

Britain Defies Israeli Pressure on Iran Nuclear Agreement



London, February 7 (RHC)-- British Prime Minister Theresa May has reaffirmed her support for the Iran nuclear deal, defying Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's pressure to violate the multilateral agreement by imposing new sanctions against the Islamic Republic.

On his first UK visit since May's rise to power, Netanyahu said in a joint press conference on Monday that "responsible nations" should follow U.S. President Donald Trump and impose more sanctions on Iran. "Iran seeks to annihilate Israel, it seeks to conquer the Middle East, it threatens Europe, it threatens the West, it threatens the world. And it offers provocation after provocation," said the Israeli premier.

"That's why I welcome President Trump's insistence on new sanctions against Iran," he added, referring to Washington's fresh sanctions against a number of Iranian individuals and entities following its latest missile test.

The fearmongering, however, failed to impress May, who views the nuclear deal between Iran and six world powers, including America and Britain, "vital" for the Middle East's security. A spokeswoman for May said Monday that the British prime minister "made clear" to her visiting counterpart that "we support the deal on nuclear that was agreed." "What needs to happen now is that it needs to be properly enforced and policed," the spokeswoman added.

Under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA, which entered into force last year, Iran limited parts of its peaceful nuclear program in exchange for the complete removal of all sanctions against the country.

May relayed the same message to Trump during her visit to Washington last week. Trump, however, pushed ahead with his own agenda and introduced a new round of sanctions against Iran over the country's successful test-launch of a ballistic missile.

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