

Comment from Efraim Halevy

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I unreservedly support the appeal of the President of Pugwash that all forms of warfare and threats of war be discarded in the present dispute on the Iranian nuclear issue. To the list of prohibitions I would add the cessation of missile and rocket proliferation in the Middle East and of the presence of all foreign and regional forces in countries other than their own.

I strongly endorse the appeal of the President for negotiations - direct, with no prior conditions and in good faith. I call upon the president to endorse an appeal to all parties to enter dialogue and negotiations directly, face to face. I can assure all readers that Israel will readily meet Iranian counterparts at any mutual agreed venue to discuss any and every issue pertaining to the nuclear issue in all its ramifications. Such a presidential appeal will resonate globally, and will follow the tradition of Dr. Josef Rotblat the Nobel prize winner for peace and the co-recipient of the prize with Pugwash that he founded. The approach must be inclusive and not exclusive.

My fear is that in the absence of such a money -changer breakthrough, there is a very real threat that the coming months will see a global deterioration that could easily spin out of control.

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