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**HEADQUARTERS REPORTS**

The Iranian Threat

## **THE IRANIAN THREAT**

Iran today poses a clear and present danger not only to Israel and the Jewish people, but to the West as a whole and to Europe in particular. With a government that denies the Holocaust, repeatedly threatens to destroy Israel, races to achieve nuclear capability, and exports terrorism to all corners of the globe, Iran's threats must be taken seriously and not dismissed as mere rants. The World Jewish Congress from very early on recognized the gravity of this growing threat and mobilized against it, utilizing all our global resources to voice our concern in the halls of power. Recently, this issue was discussed in meetings by WJC leadership with world leaders at the highest levels, including President of Argentina Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, Prime Minister of Poland Donald Tusk, Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel, among others. In view of pending multi-billion dollar gas deals by energy giants ELG of Switzerland and OMV of Austria, the WJC leaders met with the leaders of government and industry in those countries to make the case against Europe's largest oil corporations investing in Iran's oil and gas industry whose profits serve to fuel its nuclear ambitions.

The WJC supports legislation on local and national, and international levels that encourages the use of economic measures to help keep Iran from achieving its nuclear goals. We strongly support Strengthened UN sanctions that will constitute tougher measurers on the Iranian regime than in the past. We continue to encourage the deployment of the World Jewish Diplomatic Corps (WJDC) in research activity into companies that do business with and invest in Iran's energy field is the foundation of a concerted campaign to expose those whose investments enable Iran's nuclear efforts. We wholeheartedly support the initiative of MP Irwin Cotler of Canada, who has begun an international petition to bring the Iranian president to justice for his repeated incitement to the destruction of Israel, as a violation of the Genocide Convention.

WJC continues to issue Iran Update, a comprehensive, regular report disseminated via the internet to Jewish communities, government officials, international policymakers, and to non-governmental organizations worldwide. Iran Update features developing news items, opinion pieces and in-depth analyses of a myriad of issues pertaining to Iran, including human rights, Iran's pursuit of nuclear capability, international terrorism, and its role in the Middle East and other regions of the world. The WJC is increasing the distribution to relevant parties and is promoting the visibility of this publication in many venues. A copy of Iran Update is attached to this report.

The WJC leadership takes every opportunity in meetings and forums at all levels with representatives of local and foreign governments, international bodies, counterterrorism experts, think tanks, and other non-governmental organizations to raise the issues concerning the Iranian threat. In view of what clearly continues to be a dangerous regime with a resolve to achieve nuclear capability, the WJC will continue to intensify our vigilance and activity in the defense of our community and in the interests of peace, stability and security.

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