

PASCC

Research in Progress

FY19

A TRACK II DIALOGUE ON VIEWS OF THE MIDDLE EAST ON THE JCPOA

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ABSTRACT:

For several decades, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (chemical, biological and nuclear weapons) in the Middle East has been a major concern to the United States and the rest of the world. The signing of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in 2015 and the United States withdrawal from the deal in 2018 have significantly altered the strategic landscape in the broad Middle East. This project aims to examine how Iran's neighbors perceive these changing security dynamics and how these perceptions might impact American defense and foreign policies in the region.

This project will pursue the following objectives:

- Identify the proliferation risks of nuclear weapons in the Middle East;
- Analyze Arab, Turkish and Israeli reactions to the JCPOA;
- Discuss Arab, Turkish and Israeli reactions to the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian civil war;
- Examine the rising interest in civilian nuclear power in several Middle Eastern countries and the potential implications on nuclear proliferation;
- Promote dialogue between regional powers on prohibition of WMD;
- Provide recommendations to the United States Government on strengthening the non-proliferation regime and norms in the Middle East.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information please contact INSS@usafa.edu.