



Framework for Peace and Self-Determination in Iran

A Security-First, Legitimacy-Based
Pathway to End Conflict

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Prepared by Fariborz Farhan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	2
1. STRATEGIC CONTEXT: A WAR WITHOUT AN ENDGAME.....	2
2. WHY WAR ALONE DOES NOT DELIVER DURABLE PEACE.....	3
3. LESSONS FROM HISTORICAL TRANSITIONS.....	3
4. STAKEHOLDER REQUIREMENTS ANALYSIS.....	3
5. THE THREE-PILLAR FRAMEWORK.....	3
6. IMPLEMENTATION ARCHITECTURE.....	4
7. VERIFICATION AND ENFORCEMENT.....	5
8. SANCTIONS RELIEF FRAMEWORK.....	5
9. RISK ANALYSIS AND MITIGATION.....	5
10. CONCLUSION.....	5
11. Appendix A: Timeline and Milestones	
12.	

Executive Summary

This policy paper proposes a structured, internationally viable pathway to end the conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel by aligning immediate security guarantees with a credible, Iranian-led political process.

The central thesis is that durable peace requires the simultaneous alignment of three elements: (1) verifiable security de-escalation, (2) political legitimacy rooted in the will of the Iranian people, and (3) phased economic incentives and international guarantees.

Current approaches have emphasized military pressure and capability degradation but lack a shared political end-state. This gap increases the probability of prolonged conflict, regional escalation, and repeated cycles of violence.

The proposed Three-Pillar Framework addresses this gap:

Pillar A establishes immediate, verifiable security measures, including a cease-fire, nuclear freeze with international inspection, missile and drone constraints, and cessation of proxy activities.

Pillar B creates an Iranian-led pathway to legitimacy through a National Dialogue Conference, constitutional roadmap, referendum, and elections.

Pillar C aligns incentives through phased sanctions relief, reconstruction investment, institutional continuity, and conditional guarantees for current power structures.

This framework is designed to align the core interests of all stakeholders: the United States (security and non-proliferation), Israel (threat reduction), Iran (sovereignty and survival pathways), and the Iranian people (voice, safety, and economic future).

By sequencing security, legitimacy, and incentives, this proposal offers a credible pathway to de-escalation, conflict termination, and durable peace.

1. Strategic Context: A War Without an Endgame

The current conflict has escalated across multiple domains including air, maritime, cyber, and proxy theaters.

Military operations have focused on degrading nuclear infrastructure, missile capabilities, and regional networks.

However, the absence of a defined political end-state creates a strategic vacuum that risks prolonging the conflict.

Historical patterns show that conflicts without negotiated political outcomes tend to persist or re-emerge.

2. Why War Alone Does Not Deliver Durable Peace

Empirical studies of conflict termination demonstrate that decisive military victories are rare in complex geopolitical conflicts.

Many wars end in negotiated settlements or unstable cease-fires that lack institutional backing.

Without political legitimacy, cease-fires often collapse into renewed violence.

A cease-fire must therefore be linked to a structured political process.

3. Lessons from Historical Transitions

South Africa (1990–1994): Negotiated transition from apartheid to democratic governance under President Nelson Mandela. The process included security guarantees for the outgoing regime and culminated in the first multiracial elections in 1994.

Northern Ireland (Good Friday Agreement, 1998): A negotiated political settlement established power-sharing institutions and significantly reduced violence after decades of conflict.

Colombia (FARC Peace Agreement, 2016): A comprehensive agreement between the government and insurgent forces enabled demobilization, reintegration, and international monitoring, resulting in a substantial reduction in armed conflict.

These cases demonstrate that durable peace emerges from **negotiated inclusion, institutional legitimacy, and verifiable enforcement mechanisms**, rather than military victory alone.

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4. Stakeholder Requirements Analysis

United States: nuclear containment, regional stability, protection of forces and allies.

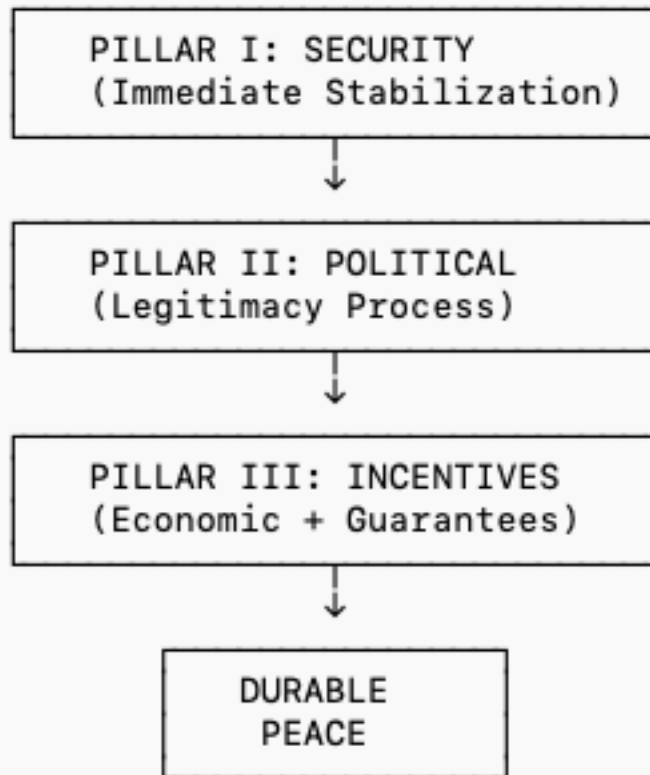
Israel: elimination of missile and proxy threats, long-term deterrence.

Iran: sovereignty, regime continuity pathways, sanctions relief.

Iranian People: safety, political voice, economic opportunity.

This alignment reflects core findings in conflict resolution literature, including work by the World Bank and RAND, which emphasize that sustainable peace requires the integration of **security, governance legitimacy, and economic stability**.

5. The Three-Pillar Framework



Security → Political → Incentives → Durable Peace

Pillar A – Security: Immediate cease-fire, nuclear freeze, missile/drone halt, proxy disengagement.

Pillar B – Political Process: National dialogue, constitutional roadmap, referendum, elections.

Pillar C – Incentives: Sanctions relief, reconstruction, institutional guarantees.

6. Implementation Architecture

A Joint International Oversight Body (JIOB) will coordinate monitoring, verification, and compliance.

The body will include representatives from the United Nations, neutral states, and technical agencies.

Transparency and reporting will be essential to maintaining trust.

7. Verification and Enforcement

Verification will rely on international inspection regimes, satellite monitoring, and independent audits.

Enforcement mechanisms will include phased compliance triggers and snapback provisions.

8. Sanctions Relief Framework

Sanctions relief will be phased and conditional on compliance milestones.

Initial steps will focus on humanitarian access, followed by energy and financial normalization.

9. Risk Analysis and Mitigation

Risks include regime rejection, internal fragmentation, and external interference.

Mitigation strategies include phased implementation, incentive alignment, and international guarantees.

10. Conclusion

Peace requires more than the absence of war; it requires legitimacy, structure, and incentives.

This framework provides a viable path to align these elements and achieve durable peace.

Appendix A: Timeline and Milestones

This phased structure is designed to align incentives across all stakeholders. Each party receives immediate, tangible benefits in early phases while deferring higher-risk concessions to later stages, thereby reducing the likelihood of early-stage rejection. The sequencing ensures that trust is built incrementally, enforcement mechanisms are continuously active, and political legitimacy emerges from a stabilized environment rather than coercion or external imposition.

Phase 1: Security Stabilization (Day 0–90)

Objective: Immediate de-escalation and trust building

Milestones:

- Cease-fire declared including Iran, Lebanon, US and Israel
- Strait of Hormuz opened
- Nuclear enrichment capped and verified
- Missile and drone activity halted
- Proxy attacks reduced to zero

Dependency:

Required before any political process begins

Stakeholder	Required Actions	Rewards	Risks	Mitigation
United States	Pause offensive escalation; support ceasefire monitoring	Reduced regional war risk; nuclear freeze \$0.8B Daily spending stopped Majority in US pleased for stopping War	Iran non-compliance	Snapback sanctions + verification triggers
Israel	Suspend strikes contingent on compliance	Immediate threat reduction; global legitimacy	Hidden proxy activity	Real-time intelligence verification

Stakeholder	Required Actions	Rewards	Risks	Mitigation
Iran (IRI)	Nuclear freeze; halt missiles & proxies	Sanctions relief (initial); regime stability	Internal hardliner backlash	Guarantee no forced regime change
Iranian People	Passive participation (safety phase)	Reduced violence; improved security A chance to get back to normalcy	Distrust of process	Transparent communication + international observers

Phase 2: Confidence Building (Month 1–3)

Objective: Establish credibility of compliance

Milestones:

- humanitarian corridors established
- political prisoners released (initial phase)
- limited sanctions relief initiated

Stakeholder	Required Actions	Rewards	Risks	Mitigation
US	Enable humanitarian channels	Diplomatic credibility	Appearing weak domestically	Frame as security-first success
Israel	Maintain restraint	Strategic patience advantage	Iran regrouping	Conditional escalation clauses
Iran	Release prisoners; allow inspections	Increased sanctions relief	Internal dissent	Gradual implementation
People	Begin engagement	Trust in process	Fear of repression	Monitoring + visibility

Phase 3: National Dialogue (Month 3–6)

Objective: Launch legitimacy process

Milestones:

- dialogue forum established
- participation from internal + diaspora actors
- agenda defined

Stakeholder	Required Actions	Rewards	Risks	Mitigation
US	Support dialogue diplomatically	Long-term stability pathway	Loss of leverage	Maintain sanctions conditionality
Israel	Accept political track	Reduced long-term threat	Legitimizing regime	Tie to security compliance
Iran	Allow inclusive dialogue	Political legitimacy	Loss of control	Maintain institutional continuity
People	Participate in dialogue	Voice in future	Fragmentation	Structured representation

Phase 4: Constitutional Framework (Month 6–9)

Objective: Define future governance structure

Milestones:

- draft governance model
- legal review
- public dissemination

Stakeholder	Required Actions	Rewards	Risks	Mitigation
US	Support process, not outcome	Stability	Outcome uncertainty	Neutral facilitation
Israel	Monitor security guarantees	Reduced threat	Weak enforcement	Strong verification
Iran	Permit drafting process	Controlled transition	Power dilution	Phased authority sharing
People	Engage in debate	Ownership of system	Polarization	Mediated dialogue

Phase 5: Referendum & Elections (Month 9–12)

Objective: Establish legitimacy

Milestones:

- voter participation $\geq 60\%$
- international certification

Stakeholder	Required Actions	Rewards	Risks	Mitigation
US	Recognize outcome	Stable partner	Unfavorable result	Maintain leverage tools
Israel	Accept verified result	Predictable environment	Security uncertainty	Enforce red lines
Iran	Accept outcome	Legitimacy	Loss of control	Safe exit guarantees
People	Vote	Self-determination	Fear of manipulation	International supervision

Phase 6: Transition & Reintegration (Month 12+)

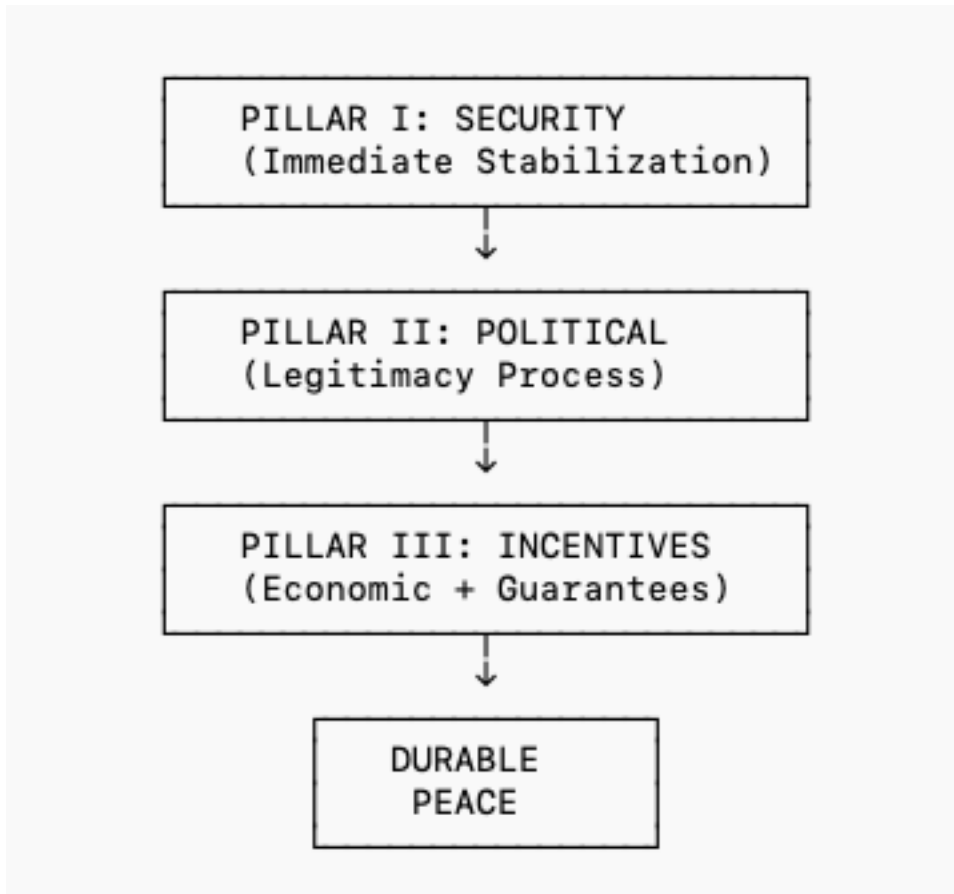
Objective: Durable peace and normalization

Milestones:

- sanctions lifted
- investment begins
- normalization

Stakeholder	Required Actions	Rewards	Risks	Mitigation
US	Normalize relations	Strategic stability	Political backlash	Gradual normalization
Israel	Shift to deterrence posture	Long-term security	Residual threats	Continued monitoring
Iran	Implement reforms	Economic growth	Internal instability	International support
People	Participate in governance	Prosperity	Transition challenges	Economic investment

Appendix B: Framework Diagram



Appendix C: Enforcement Clauses

Clause 1 — Certification Rule

No milestone under Pillar I, II, or III is deemed complete unless certified in writing by the Joint International Oversight Body and the relevant technical monitors.

Clause 2 — Automatic Snapback

If a material breach is verified and not cured within 48 hours, all suspended sanctions automatically snap back and any pending benefits under Pillar III are frozen.

Clause 3 — No-Benefit-While-in-Breach Rule

No party may receive additional incentives, relief, or political credit for a pillar while an unresolved verified breach remains open.

Clause 4 — Reciprocal Accountability Rule

If Iran is verified compliant under Pillar I and external offensive strikes resume without a documented material breach by Iran, the monitoring body must issue a public finding and convene an emergency review within 24 hours.

Clause 5 — Electoral Integrity Rule

No referendum, election, or constitutional milestone counts as complete unless monitors certify that the process was free from systemic coercion, shutdown-level information blackouts, or widespread voter intimidation.

Clause 6 — Proxy Attribution Rule

Any armed attack by an Iranian-backed proxy during Pillar I is presumed attributable unless the monitoring body determines, based on evidence, that the group acted independently and contrary to direct instructions.

Clause 7 — Timeline Default Rule

If a phase deadline is missed without a jointly approved extension, the framework automatically enters a 14-day review conference to decide whether to revise, pause, or terminate the process.

خلاصه اجرایی

این سند سیاستی، یک مسیر ساختاریافته و قابل اجرا در سطح بین‌المللی برای پایان دادن به منازعه میان ایران، ایالات متحده و اسرائیل ارائه می‌دهد. این مسیر از طریق هم‌استا کردن تضمین‌های فوری امنیتی با یک فرآیند سیاسی معتبر و مبتنی بر اراده مردم ایران طراحی شده است.

فرضیه اصلی این است که صلح پایدار مستلزم هم‌زمانی سه عنصر کلیدی است:

(۱) کاهش تنش امنیتی قابل راستی‌آزمایی

(۲) مشروعیت سیاسی مبتنی بر اراده مردم ایران

(۳) مشوق‌های اقتصادی مرحله‌ای و تضمین‌های بین‌المللی

رویکردهای فعلی عمدتاً بر فشار نظامی و تضعیف توانمندی‌ها متمرکز بوده‌اند، اما فاقد یک هدف سیاسی مشترک هستند. این خلأ، احتمال تداوم درگیری، گسترش منطقه‌ای و چرخه‌های مکرر خشونت را افزایش می‌دهد.

چارچوب سه‌ستونی پیشنهادی این خلأ را پوشش می‌دهد:

• ستون اول: امنیت

شامل آتش‌بس فوری، توقف برنامه هسته‌ای با نظارت بین‌المللی، محدودیت موشکی و پهپادی، و توقف فعالیت‌های نیابتی

• ستون دوم: فرآیند مشروعیت سیاسی

شامل گفت‌وگوی ملی، تدوین چارچوب قانون اساسی، برگزاری همه‌پرسی و انتخابات

• ستون سوم: مشوق‌ها و تضمین‌ها

شامل کاهش تدریجی تحریم‌ها، سرمایه‌گذاری برای بازسازی، تداوم نهادها و تضمین‌های مشروط

این چارچوب به‌گونه‌ای طراحی شده است که منافع اصلی همه ذی‌نفعان را همراهی کند:

- ایالات متحده: امنیت و عدم اشاعه
- اسرائیل: کاهش تهدید
- ایران: حاکمیت و مسیر بقا
- مردم ایران: امنیت، صدا و آینده اقتصادی

زمینه راهبردی: جنگی بدون چشم‌انداز پایانی ۱.

درگیری کنونی در حوزه‌های مختلفی از جمله هوایی، دریایی، سایبری و نیابتی گسترش یافته است.

عملیات نظامی بر تضعیف زیرساخت‌های هسته‌ای، توان موشکی و شبکه‌های منطقه‌ای متمرکز بوده است.

با این حال، نبود یک هدف سیاسی مشخص، خلأیی ایجاد کرده که خطر تداوم درگیری را افزایش می‌دهد.

الگوهای تاریخی نشان می‌دهند که درگیری‌هایی که فاقد راه‌حل سیاسی مذاکره‌شده هستند، معمولاً ادامه یافته یا مجدداً شعله‌ور می‌شوند.

چرا جنگ به‌تنهایی به صلح پایدار منجر نمی‌شود ۲.

مطالعات تجربی نشان می‌دهد که پیروزی‌های قاطع نظامی در منازعات پیچیده ژئوپلیتیک نادر هستند.

بسیاری از جنگ‌ها به توافقات مذاکره‌ای یا آتش‌بس‌های ناپایدار ختم می‌شوند.

در نبود مشروعیت سیاسی، آتش‌بس‌ها اغلب به خشونت مجدد منجر می‌شوند.

بنابراین، آتش‌بس باید با یک فرآیند سیاسی ساختاریافته همراه باشد.

درس‌هایی از گذارهای تاریخی ۳.

- **آفریقای جنوبی (۱۹۹۰-۱۹۹۴)**

گذار مذاکره‌شده از آپارتاید به دموکراسی با تضمین‌های امنیتی برای حکومت پیشین

- **ایرلند شمالی (توافق جمعه نیک، ۱۹۹۸)**

ایجاد ساختارهای تقسیم قدرت و کاهش چشمگیر خشونت

- **کلمبیا (توافق صلح فارک، ۲۰۱۶)**

خلع سلاح، ادغام مجدد و نظارت بین‌المللی

این نمونه‌ها نشان می‌دهند که صلح پایدار از طریق شمول، مشروعیت نهادی و سازوکارهای اجرایی قابل راستی‌آزمایی حاصل می‌شود.

تحلیل نیازهای ذی‌نفعان ۴.

- **ایالات متحده:** مهار هسته‌ای، ثبات منطقه‌ای، حفاظت از نیروها
- **اسرائیل:** حذف تهدیدات موشکی و نیابتی، بازدارندگی بلندمدت
- **ایران:** حفظ حاکمیت، تداوم ساختار حاکمیتی، رفع تحریم‌ها
- **مردم ایران:** امنیت، مشارکت سیاسی، فرصت اقتصادی

این هم‌راستایی با یافته‌های بانک جهانی و RAND همخوانی دارد که تأکید می‌کنند صلح پایدار نیازمند ترکیب امنیت، مشروعیت حکمرانی و ثبات اقتصادی است.

چارچوب سه‌ستونی ۵.

امنیت → مشروعیت سیاسی → مشوق‌ها → صلح پایدار

- ستون اول: آتش‌بس، توقف هسته‌ای، توقف موشکی، قطع فعالیت نیابتی
 - ستون دوم: گفت‌وگوی ملی، قانون اساسی، همه‌پرسی، انتخابات
 - ستون سوم: کاهش تحریم‌ها، بازسازی، تضمین‌های نهادی
-

ساختار اجرایی ۶.

یک نهاد نظارتی بین‌المللی مشترک (JIOP) مسئول:

- نظارت
 - راستی‌آزمایی
 - گزارش‌دهی
-

راستی‌آزمایی و اجرا ۷.

- بازرسی‌های بین‌المللی
- پایش ماهواره‌ای
- ممیزی مستقل

مکانیزم‌های اجرایی شامل:

- محرک‌های مرحله‌ای
 - بازگشت خودکار تحریم‌ها
-

چارچوب کاهش تحریم‌ها ۸.

- مرحله اول: کمک‌های انسانی

- مرحله دوم: صادرات انرژی
- مرحله سوم: دسترسی مالی
- مرحله نهایی: عادی‌سازی

ریسک‌ها و کاهش آن‌ها ۹.

- رد توسط حکومت
- شکاف داخلی
- مداخله خارجی

راهکارها:

- اجرای مرحله‌ای
- همراهی مشوق‌ها
- تضمین‌های بین‌المللی

نتیجه‌گیری ۱۰.

صلح صرفاً نبود جنگ نیست، بلکه نیازمند مشروعیت، ساختار و مشوق‌هاست.

این چارچوب مسیری عملی برای تحقق صلح پایدار فراهم می‌کند.