

POL 240: Introduction to International Politics

Diplomatic Conference on the Islamic Republic of Iran's Nuclear Program

1 Overview

Eleven states have agreed to meet at Reed College between November 19 and 21. These states are China, France, India, Iran, Israel, Japan, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia, the UK, and the USA. This conference is intended to resolve the ongoing tensions surrounding Iran's nuclear program.

2 Protocol

As this is a top-level diplomatic meeting, all delegates must be dressed in Western business attire for all meetings between the 19th and the 21st. Each delegation should have a primary cell phone contact that will be shared with other delegations so that negotiations between delegations can be arranged. All delegations must monitor their email accounts during negotiations for the same reason. All negotiations and communications should be conducted diplomatically.

3 Communication

All communication regarding the simulation must be recorded for the purpose of creating a historical record (from which you will be writing your papers). For this purpose, an email address has been set up for each country (StateXXX@gmail.com, where XXX is an abbreviation for your country, see below) in the simulation for all official communications with other delegations and with the head of state (who will have an email address HeadOfStateYYY@gmail.com, where YYY is the abbreviation for your respective head of state). All emails to and from your head of state must be sent from this official delegation email address to the official head of state email address; all other communication will be assumed to be from spies and will be immediately discarded. These email addresses, with passwords, will be handed over to the delegation chairs during class on Monday, November 16, along with head of state emails.

No delegation member should make a concession, or promise another delegation to make a concession, without written approval from its head of state. These are obtained by sending a confidential email to the head of state (HeadOfStateYYY@gmail.com). All emails must comply with regulations. The head of state will send an email reply as quickly as possible. The initial meeting with the head of state on November 19 will be forthcoming.

4 Memo (all except chair of delegation)

You must collect information about your ministry's likely views on Iran's nuclear program. Focus on your organization's interests and expertise: What would your organization support? What information would it emphasize regarding Iran's program? Then write a memorandum to your delegation chair. This memorandum, no longer than 800 words, is due no later than 8 PM, Tue, November 17, and should address all the following questions from the perspective of your organization. Email this memorandum to 1) your head of state (HeadOfStateYYY@gmail.com) and 2) your country's email account (StateXXX@gmail.com). This memorandum should discuss:

- What is your assessment of the situation, given your ministry's expertise?
- What goals do you advocate, given your organization's interests?

- Are those goals achievable in this conference?
- What is your specific advice to the delegation chair on strategies to maximize the chances of achieving these goals?

5 Memo (chair of delegation only)

By 8 PM, Wed, November 18, the delegation chair will have composed a synthesis of all the memoranda representing the coherent objectives of their country. This synthesis should be no longer than 800 words. Email a copy of this memorandum from your country's email account (StateXXX@gmail.com) to the head of state (HeadOfStateYYY@gmail.com) and the rest of your delegation. The delegation chair must also make a five-minute presentation to the head of state on Thursday, November 19 and be prepared to answer questions about the state's position.

6 Assignment (all)

The assignment will be passed out at the end of the simulation; you will have until 5 PM on Sunday, November 29 to complete the assignment, which will be based on the simulation. This will be an account of the negotiations and an analysis of why the negotiations ended the way they did using the theories we have studied in class. This assignment, 1000-1400 words, should be based on the negotiation record contained in email correspondences and any official documents passed by the body.

Timeline

11/16/09: Spread of Nuclear Weapons (regular class)

11/17/09: Memos to Delegation Chairs due by 8 PM

11/18/09: Diplomacy and Nonproliferation; Memos to Heads of State due by 8 PM

11/19/09: Simulation Day 1: Country meetings, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM, Eliot 121 and 126

7:00 PM–10:00 PM: Delegations will meet with their head of state for half-hour intervals; exact schedules will be distributed on Wednesday. This meeting will begin with a short (5 minute) briefing by the delegation chair for the head of state. All delegates (not just the chair) should be prepared to answer questions from the head of state regarding their state's policies as well as their ministry's position. The head of state will then respond to the delegation chair's memorandum and dictate instructions for the conference. By the start of negotiations on Friday, the delegations will have arrived at a coherent negotiation objective that conforms to the head of state's instructions.

11/20/09: Simulation Day 2: Simulation, 3 PM–11 PM, Eliot 314

3 PM–4:30 PM: All delegation chairs (or chosen deputies) will present their positions in official opening statements, of no longer than 5 minutes, at the plenary meeting. This will give all participants the opportunity to hear the opening positions of all other delegations and their conference goals. If delegates wish to use PowerPoint for their opening speeches, they must be emailed to their head of state by 2:30 PM. Chairs are advised to send copies of their speech to their heads of state for distribution to the other delegations via email.

4:30 PM–6 PM: Negotiations begin officially after these opening statements. Not all delegation members have to participate in all meetings, but all members should remain informed of the negotiation status at all times. We recommend that delegations hold regular debriefing sessions for their members. Eliot 314, 317, 207, and 216 have been reserved for delegations to hold meetings. All negotiating rooms must be left in the same condition they were found in at the beginning of the conference.

6 PM–7 PM: Delegations will meet again for a second plenary session. Delegations should be prepared to refine their opening statements and indicate whether their positions have shifted for this session. Updates on world events, if necessary, will also be made at this time.

7 PM–: Delegations are expected to continue negotiating into the night. The same rooms (Eliot 314, 317, 207, and 216) have been reserved until 11 PM.

11/21/09: Simulation Day 3: Simulation, 10 AM–8 PM, Eliot 314

10 AM–12 PM: Negotiations may begin as early as desired on Saturday morning, or more likely will still be continuing from the previous evening. Eliot 314, 317, 216, and 207 have been reserved from 10 AM for meetings.

12 PM: The first plenary session of the day will take place in Eliot 314. All students must assemble in the meeting hall at noon for an opening plenary. Updates on world events, if necessary, will also be made at this time. From noon on Saturday until the expected last plenary of the conference (6 PM), delegations are free to continue negotiating among themselves.

2 PM: The second plenary session will take place in Eliot 314.

4 PM: The third plenary session of the day will take place in Eliot 314. Email correspondence with the head of state ceases. The head of state will be available for personal meetings. The outcome of each meeting must be written up in a memorandum at the end of each meeting and emailed to the head of state.

6 PM: The final plenary session of the day will take place in Eliot 314. By the end of the exercise, parties are expected to arrive at a written resolution that will be voted on. Side agreements may also be made that do not require the blessing of the entire conference. Should no text be agreed on, negotiations will have collectively failed. Delegations can decide to extend the sessions, but not beyond 8 PM on Saturday.

11/23/09:Discussion of Simulation (regular class)

11/25/09:Proliferation Networks (regular class)

11/29/09:Assignment 3 due at 5 PM.