



Policy Recommendations for Canada

- A. Canada should continue working towards a Middle East free of nuclear weapons. Canada opposes nuclear proliferation in the Middle East and must continue to do so. Canada has supported UN resolutions favouring a nuclear weapons free zone in the Middle East, and has expressed concern over possible Iranian and Syrian weapons programs. But it has also abstained from votes where it claimed Israel was singled out. Israel's nuclear program has been a contributing factor to the pursuit of non-conventional weaponry by some of its neighbours. Canada should urge all parties to dismantle nuclear programs and open them up to inspections.
- B. Canada must ask Israel to sign on to all international nuclear treaties. Israel introduced nuclear weapons to the Middle East, yet it is not a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). As a result, it does not abide by nuclear anti-proliferation conventions and is not subject to inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Israel should sign the NPT so as to build confidence in the region, to prevent proliferation and to permit disarmament.
- C. Canada must have an even-handed approach to nuclear disarmament in the Middle East. Canada must continue to be at the forefront of the disarmament movement and the fight against weapons of mass destruction. In order to do this, Canada must treat all states equally. It must critique Iran's nuclear intentions and it must not tolerate Israel's nuclear weapons program. It is also hypocritical of Canada to ink deals with India while India has not signed on to the NPT.

A: Canada should continue working towards a Middle East free of nuclear weapons

1. Canada must advocate a nuclear-free Middle East. During their latest global meeting on nuclear weapons, signatories to the NPT agreed to open talks on establishing a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East. This very modest progress was quickly set back by American complaints that the document calling for a 2012 conference to discuss a nuclear-free Middle East singled out Israel's nuclear program. Since Israel introduced nuclear weapons to the Middle East, and is a non-signatory to the NPT, it was not inappropriate for Israel to be named in the document. Canada should push for a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East, and not give Israel preferential treatment.
2. Canada should not sell nuclear expertise to any party in the Middle East. As was the case with India, Canadian nuclear expertise can be used for military purposes. For this reason Canada must not sell nuclear expertise to any state in the Middle East until all parties have ratified the NPT and a nuclear weapons-free zone has been established.
3. Canada must ask Israel to verifiably disarm. As one of Israel's closest allies, Canada should put pressure on Israel to disarm. Israel possesses Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and has repeatedly used disproportionate force against its neighbours, for which it has been accused of war crimes and possibly crimes against humanity by neutral, international organizations such as the UN, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International. Israel must disarm in order to build confidence in the region, and to minimize the risks of all-out war.
4. Canada must return to previous foreign policy values. Canada was once respected as a middle power on the world stage, known for its diplomacy and peacekeeping. Canada should return to the values that emphasize diplomatic solutions, and abjure violence. Previous Canadian diplomatic expertise gave Canada a role in solving the Suez Canal Crisis after Britain, France and Israel attacked Egypt in 1956.

B: Canada must ask Israel to sign on to all international nuclear treaties

1. Canada must pressure Israel and other non-signatories to sign on to the NPT. The NPT is still the best instrument to fulfill the universal goals of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. Pakistan, India, North Korea and Israel are all believed to have nuclear weapons and are non-signatories to the NPT. This erodes confidence in the NPT itself as states see no value in disarming while rivals potentially build up their arsenals. Israel is the sole nuclear power in the Middle East. As such, it is critical that it sign and ratify the NPT. There is no reason Israel should be permitted to possess WMD while other states are not, especially in light of recent revelations that Israel may have offered to sell apartheid South Africa nuclear weapons.
2. Canada must insist that Israel open itself to inspections by the IAEA. The IAEA promotes the peaceful use of nuclear energy worldwide. It provides safeguards against the misuse of nuclear technology and nuclear materials. Canada has recently even sought to block resolutions in international forums which called Israel to accede to the NPT and inspections. Canada should forthwith pressure Israel to allow the IAEA to inspect its nuclear facilities, to prevent proliferation, and to ensure it abides by international norms.

C: Canada must have an even-handed approach to nuclear disarmament in the Middle East

1. Canada must treat all states equally. Canada cannot credibly push for global disarmament if it does not treat all states consistently. In terms of the balance of power in the Middle East, Canada must admonish Israel for its nuclear weapons program, while doing the same with Iran concerning its nuclear ambitions. Canada's policy in the region must also recognize that Israeli threats to use nuclear weapons against Iran, as well as American threats to invade Iran have likely only spurred Iran into pursuing its own nuclear program.
2. Canada must refrain from nuclear deals with states that are not compliant with international treaties. CJPME believes all states should abide by international law and be judged by the same standards. It is therefore hypocritical for Canada, a signatory of the NPT, to claim to have a "special relationship" with Israel — even going so far as to saying that an attack on Israel would be considered an attack on Canada — while condemning Iran, and considering nuclear deals with India, a non-signatory.

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