeh.\footnote{Exécution de mineurs, Ambassade de France à Téhéran (Paris) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. https://ir.ambafrance.org/Execution-de-mineurs.} France asserts that these executions are against the international convention on the rights of the child, to which Iran is subs...
On 16 May 2020, the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian condemned the sentencing of Fariba Adelkhah to five years’ imprisonment in Iran. Le Drian claimed the sentencing is political in nature and urges Iranian authorities to release Adelkhah.

France has demonstrated efforts to combat terrorism in the region through its diplomatic and military efforts. It continues to monitor and condemn Iranian human rights violations as well as urge the Government of Iran to uphold its international human rights obligations.

Thus, France has received a score of +1.

**Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 13 September 2019, German Finance Minister Olaf Scholz issued a joint statement with French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire “reaffirm[ing] their willingness to tackle the challenges raised by cryptocurrency and so-called stable coin projects: financial security, investor protection, prevention of money laundering and terrorism financing, data protection and financial and monetary sovereignty” and announced the creation of a G7 working group to assess these challenges. The working group issued their report on 17 October 2019.

On 23 September 2019, German Chancellor Angela Merkel issued a joint statement with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and French President Emmanuel Macron blaming Iran for Houthi rebel drone attacks on Saudi Aramco oil facilities on 14 September 2019, stating, “we are committed to continuing our diplomatic efforts to create conditions and facilitate dialogue with all relevant partners interested in de-escalation of tensions in the Middle East, in the interest of preserving international peace and security, building upon our joint declaration on 14 July 2019 and G7 conclusions adopted in Biarritz. We urge Iran to engage in such a dialogue and refrain from further provocation and escalation.”

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On 27 September 2019, German Interior Minister Horst Seehofer reaffirmed German commitment to German-Afghan police training project, stating, “on the path to achieving permanent peace, security and stable governance, the Afghan government depends on our continued support.”

On 24 October 2019, at a meeting for Defence Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), German Defence Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer proposed the creation of an internationally controlled safe zone in Northeast Syria in order to stabilize the region.

On 12 November 2019, German Ambassador to Yemen Carola Muller-Holtkemper expressed support for the Riyadh agreement. The agreement seeks to end a power struggle in southern Yemen, stating, “Germany is closely following up developments in Yemen and it will work with the government and the international community to reach full peace in Yemen.”

On 18 November 2019, Ulrike Demmer, spokesperson for Chancellor Merkel, called on Iran to respect protests among Iranian citizens over hikes in gas prices, stating, “We urge the government in Tehran to respect freedom of assembly and expression.”

On 19 December 2019, the Bundestag (German Parliament) urged the European Union to recognize the political arm of Iran-backed group Hezbollah as a terrorist group. Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz praised the resolution as an important step to combating Iranian terrorist activities in the region.

On 6 January 2020, Germany, France and the United Kingdom released a joint statement condemning Iran’s involvement in the attacks on Iraqi coalition holdings. The statement called for Iran “to refrain from further violent action.” All three countries reiterated their commitment to stabilizing Iraq and protecting Iraqi sovereignty from Daesh and Iranian backed terrorist organizations.

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On 8 January 2020, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas condemned Iranian attacks on Iraqi military bases hosting coalition troops. Minister Maas urged Iran refrain from any action that could lead to further escalation. Minister Maas stated that Germany is in contact with all sides to de-escalate tensions and prevent further violence.

On 31 January 2020, Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid at the Federal Foreign Office Bärbel Kofler issued a statement condemning Iranian religious discrimination against unrecognized religious groups. Commissioner Kofler commented on Iran’s discriminatory ID system which excludes unrecognized religious minorities such as Baha’is from accessing basic public services. Commissioner Kofler reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to campaigning for religious freedom in Iran.

On 27 February 2020, Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid at the Federal Foreign Office Bärbel Kofler issued a statement condemning the execution of three protestors that participated in anti-government protests in November 2019. Commissioner Kofler calls for the “human rights violations committed during the November 2019 demonstrations to be examined.” Commissioner Kofler asserts the right of Iranians to protest freely, access humane detention conditions, and to fair trials under the rule of law.

On 15 March 2020, Germany, along with France, the United Kingdom, and the United States, issued a joint statement on the ninth anniversary of the Syria uprising. The statement condemns violations in international humanitarian law and continued violence by “the reckless military offensive by Assad, Russia, and Iran in Idlib” and asserts that they will demand accountability for the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.

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On 25 March 2020, Germany participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference to discuss COVID-19 pandemic, persecution of Rohingya people by Myanmar, and included broader discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.\textsuperscript{1218}

On 2 April 2020, Germany participated in a virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting which discussed NATO’s ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces and stabilizing the country.\textsuperscript{1219} NATO reasserted their commitment to protecting Iraqi sovereignty against Daesh.\textsuperscript{1220}

On 20 April 2020, Germany’s Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Assistance Bärbel Kofler issued a statement condemning the execution of Iranian Shayan Saeedpour.\textsuperscript{1221} Kofler stated that the execution would be a violation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.\textsuperscript{1222} The German government reasserted its opposition to the death penalty under all circumstances.\textsuperscript{1223}

On 30 April 2020, Germany announced that it has designated the Lebanese militant and political group Hezbollah a terror organization.\textsuperscript{1224} Germany has banned all of its activities in the country and ordered raids on sites linked to the group.\textsuperscript{1225} Germany joins the US and Israel in their efforts to challenge the Iran-backed group’s international activities.\textsuperscript{1226}

Germany is in full compliance with its G7 commitment to promote peace and stability throughout the region. Germany has committed to combating terrorism and promoting human rights by issuing several condemnations and engaging in both bilateral and multilateral efforts to promote peace and stability in the region including police training and the establishment of safe zones.

Thus, Germany has received a score of +1.

\textit{Analysts: Rachel Zack and Collin Xia}

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 30 October 2019, the Italian Civil Aviation Authority announced a ban on flights by Iran’s Mahan Air following a meeting between the Italian Foreign Minister and the United States Secretary


of State. The United States has accused the airline of supporting terrorism by transporting military equipment and personnel to war zones in the region.

On 25 November 2019, the Embassy of Italy in Iran released a statement from the Italian Ministry of Affairs calling for the end of violence against women. The statement reaffirms Italy’s commitment to the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is pursuing both diplomatic and development cooperation.

On 8 January 2020, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation released a statement condemning the Iranian attack on two Iraqi bases hosting coalition soldiers. Italy affirmed its commitment to fostering peaceful dialogue in the Gulf region.

On 27 January 2020, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Luigi Di Maio spoke with Foreign Minister of Iran Javad Zarif about the need to de-escalate tensions following weeks of regional conflict. Minister Di Maio expressed that de-escalation in the region required all parties to commitment to dialogue and political negotiation.

On 25 March 2020, Italy participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference to discuss COVID-19 pandemic, persecution of Rohingya people by Myanmar, and included broader discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.

On 2 April 2020, Italy participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO’s ongoing commitment to training Iraqi

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security forces and stabilizing the country.\textsuperscript{1257} NATO reasserted their commitment to protecting Iraqi sovereignty against Daesh.\textsuperscript{1258}

Through its anti-terrorist measures and its condemnation of Iranian human rights violations and military actions, Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in the region.

Thus, Italy has received a score of +1.

\textit{Analyst: Matthew Remedios}

\textbf{Japan: 0}

Japan has partially complied with its Iran commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran.

On 30 August 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stated his desire to promote peace and stability in the Middle East, stating, “peace and stability in the Middle East directly links to Japan’s national interest … I would like to work tenaciously and play the best possible role to ease tensions in the Middle East.”\textsuperscript{1239}

On 5 September 2019, Japan launched talks with the Arab League and the United Nations Development Program with the goal of promoting sustainable development in crisis- and war-torn parts of the region.\textsuperscript{1240} Japanese Ambassador to Cairo Masaaki Nuki \textquote{expressed delight for launching the platform as a significant contributor to building peace and stability so that the region could flourish.”}\textsuperscript{1241}

On 15 September 2019, the Japanese Foreign Ministry issued a statement condemning the 14 September 2019 Houthi rebel drone attacks on Saudi Aramco oil facilities, saying it would engage to ensure peace and stability in the Middle East.\textsuperscript{1242}

On 16 September 2019, Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo agreed to cooperate on a number of foreign policy issues including peace and stability in the Middle East, discussing \textquote{the need for all nations to ensure safe transit for all through the Strait of Hormuz.”}\textsuperscript{1243}


On 23 September 2019, Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Toshimitsu Motegi met with his Iranian counterpart and, in light of Houthi attacks on Saudi oil facilities, the two “candidly exchanged their views, toward relieving tensions and stabilizing the situation in the Middle East.”\footnote{Japan-Iran Foreign Ministers Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page6e_000214.html.} Minister Motegi also expressed concern over Iran’s successive suspension of commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and strongly urged Iran to refrain from taking measures that would undermine the JCPOA.\footnote{Japan-Iran Foreign Ministers Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page6e_000214.html.}


On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Abe met with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and “asked Iran to play a constructive role toward regional peace and stability and expressed Japan’s intention to fulfill a role in easing tensions and stabilizing the situation.”\footnote{Japan-Iran Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page6e_000214.html.} The two leaders exchanged views candidly toward easing tensions and stabilizing the situation in the Middle East.”\footnote{Japan-Iran Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page6e_000214.html.}


On 24 October 2019, Prime Minister Abe made a courtesy call with Vice President for Legal Affairs for Iran Laya Joneydi to reaffirm his commitment to peace and stability in the region.\footnote{Courtesy Call on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe by Joneydi of Vice-President for Legal Affairs of Iran, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page4e_001144.html.} Prime Minister Abe stated that Japan will continue to make persistent diplomatic efforts.\footnote{Courtesy Call on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe by Joneydi of Vice-President for Legal Affairs of Iran, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page4e_001144.html.}

On 20 December 2019, Prime Minister Abe hosted Iranian President Rouhani and stated he “strongly expect[s]” Iran will “play a constructive role for peace and security in the region.”\textsuperscript{1255} Additionally, Prime Minister Abe urged Iran to honour the JCPOA and expressed concerns about rising tensions in the region.\textsuperscript{1256}

On 12 January 2020, Prime Minister Abe visited Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Oman, where he explained the purpose of dispatching the Self-Defense forces to Saudi Arabia and the UAE.\textsuperscript{1257} He expressed support for Iran’s proposed Hormuz Peace Endeavor, which hopes to reduce tensions in the region between Iran and Saudi Arabia and the UAE.\textsuperscript{1258} Prime Minister Abe affirmed his commitment to regional stability following the killing of General Qassem Soleimani, commander of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps’ Quds Force.\textsuperscript{1259}

On 15 February 2020, Minister Motegi met with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif.\textsuperscript{1260} Japan reaffirmed its commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East and urged Iran “exercise self-restraint” and influence all relevant parties refrain from heightening tensions in the region.\textsuperscript{1261}

On 25 March 2020, Minister Motegi attended a videoconference with other G7 foreign ministers where they reaffirmed their commitment to peace and stability in Afghanistan, Iran, Libya, and Syria.\textsuperscript{1262}

On 2 April 2020, Japanese Press Secretary Masato Ohtaka released a press statement condemning an attack on Saudi Arabia by Yemen as reported by Saudi Arabia on 29 March 2020. Press Secretary Ohtaka reaffirmed Japan’s commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East.\textsuperscript{1263}


Ohtaka called for all legitimate government and anti-government forces to come to an early political solution in Yemen.\textsuperscript{1264}

Japan has affirmed its commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East through diplomatic efforts but has not held Iran accountable for its destabilizing efforts in the region nor demanded Iran respect the human rights of its citizens. Japan has also failed to demonstrate specific-anti-terrorism commitments. Therefore, Japan has met some, but not all, of its G7 commitments to uphold peace and stability in the region.

Thus, Japan has received a score of 0.

\textit{Analyst: Rachel Zack}

**United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 23 September 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson released a statement with the heads of state of France and Germany, condemning the Iranian attacks on oil facilities on Saudi territory in Abqaiq and Khurais.\textsuperscript{1265} The statement reiterates the United Kingdom’s commitment to create conditions and facilitate dialogue to condemn state sponsored attacks and de-escalate tension in the Middle East.\textsuperscript{1266}

On 25 September 2019, the UK Minister of State for the Commonwealth, United Nations and South Asia Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon, raised concerns over Iran’s human rights record at a United Nations General Assembly 2019 event.\textsuperscript{1267} The minister opened the event by saying Iran’s recent behaviour moves in the wrong direction in terms of international cooperation, human rights and its commitments to the nuclear deal.\textsuperscript{1268} Lord Ahmad urged the international community to hold Iran accountable.\textsuperscript{1269}

On 25 September 2019, the First Secretary of State and Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Dominic Raab spoke in the House of Commons about Iran’s support for the Houthi rebels in Yemen and Iran’s “arbitrary detention of dual-nationals.”\textsuperscript{1270}


\textsuperscript{1270} Raab expressed concern over Iran support for the Houthi rebels in Yemen and Iran’s “arbitrary detention of dual-nationals.”
On 7 November 2019, the UK supported International Maritime Security Construct was formally inaugurated to “supplement longstanding multilateral Gulf naval operations that have targeted smuggling, piracy, the movement of terrorists and weaponry, and other potential threats in the Gulf.”  

On 8 November 2019, UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva Miriam Shearman expressed concern of Iran’s discrimination against religious minorities, particularly the Bahai’i and Christians as well as Iran’s “arbitrary detention of citizens and dual nationals arrested on unclear charges.” Shearman recommends Iran demonstrate that “all detainees in prison are neither tortured nor subject to cruel or inhumane treatment or punishment” and granted due process.

On 3 January 2020, Secretary Raab responded to US airstrike on Iranian military commander, Qasem Soleimani, in Iraq. In the statement, the foreign secretary stated that the UK has always recognized the aggressive threat posed by the Iranian Quds force led by Soleimani. The statement urged all parties to de-escalate the situation.

On 6 January 2020, the United Kingdom, Germany, and France released a joint statement condemning Iran’s involvement in the attacks on Iraqi coalition holdings. The statement called for Iran “to refrain from further violent action.”

On 8 January 2020, Secretary Raab called for de-escalation following an Iranian attack on Iraqi military bases hosting coalition forces. Secretary Raab urged Iran to not repeat attacks that benefit terrorist organizations in the region.

On 11 January 2020, Secretary Raab condemned the brief detention of the British Ambassador to Iran Rob Macaire without grounds as “flagrant violation of international law.” The statement calls for Iran to take steps to deescalate tensions and engage in diplomatic paths forward.

On 13 January 2020, the Minister of the Middle East Andrew Murrison summoned Iran Ambassador Hamid Baeidinejad to the Foreign Office.\textsuperscript{1283} Minister Murrison demanded an apology and seek full assurance that the temporary detention of the British Ambassador to Iran Rob Macaire will not happen again.\textsuperscript{1284}

On 13 January 2020, Secretary Raab addressed the House of Commons about the government’s response to the security situation in Iran, urging diplomacy and peace with the Iranian authorities.\textsuperscript{1285}

On 25 February 2020, Lord Ahmad addressed 43rd Session of the UN Human Rights Council condemning Iranian authorities’ crackdown on protesters in November 2019.\textsuperscript{1286} He urged Iranian authorities to release those detained and to respect freedom of expression, religion, or belief.\textsuperscript{1287}

On 12 March 2020, the UK made a statement welcoming the adoption of the Universal Periodic Review by the Islamic Republic of Iran at the 43rd session of the Human Rights Council.\textsuperscript{1288} The UK welcomed the temporary release of detainees following the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak and reasserted its pledge to help Iran combat the outbreak.\textsuperscript{1289} The UK encouraged Iran to engage fully with the international community on their accepted recommendations and implement them fully.\textsuperscript{1290} The UK made the following recommendations: “demonstrate detainees are not tortured or subject to cruel or inhumane treatment or punishment; allow an impartial trial process, so defendants and lawyers have access to charges and evidence; and investigate sexual exploitation of children and develop a protection plan.” While Iran did not support any of UK’s three recommendations, the UK stated its willingness to discuss these recommendations with Iran.\textsuperscript{1291}

On 15 March 2020, the United Kingdom, along with France, Germany and the United States, issued a joint statement on the ninth anniversary of the Syria uprising.\textsuperscript{1292} The statement calls out violations in international humanitarian law and continued violence by “the reckless military offensive by Assad,
Russia, and Iran in Idlib” and states that they will demand accountability for the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.1293

On 17 March 2020, Secretary Raab made a statement, following the temporary release of British-Iranian dual national Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, urging Iran to release all UK dual nationals arbitrarily detained in Iran, and enable them to return to their families in the UK.1294

On 25 March 2020, the UK participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference which included discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.1295

On 2 April 2020, the UK participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO’s ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces, fostering political progress, and stabilizing the country.1296

On 9 April 2020, the UK updated its list of financial sanctions targets in the UK for human rights violations in Iran. There are 82 individuals and one entity on the list, and they are subject to asset freeze.1297

The UK has fully complied with its commitment to combat terrorism and promote human rights in Iran and throughout the region by condemning Iranian human rights violations and Iranian military operations in the region.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Chen Ou Yang

United States: +1

The United States of America has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 8 April 2019, the Trump administration designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a foreign terrorist organization.1298 The designation states that the IRGC supports terrorist groups through “financial and other material support, training, technology transfer, advanced conventional weapons, guidance, or direction.”1299

On 4 September 2019, the State Department Special Representative for Iran and Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State Brian Hook stated the United States would “offer up to 15 million to any

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person who helps the United States disrupt the financial operations of the IRGC and its Quds Force – the IRGC unit that assists Iran-linked forces and factions in the region.\textsuperscript{1300}

On 10 September 2019, the Trump administration amended Executive Order 13324 to authorize the barring of foreign banks that have supported international terrorism from accessing the US financial system.\textsuperscript{1301} US sanctions focus largely on trying to persuade Iran to agree to limits to its nuclear program.\textsuperscript{1302}

On 18 September 2019, Secretary of State Michael Pompeo met with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to discuss the 14 September attack on the Saudi oil facilities and discuss policies to counter Iranian aggression in the region.\textsuperscript{1303}

On 20 September 2019, the Trump administration established additional sanctions on Iran’s Central Bank and an Iranian sovereign fund, the National Development Fund of Iran.\textsuperscript{1304} The sanctions were imposed by designating Iran’s Central Bank as a terrorism supporting entity under Executive Order 13224.\textsuperscript{1305} Also sanctioned was an Iranian sovereign wealth fund, the National Development Fund of Iran.\textsuperscript{1306}

On 25 October 2019, the US Treasury Department’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network barred the “U.S. financial system from any transactions with Iranian banks or foreign banks acting on behalf of Iranian banks.”\textsuperscript{1307} This was based on a determination that Iran’s financial system, including the central bank, constitutes a threat to governments or financial institutions that do business with Iran’s banks.\textsuperscript{1308}

On 30 October 2019, Secretary Pompeo expressed support for the Financial Action Task Force’s “re-imposition of additional countermeasures on Iran for its failure to uphold international anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism standards.”\textsuperscript{1309} Secretary Pompeo stated


that Iran has deliberately ensured there is no transparency in its economy so it can continue to export terrorism.\textsuperscript{1310}

On 4 November 2019, the US Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control sanctioned Iran’s Armed Forces General Staff and nine individuals who were involved with Iran’s Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei’s oppression of Iranian people and export of terrorism.\textsuperscript{1311} Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin indicated that “this action further constricts the Supreme Leader’s ability to execute his agenda of terror and oppression.”\textsuperscript{1312}

On 5 December 2019, the Special Representative for Iran and Senior Advisor to the Secretary Brian Hook condemned Iran’s imprisonment of protestors and political opposition as well as the “inhumane” treatment of prisoners in Iranian prisons.\textsuperscript{1313}

On 7 November 2019, the US led International Maritime Security Construct was formally inaugurated to “supplement longstanding multilateral Gulf naval operations that have targeted smuggling, piracy, the movement of terrorists and weaponry, and other potential threats in the Gulf.”\textsuperscript{1314}

On 18 November 2019, Ambassador at Large and Coordinator for Counterterrorism Nathan A. Sales called for other countries to join the US in its efforts to exert “maximum economic and diplomatic pressure to force Iran to abandon terrorism as a basic tool of statecraft.”\textsuperscript{1315}

On 22 November 2019, Secretary Pompeo announced sanctions against Iran’s Minister of Information and Communications Technology Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi for helping shutdown internet access for Iranians.\textsuperscript{1316}

On 5 December 2019, the Special Representative for Iran and Senior Advisor to the Secretary Brian Hook condemned Iran’s crackdown on protestors and political opposition as well as the “inhumane” treatment of prisoners in Iranian prisons.\textsuperscript{1317}

On 6 December 2019, the US Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned three leaders of Iran-backed militias in Iraq.\textsuperscript{1318} The OFAC states that these


militias “opened fire on peaceful protests, killing dozens of innocent civilians.”\textsuperscript{1318} Secretary Mnuchin affirmed US commitment to holding perpetrators of human rights abuse accountable.\textsuperscript{1319}

On 9 December 2019, the US House of Representatives introduced H. RES. 752 to condemn restrictions on Iranian freedom of expression and Iranian authorities’ crackdown of legitimate protests.\textsuperscript{1320} These restrictions included the continuing closures of media outlets, arrests of journalists, and the censorship of expression in online forums such as blogs and websites.\textsuperscript{1321}

On 11 December 2019, the United States sanctioned eight entities that helped smuggle weapons from Iran to Yemen.\textsuperscript{1322} The designations aimed to serve as a warning that doing business with these entities risked contributing to Iran’s proliferation-sensitive programs, including its nuclear and missile programs.\textsuperscript{1323}

On 19 December 2019, Secretary Pompeo mentioned new actions that are being made in support of the Iranian people.\textsuperscript{1324} Pompeo stated that Iran has been re-designated as a Country of Particular Concern under the International Religious Freedom Act and the US Department of the Treasury will sanction two Iranian judges: Mohammad Moghisseh, and Abolghassem Salavati for being “responsible for or complicit in the abuse, detention, or killing of peaceful protesters, or for inhibiting their rights to freedom of expression or assembly.”\textsuperscript{1325}

On 19 December 2019, Secretary Pompeo condemned Iranian human rights violations in his speech.\textsuperscript{1326} Pompeo urged the Government of Iran to uphold commitments under the Iranian Constitution and international human rights law.\textsuperscript{1327}

On 19 December 2019, the Ambassador At Large For International Religious Freedom Office of International Religious Freedom Samuel D. Brownback called for Iran to stop the practice of


\textsuperscript{1320} H.Res.752 - Supporting the rights of the people of Iran to free expression, condemning the Iranian regime for its crackdown on legitimate protests, and for other purposes, Congress.gov (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/752/text?q=%7B%22%3A%5B%22iran%22%5D%7D&r=12&s=4.

\textsuperscript{1321} H.Res.752 - Supporting the rights of the people of Iran to free expression, condemning the Iranian regime for its crackdown on legitimate protests, and for other purposes, Congress.gov (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/752/text?q=%7B%22%3A%5B%22iran%22%5D%7D&r=12&s=4.


On 27 January 2020, Secretary Pompeo condemned large-scale assaults on the people of Idlib and western Aleppo provinces in Syria by combined forces of Russia, the Iranian regime, Hizballah, and the Assad regime.1338

On 21 February 2020, Assistant Secretary for Terrorist Financing Marshall Billingslea applauded the Financial Action Task Force’s condemnation of Iran’s failure to implement basic controls to counter illicit finance.1339 Assistant Secretary Billingslea urged other countries to help prevent Iran from using the international financial system for illicit purposes.”1340

On 26 February 2020, Secretary Pompeo designated Iran-backed militia in Iraq Ahmad al-Hamidawi as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist.1341

On 10 March 2020, Secretary Pompeo reported that the COVID-19 has spread to Iranian prisons and commented on the human rights violation of the prison conditions.1342 Pompeo stated that “any nation considering to provide Iran with humanitarian assistance should seek reciprocal humanitarian gesture by the regime: release all wrongly detained foreign nationals.”1343

On 12 March 2020, the United States struck an Iraqi militia group with ties to Iran.1344 The US targeted Kataib Hezbollah that is believed to have been a part of the attack against Iraqi military bases hosting coalition forces.1345

On 15 March 2020, the United States, along with France, the United Kingdom, and Germany, issued a joint statement on the ninth anniversary of the Syria uprising.1346 The statement condemns violations in international humanitarian law and continued violence by “the reckless military offensive by Assad, Russia, and Iran in Idlib” and asserts that they will demand accountability for the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.1347

On 18 March 2020, the US Department of State imposed sanctions, pursuant to Executive Order 13846 on seven entities engaged in “the purchase, acquisition, sale, transport, or marketing of

petrochemical products from Iran.” The sanctions are an effort to hinder Iranian capacity to conduct destabilizing activities in the region.

On 25 March 2020, the United States participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference which included discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.

On 26 March 2020, Department of State Spokesperson Morgan Ortagus announced 20 new designations for individuals and entities who have been known to provide financial support and lethal aid to the IRGC’s Quds Force. Secretary of State Pompeo remarked that with new designations and sanctions the US continues to “hold the regime accountable for the malign activity through actions like banning Mahan Air and designating all of Hizballah and other Iran-backed terror groups as terrorist organizations.”

On 2 April 2020, President Trump remarked that the US sanctions have not been interfering with Iran’s access to medical aid. He affirmed that sanctions are intended to prevent funding of terrorism and not limit access to proper healthcare. Humanitarian channels have been established to ensure the Iranian people are able to cope with the growing health crisis.

On 2 April 2020, the United States participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO’s ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces and stabilizing the country.

On 1 May 2020, the OFAC designated dual Iranian and Iraqi national Amir Dianat, an associate of senior officials of the IRGC’s Quds Force. The OFAC claims Dianat supports the IRGC’s terrorist activities through generating revenue and smuggling weapons. The OFAC reasserted its efforts to combat the IRGC’s destabilizing activities through designations of individuals involved in Iran’s terrorist network.

On 20 May 2020, OFAC sanctioned Iran’s Interior Minister, seven senior officials of Iran’s Law Enforcement Forces and a provincial commander of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps for...
their roles in human rights abuses against Iranians. Treasury Secretary Mnuchin states that Iranian authorities have violently suppressed dissent of the Iranian people, through physical and psychological abuse. These sanctions are taken pursuant to Executive Order 13553 of September 28, 2010, which imposes sanctions on individuals who are responsible for human rights abuses.

Through its consistent efforts of combatting terrorism by imposing sanctions, deploying military support, and coalition-building, the United States remains committed to holding Iran accountable for its human rights abuses and sponsorship of terrorism.

Thus, the United States of America has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Shreyashi Saha and Collin Xia

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 19 September 2019, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on the violent crackdown on the recent protests in Iran. The European Parliament calls on Iranian authorities to release imprisoned women’s rights defenders, human rights defenders, and EU-Iranian dual nationals. On 21 November 2019, the European Commission allocated an additional EUR40 million in emergency assistance for the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, as well as Afghan refugees in neighbouring Pakistan and Iran. This brings total EU humanitarian aid for the Afghan crisis to EUR77 million in 2019, EUR61 million in Afghanistan, EUR9 million in Pakistan, and EUR7 million in Iran.

On 21 November 2019, a European Union External Action spokesperson addressed Iranian protests and urged Iranian authorities to “exercise maximum restraint in handling the protests” and ensure access to the internet.

On 8 December 2019, High Representative Josep Borrell Fontelles condemned Iran’s “widespread and disproportionate use of force against nonviolent protestors.” He urged Iran to provide due

process for all detainees, release all non-violent protestors and respect “fundamental rights such as freedom of expression and assembly.”¹³⁶⁷

On 11 December 2019, the Council of Europe appointed Christoph Buik as its new head of mission for the European Union Advisory Mission in Iraq (EUAM Iraq).¹³⁶⁸ EUAM Iraq is based in Bagdad and contributes to the implementation at strategic level of a comprehensive strategy countering terrorism and organized crime.¹³⁶⁹ It has specific references to border management, financial crime, money laundering and the trafficking of cultural heritage. Mr. Buik assumed his duties on 1 January 2020.¹³⁷⁰

On 18 December 2019, High Representative Borrell addressed the violent crackdown on recent protests in Iran at the European Parliament plenary debate.¹³⁷¹ He urged concrete actions as part of EU diplomacy with Iran and urged that the Iranian authorities to comply with their “international obligations, including both the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.”¹³⁷²

On 19 December 2019, members of the European Parliament voted to denounce “disproportionate use of force by Iranian security forces against non-violent protestors,” demand the immediately release of Nasrin Sotoudeh, and condemn Iran’s decision to shut down internet access as a violation of freedom of speech.¹³⁷³

On 9 January 2020, the President of the European Council Charles Michel expressed his condolences for the PS752 crash.¹³⁷⁴ In a call with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, President Michel stated that


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the EU encourages the active diffusion of tension. Furthermore, he emphasized the European Union’s stabilizing role in the region as well as the EU’s commitment to Middle Eastern regional stability.

On 10 January 2020, High Representative Borrell was tasked with intensifying diplomatic efforts with all parties to contribute to de-escalation in the Middle East following crash of plane PS752. He seeks to support political dialogue and promote a regional solution by the Foreign Affairs Council.

On 14 January 2020, the EU and Iraq held their first Political Dialogue under their Partnership and Cooperation Agreement. The two delegations were headed by the European External Action Service Secretary General Helga Maria Schmid and Iraqi Deputy Foreign minister Abdel Karim Hashem Mostafa. The meeting focused on bilateral relations, the situation in Iraq and in the wider Middle East region. Both parties emphasized the need for cooperation to defuse tension and to avoid further escalation.

On 16 January 2020, President Michel called the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin to discuss the regional risks posed by Libya and in the Middle East. President Michel emphasized the importance of reaching out to and cooperating with all international partners to de-escalate the situation in Iran and Iraq.

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On 3 and 4 February 2020, High Representative Borrell visited Iran. He met with President Rouhani of Iran, the President of the Parliament Ali Larijani and Foreign Affairs Minister Javad Zarif. In his press conference statement, High Representative Borrell restated the EU commitment to regional security and stability. He further emphasized the creation of mutual understand and the building of trust between the EU and its Iranian counterparts.

On 21 February 2020, the EU called all actors to cease hostilities immediately following the renew military offense in Idlib by the Syrian regime and its backers. The EU called the action unacceptable and urged all parties to the conflict to fully respect their obligation under international humanitarian law and international human rights law and to allow unimpeded and direct humanitarian access to all those in need. Furthermore, the EU stated its commitment to strengthening its humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable civilian population in the Idlib area.

On 6 March 2020, High Representative Borrell announced that the EU would convene a fourth Brussels Conference on “Support the Future of Syria and Region” on 29 and 30 June 2020. He stated that the EU's immediate concern is to work toward a lasting ceasefire, to engage with all relevant actors for a comprehensive political solution and to address the humanitarian needs of the Syrian people.

On 25 March 2020, High Representative Borrell participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference which included discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.

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On 7 April 2020, the Council of the European Union implemented targeted financial sanctions for the human rights situation in Iran. The targeted individuals were responsible for violent crackdowns on protesters, rights abuses, and cyber attacks amongst various other reasons.

On 7 April 2020, the Council of the European Union extended its human rights sanctions against Iran until 13 April 2021. The Council’s measures continue an asset freeze and travel ban on 82 people and ban the export of equipment that may be used for internal repression in Iran.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to combat terrorism and promote human rights in Iran and throughout the region. The European Union has committed funds to aid humanitarian crisis and promote human rights. In addition, the European Union has increased efforts to promote diplomatic dialogue, cooperation, and conflict resolution throughout the region.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Chen On Yang and Collin Xia