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With regard to Iran, the EU in recent years has been following the United States' strategy. This meant sanctions and the freezing of relations. It is only with recent changes in Iran and a new perspective for a resolution of the nuclear issue, including support from Russia, that the window of opportunity is opening up again. This goes for both the US and the EU. There is no separate strategy of the EU which is to say that there is no independent European strategy.



Europe has maintained relations with Iran when the US didn't, and we certainly don't depend on the US when thinking and formulating our stance on Iran and the sort of relations we want to engage in. Nor should we. Iran is much more a neighbour to us than to America, and clearly, parts of European history are intimately intertwined with the history of Iran – enough for me to believe that Europe should and must be able to find its own bearings on Iran.



European Union is working closely with United States, it can be seen in E3/EU+3 talks with Iran in Vienna, 20th February 2014. This was the first nuclear negotiations since the adoption of the Joint Action Plan, which set encouraging timetable for next talks in July. In the European Parliament there is special a delegation for relations with Iran, chaired by MEP Tarja Cronberg, the EP Foreign Affairs Committee and its subcommittee Security and Defence that are all dealing with negotiation with Iran. In the EU we are concerning relations with Iran as an important, issue, focusing also on respecting human rights and democratic values in the region.

