

February 26, 2015

Just over one month from now the United States, along with the other members of the P5+1, and Iran will come to the deadline to reach a political framework agreement on the issue of Iran's nuclear program. Opinions certainly vary on what is the best course of action to take. And we cannot allow ourselves to become divided. What is not up for debate, however, is how much of a threat Iran would become if it were permitted to fully develop a nuclear weapon. As a reminder, this is a regime that executed 721 people last year and 127 so far in 2015. It is still the leading state sponsor of terrorism whose reach has crossed continents. And its obfuscatory tactics towards its persistent pursuit of nuclear capability have the world rightly unsettled.

As New Yorkers and as Americans, we recognize the threat posed by the Iranian regime. We continually see and feel the danger that Iran poses to the Middle East, to America, and to us here in New York. This issue requires that we stand together as one. We urge the members of the P5+1 to hold firm to the March deadline and come to a satisfactory resolution that will prevent Iran from reaching nuclear weapons capability, whether that means reaching a deal or not.

Reverend Jacques Andre DeGraff Co-Chair, Iran180

Elizabeth Velez Co-Chair, Iran180