

DIPLOMACY, NOT WAR, IN IRAN!



TALKING POINTS

- The **immediate cost** of a war in Iran could be as much as **\$3 trillion**.
- When a **preemptive war based on questionable intelligence** is launched, as in Iraq, immense damage is irreversible when the hyped “intelligence” proves faulty.
- **Attacking Iran puts Israel in danger** and could trigger a **major global war**.
- Iran may retaliate to an attack by **targeting U.S. ships and military bases**.
- A strike on Iran’s nuclear sites **would release radioactive toxins** that would harm people throughout the Middle East.
- An attack could compel Iran to **withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty** to which it is a party, and **force its hand to seek nuclear weapons**.

PEACE IS STILL POSSIBLE

- Iran has said it wants to **resume international negotiations** on its nuclear program.
- Top U.S. officials have stated that Iran **has not yet decided** whether or not to produce nuclear weapons.
- Iran has **never attacked** another country.
- A majority of citizens in the United States, Israel and Iran **want this conflict resolved peacefully and diplomatically**.
- US intelligence estimates are unanimous that **Iran is at least years away from having a useable nuclear weapon** and delivery systems.
- There are many **peaceful alternatives** to war, and plenty of time to employ them to the maximum. See the back of this flyer!

ALTERNATIVES TO WAR WITH IRAN

- Pursue the creation of a **Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone** in the Middle East, which would bring both Iran and Israel into peaceful negotiations. The 2010 Review Conference of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty put a top priority on this, and set 2012 as a target date for a conference to begin the process.
- **Keep channels of communication continuously open** with Iran. The danger of stumbling into war is increased by posturing and “tough” public positions. It can be reduced only through dialogue, reason, mutual respect, and negotiation.
- Work diplomatically to ensure that Iran’s nuclear program has **transparency** and exists strictly for civilian purposes. As a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, Iran is entitled to civilian uses of nuclear energy. **Negotiate** “negative security assurances” in which Iran pledges it won’t attack others in return for their pledge to not attack Iran.
- Pursue a **containment policy and deterrence** similar to that used in the Cold War. Just as India, Pakistan, and North Korea have all joined the nuclear weapons club in recent years, but haven’t used their nuclear weapons, Iran can also be deterred from using any it may acquire years into the future.
- Engage in unofficial, cultural, and citizen contacts with Iran. Such **diplomacy from below** was successful in helping resolve previous major conflicts, like the Cold War and relations with China, and can be an important contribution to lessening tensions and improving relations with Iran.
- **Offer Iran positive economic incentives (carrots) to cooperate.** Using only punitive measures (sticks) to pressure another nation to change its behavior has historically mostly proven ineffective.

For more information, and/or to get involved, contact:



COALITION FOR PEACE ACTION
40 WITHERSPOON STREET
PRINCETON, NJ 08542
TELEPHONE 609-924-5022

WWW.PEACECOALITION.ORG; CFPA@PEACECOALITION.ORG