



International Legal Responses To Iran's Nuclear Ambitions And Human Rights Violations: A Study Of Economic Sanctions

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ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the international legal response to Iran's nuclear ambitions and human rights violations, focusing on the economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations, the United States, and the European Union. The research raises a key question about the effectiveness of sanctions in halting Iran's nuclear program and their impact on human rights violations. Using a qualitative research approach and doctrinal legal analysis of international resolutions, treaties, and reports, the study assesses the consequences of these sanctions. The findings indicate that, although the sanctions have had a significant impact on Iran's economy, leading to a decline in foreign investment and GDP, they have not been effective in limiting Iran's nuclear efforts. Moreover, the sanctions have worsened human rights violations, particularly related to food security, healthcare, and political repression. The study concludes that sanctions alone have limitations in encouraging compliance, and therefore a more integrated approach is needed, involving diplomacy, multilateral engagement, and more targeted sanctions to address both nuclear and human rights issues.

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1. Introduction

Iran's nuclear program has long been a central issue in international politics and international law, creating tensions involving major countries such as the United States¹ and European Union nations.² Iran's nuclear development, often seen as a threat to the stability of the Middle East, has prompted the imposition of various international economic sanctions, including sanctions from the United Nations (UN)³. While Iran claims that its goal is to meet domestic energy needs,⁴ global concerns persist regarding the potential military use of nuclear technology. The tragic experience of the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II illustrates the destructive impact that nuclear weapons can have, further strengthening the urgency to prevent further nuclear proliferation.

In response to these concerns, non-proliferation agreements such as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) have been designed to limit uranium enrichment and the ability of certain countries to develop nuclear weapons.⁵ However, despite these various international efforts, tensions between Iran and the international community continue to grow, both in diplomatic and economic dimensions.⁶

This research aims to answer the key question: How does international law respond to Iran's nuclear ambitions and related human rights violations, particularly through the imposition of economic sanctions? By combining the perspectives of international law and human rights, this study will explore the interaction between international policies applied to Iran's nuclear program and their impact on human rights violations, as well as assess the effectiveness of economic sanctions in achieving non-proliferation goals while considering their effects on the basic rights of the Iranian people.

Several studies have examined the international response to Iran's nuclear program. Oliver Borszik (2016), in his study *International Sanctions Against Iran and Tehran's Responses: Political Effects on the Targeted Regime*, shows that while international

¹ Julien Mercille dan Alun Jones, "Practicing radical geopolitics: Logics of power and the Iranian nuclear 'crisis,'" *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 99, no. 5 (2009): 856–62, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00045600903203176>.

² Radosław Fiedler, "Searching for a Nuclear Settlement. European Union Nuclear Settlement With Iran," *Przegląd Strategiczny* 9, no. 9 (15 November 2016): 51, <https://doi.org/10.14746/ps.2016.1.4>.

³ Mohammad Soltaninejad, "Iran's Nuclear Policy: A Cognitive Study on Defiance and Compliance," *Central European Journal of International and Security Studies* 17, no. 1 (2022): 4–35, <https://doi.org/10.51870/IQBC3720>.

⁴ Violet B. Eneyo et al., "Iran'S Nuclear Policy: Nature, Ambition, and Strategy," *Journal of Liberty and International Affairs* 8, no. 2 (2022): 202–22, <https://doi.org/10.47305/JLIA2282202e>.

⁵ Gary Samore et al., *The Iran Nuclear Deal: A Definitive Guide Citation*, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, 2015, <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctvbed292.10>.

⁶ Ioana Constantin-Bercean, "A nuclear test for diplomacy: Iran and the (New) EU-US sanctions debate," *Online Journal Modelling the New Europe*, no. 28 (2018): 182–205, <https://doi.org/10.24193/OJMNE.2018.28.10>.

sanctions have caused divisions among Iran's political elites, they have not succeeded in weakening the Iranian regime. On the contrary, sanctions have reinforced Iran's determination to develop its domestic nuclear capabilities.⁷ Radosław Fiedler (2022), in *The Policy of Maximum Pressure on Iran: U.S. Policy Objectives and Effects*, reveals that the maximum pressure policy on Iran failed to bring Iran back to the JCPOA negotiating table and instead created greater barriers to the recovery of the agreement. This study also shows that long-term sanctions did not achieve the goals desired by the United States and instead exacerbated international tensions.⁸

Paul Oshagwu Opone (2023), in *Iran and the West: A Discourse on Sanction Pressure Over Nuclear Programme*, adds that while economic sanctions have put significant pressure on Iran, this policy has not been effective in halting Iran's nuclear program as a whole. The "snapback" sanctions policy of the U.S., intended to intensify pressure on Iran, has instead threatened international solidarity, worsening relations with major countries such as China and Russia, which oppose unilateral U.S. actions.⁹

The long history of international sanctions against Iran, beginning during the era of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and continuing through the post-Islamic Revolution regime of 1979, shows a consistent pattern in international efforts to limit Iran's nuclear ambitions. Since the early 2000s, Iran's efforts to develop nuclear capabilities have triggered various sanctions from the UN Security Council, the U.S., and the EU.¹⁰ While these sanctions aim to pressure Iran's nuclear program, their impact on the country's economic conditions has also been significant.

Although much research has addressed economic sanctions and nuclear non-proliferation, few studies have connected these two issues to human rights violations in Iran. This study aims to fill this gap by analyzing not only the effectiveness of economic sanctions in influencing Iran's nuclear policy but also their impact on the human rights situation in the country. In addition to its nuclear program, Iran faces international condemnation for severe human rights violations, including the suppression of peaceful protests, restrictions on freedom of speech, and violence against demonstrators.¹¹ One notable example is the death

⁷ Oliver Borszik, "International sanctions against Iran and Tehran's responses: political effects on the targeted regime," *Contemporary Politics* 22, no. 1 (2016): 20–39, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13569775.2015.1112951>.

⁸ Radosław Fiedler, "the Policy of Maximum Pressure on Iran. Us Policy Objectives and Effects," *Przegląd Strategiczny*, no. 15 (2022): 283–97, <https://doi.org/10.14746/ps.2022.1.17>.

⁹ Paul Oshagwu Opone, "IRAN AND THE WEST : A DISCOURSE ON SANCTION PRESSURE Over Nuclear Programme," *International Review of Humanities Studies* 7, no. 1 (2023).

¹⁰ Eckhard Janeba, "Extraterritorial trade sanctions: Theory and application to the US–Iran–EU conflict," *Review of International Economics* 32, no. 1 (2024): 49–71, <https://doi.org/10.1111/roie.12682>.

¹¹ Sutrisno, A., & Artikel, R. (2024). Perlindungan yang Terlupakan Mengenai Pelanggaran Hak Anak dalam Hukum Humaniter Internasional Studi Kasus Konflik Palestina I N F O A R T I K E L A B S T R A K. In *Journal of Basic Learning and Thematic* (Vol. 2, Issue 1).

of Mahsa Amini in 2022, which triggered widespread protests followed by violence against demonstrators and the arrest of thousands. This incident adds complexity to the international response to Iran, as these repressive actions escalate diplomatic tensions and draw widespread condemnation. Research by Eneyo et al. (2022) on Iran's nuclear policy indicates that concerns about Iran's nuclear ambitions are not limited to technical issues but also relate to other strategic issues, such as human rights violations, support for terrorism, and involvement in cross-border conflicts¹². Similarly, Ra'ees (2019) argues that human rights violations against minorities in Iran stem from the sectarian structure of the state, the discriminatory ideology of the ruling elites, and the use of Shia principles to justify policies that violate these rights.¹³

The uniqueness of this study lies in its interdisciplinary approach, combining international law, nuclear policy, and human rights violations—a perspective that has not been widely explored in existing literature. The primary focus of this research is to analyze the impact of economic sanctions on Iran, both in the context of its nuclear program and in relation to human rights violations, particularly as reflected in responses to protests and the treatment of civilians.

The significance of this study lies in its contribution to understanding the complex dynamics between international policies on Iran's nuclear ambitions and their impact on the basic rights of its population. Theoretically, this research contributes to the development of international law theory in the context of nuclear non-proliferation and human rights. Practically, the findings of this study may offer insights to international policymakers in formulating more holistic policies that not only focus on preventing nuclear proliferation but also consider the social and humanitarian impact of the sanctions imposed.

2. Legal Material and Methods

This study adopts a qualitative approach, utilizing a library research method to analyze international legal responses to Iran's nuclear ambitions and human rights violations. The primary focus is on the economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and major powers, and their impact on Iran's nuclear policy and human rights conditions. This approach enables the analysis of legal texts and relevant international documents.

Data are collected from primary sources, including UNSC resolutions, reports from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and other pertinent documents, as well as

¹² Eneyo et al., "Iran'S Nuclear Policy: Nature, Ambition, and Strategy."

¹³ Wahabuddin Ra'ees dan Abdol Moghset Bani Kamal, "Human rights of religious and ethnic minorities in the Islamic republic of Iran," *Journal for Interdisciplinary Middle Eastern Studies* 4, no. January (2019): 9–31, <https://doi.org/10.26351/JIMES/4/1>.

secondary sources such as books and scholarly articles. The analysis employs a doctrinal approach to examine the application of international legal frameworks in this context.

The analysis aims to provide insights into the effectiveness of international economic sanctions in altering Iran's policy, offering recommendations for more effective international strategies to address both human rights violations and Iran's nuclear ambitions

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. International law underpinning the imposition of international economic sanctions against Iran over its nuclear programme and human rights abuses.

The Middle East is a country whose territory is full of prolonged conflicts caused by natural resources produced, especially oil. Geographically, Iran is known as an Islamic Republic and has a long history of civilization and world history, namely the Persian Empire.

Iran is a country that has the potential to develop nuclear weapons whose activities are very attractive to the world. Iran's nuclear programme began in 1957 before the revolution. This programme was approved by Iran at the time of the establishment of the University's Atomic Centre and the beginning of the nuclear cooperation agreement between Iran and the United States.¹⁴

Iran's nuclear programme is based on peaceful objectives and strengthened by the existence of international agreements signed between Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) which are used as a source of Iran's national development, such as economic, social and development.¹⁵

The amount of pressure on Iran over its nuclear programme, the United States and the European Union to stop its nuclear programme has led the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to put pressure on Iran, as follows:

1. Economic embargo; and
2. Providing a threat to other countries that make investments.

However, Iran has ignored pressure exerted by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to maintain a nuclear programme developed with any weapons resistance.

After the Iranian revolution, relations between Iran and other countries continued to deteriorate, especially during the 444-day siege of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and the holding of 53 U.S. diplomats. This event triggered a series of US economic sanctions against Iran.¹⁶

¹⁴ Robert Maciejewski, "Iran'S Attempted Denuclearization and the Legality of Nuclear Weapons Use Under International Law," *Przegląd Strategiczny*, no. 16 (2023): 35–47, <https://doi.org/10.14746/ps.2023.1.3>.

¹⁵ Ali Bagheri Dolatabadi, "Ontological Security and Iran's Missile Program," *All Azimuth* 11, no. 2 (2022): 233–55, <https://doi.org/10.20991/allazimuth.1150303>.

¹⁶ Jesika Indah Sari Purba et al., "Analisis Sejarah Penyebab Awal Konflik antara Amerika Serikat dan Iran," *Polyscopia* 1, no. 3 (2024): 152–56, <https://doi.org/10.57251/polyscopia.v1i3.1367>.

Human rights abuses against religious minorities have been the subject of UN Security Council resolutions and human rights organisations, such as Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International.

In the 2000's, this conflict created many conflicts both regionally and globally. Diplomatic efforts at that time, such as the nuclear agreement or the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) signed in 2015, gave hope for relations between countries.¹⁷ However, the result of the United States withdrawing in 2018 sparked concern for other countries.¹⁸

Iran's nuclear programme is a major focal point for international concerns. The United States and its allies accuse Iran of using its nuclear programme to develop nuclear weapons, but Iran accommodates that its nuclear programme is a peace effort and to meet its domestic needs.

The United States' withdrawal from the JCPOA during Donald Trump's presidency in 2018 officially triggered the imposition of an embargo on Iran, although the U.S. economic sanctions are not the first for Iran.¹⁹ The policy issued by the United States is Significant Reduction Reductions (SREs). This policy does not only involve Iran but also several countries that import Iranian oil. Therefore, the United States has really suppressed Iran's oil exports to zero because oil is the main source of Iranian revenue.²⁰

Iran referred the issue to the UN Security Council and issued a resolution to Iran to stop all forms of its uranium enrichment, but Iran rejected the resolution set by the UN Security Council and continued its uranium enrichment. The UN has issued 7 resolutions to Iran including:

1. Resolution 1696 of 2006
2. Resolution 1737 of 2006
3. Resolution 1747 of 2007
4. Resolution 1803 of 2008
5. Resolution 1835 of 2008
6. Resolution 1929 of 2010
7. Resolution 2231 of 2015

Based on the above resolution set by the UN Council in resolution 1696 declared by the UN Security Council, Article 40 of the UN Charter is adopted. The resolution asks Iran to suspend its enrichment programme and verify compliance with the Atomic Agency. In this case, the UN Security Council will take steps against Iran as stipulated in Article 41 of

¹⁷ Paul Kerr, "Iran 's Nuclear Program," *Council on Foreign Relations* 54, no. September (2018): 1–69, <http://www.cfr.org/iran/irans-nuclear-program/p16811>.

¹⁸ Sevgi Balkan-Sahin, "Tracing discursive strategies to understand the U.S. withdrawal from the iranian nuclear deal," *Uluslararası İlişkiler* 17, no. 66 (2020): 61–76, <https://doi.org/10.33458/uidergisi.720631>.

¹⁹ Amir Magdy Kamel, "The JCPOA: How Iran's grand strategy stifled the US," *Middle Eastern Studies* 54, no. 4 (2018): 706–22, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00263206.2018.1427583>.

²⁰ Rahmi Fitriyanti et al., "Sanksi Ekonomi Amerika Serikat Terhadap Iran Periode 2018–2020 Dalam Perspektif Neorealisme," *Emerald: Journal of Economics and Social Sciences* 3, no. 1 (2024): 29–40, <https://jurnalsains.id/index.php/emerald/article/view/125>.

Chapter VII of the UN Charter. In this resolution, there are no sanctions but as a basis for the sanctions of resolution 1737.

Resolution 1737 was made based on Resolution 1696's response to Iran's failure to comply with the resolution. Therefore, 1737 was formed based on Article 41 of the UN Charter. Starting from this resolution, the sanctions of all countries against Iran are as follows:

- a. Prevent the supply, sale or transfer of goods related to ballistic and nuclear missiles to Iran and to ensure Iran does not use the goods in enrichment, the development of nuclear weapons delivery systems.
- b. Refrain from providing technical, financial, training or resource assistance related to nuclear and ballistic.
- c. It is not allowed to import items related to missiles and ballistics from Iran.

Until the 1929 UN Security Council resolution, which was reaffirmed from previous resolutions for Iran to stop all its nuclear enrichment and development activities, so in this resolution Iran was given the following sanctions:

1. Prohibit Iran from investing in nuclear and missile technology abroad, including in uranium mining investments.
2. Establish a complete assault embargo against Iran, banning the sale of armoured vehicles, large-calibre artillery systems, fighter aircraft, warships to Iran.
3. Prohibiting Iran from carrying out any activities related to ballistic missiles.

The resolution requires foreign countries as suppliers to Iran to take steps to prevent technology from entering Iran. The resolution urges countries and UN agencies to report to the IAEA regarding Iran's compliance with this resolution.

Resolution 2231 is the final resolution to maintain the arms embargo on Iran within 5 years after the implementation of sanctions on the nuclear program, so this resolution in the sale of goods to Iran is subject to the process of applying procurement channels that have been prepared by the JCPOA and the IAEA to monitor and verify in implementing the agreement.²¹

Based on the adopted resolutions and sanctions against Iran, the UN Security Council adopted Articles 40 and 41 of the UN Charter, as follows:

- a. Article 40 of the Charter of the United Nations
In order to prevent the deterioration of the situation, the Security Council may, before making recommendations or deciding on the measures set out in Article 39, request the relevant parties to comply with such interim measures as it deems necessary or desirable. These temporary actions may not harm the rights, claims, or positions of related parties. The Security Council must properly consider failure to comply with such interim measures.

²¹ Paloma González del Miño dan David Hernández Martínez, "International sanctions on Iran: effects on relations with the EU," *Revista CIDOB d'Afers Internacionals*, no. 125 (2020): 165–85, <https://doi.org/10.24241/rci.2020.125.2.165>.

b. Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Security Council can decide what measures do not involve the use of armed force to be used to enforce its decisions, and may request UN Members to implement such measures. These actions may include the complete or partial termination of economic, rail, sea, air, postal, telegraph, radio, and other means of communication, and the termination of diplomatic relations.²²

3.2. The effectiveness of international economic sanctions in stopping Iran's nuclear programme and addressing human rights abuses in the country.

International economic law in its regulation both nationally, regionally and worldly, international economic relations can be divided into 5 main categories, namely:

1. International movement of goods;
2. Cross-border movement of services (invisible trade);
3. International movement of persons;
4. International movement of capital that requires foreign investors to be able to directly supervise their capital; and
5. International payments in economic transactions that usually involve foreign exchange transactions.²³

In international economic law, every country has a relationship with other countries because international economic law is needed by countries in participating in trade to expand their market reach. Therefore, international economic law is a responsive act to changes in the international economy and because of this, countries make rules about international agreements.

International sanctions is a policy that is often used by international organisations, especially used by the United Nations to overcome conflicts and maintain world peace, which in this case is a coercive action applied by individuals, countries and other entities with the aim of coercion. These international sanctions are sanctions used by international organisations in response to conduct deemed to violate international law or recognised international norms.²⁴

International sanctions can be in the form of economic sanctions, such as trade embargoes or financial restrictions to diplomatic sanctions, such as freezing diplomatic relations.²⁵ The sanctions aim to exert political and economic pressure on the countries involved over the actions of the leaders of the authorities that threaten the freedom of the Iranian people against the protests against the death of Mahsa Amimi in custody carried out

²² United Nations. (n.d.). *Piagam Perserikatan Bangsa-Bangsa*. <https://www.un.org/>.

²³ Rumesten, I., Irsan, M. H., & Samawati, M. H. P. (n.d.). *HUKUM EKONOMI INTERNASIONAL MERIA UTAMA*.

²⁴ Inwook Kim dan Jung Chul Lee, "Sanctions for nuclear inhibition: Comparing sanction conditions between Iran and North Korea," *Asian Perspective* 43, no. 1 (2019): 95–122, <https://doi.org/10.1353/apr.2019.0003>.

²⁵ M Fuadillah Nugraha, "Analisis Strategi Perlawanan Indonesia Dalam Diskriminasi Kelapa Sawit Oleh Uni Eropa," *Al-Adalah: Jurnal Hukum dan Politik Islam* 6, no. 1 (2021): 88–105, <https://doi.org/10.35673/ajmpi.v6i1.1458>.

by Iranian security forces as well as the nuclear program that is considered to be raising concerns for world peace. Not only in the protest of Mahsa Amimi's death, but also during the fuel price increase of up to 50%. This is what caused Iran to face international sanctions given by the United Nations because it is considered to trigger a world peace conflict as stated in Article 40 of the UN Charter.²⁶

The purpose of imposing international economic sanctions on Iran is to keep Iran compliant with international law and prevent further violations. International economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations and other countries, especially the United States and the European Union, seek to reduce or stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons that could threaten international peace.

The effectiveness of international economic sanctions in this regard depends on factors such as international support, monitoring, enforcement, and mitigation of human impacts as well as several policy instruments. The success of these international sanctions is highly dependent on factors, one of which is sanctions supported by a number of countries and international organisations and a combination of policy instruments, namely, economic sanctions and diplomatic pressure.

The effectiveness of sanctions on Iran is a combination of international policy instruments that refer to international economic sanctions over nuclear programmes that can threaten world peace.

Economic sanctions are comprehensive measures to prohibit commercial activities with a country that blocks business transactions from the target country as in Articles 39 to 43 of the UN Charter, if the UN Security Council determines that there is a threat to peace, violations or acts of aggression. These actions include the use of armed force, the termination of economic and diplomatic relations.

The sanctions received by Iran in General Comment No. 8 of ICESCR on the relationship between economic sanctions and respect for economic, social and cultural rights indicate that regardless of the circumstances, they must take into account the provisions of the International Covenant. WHO in this case asks the international community to prohibit this sanction, because this sanction is an obstacle to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).²⁷

International economic sanctions are considered a very important policy, although in their implementation they face several challenges and debates by various other international organisations, including humanitarian impacts, food crises, lack of medicines and others. Preventive measures carried out by the United Nations are part of efforts to maintain world peace to suppress conflicts between countries. International peace is something that every country strives for for the prosperity and peace of mankind.

²⁶ <https://www.bbc.com>. (2020, September 3). *Hak Asasi Manusia di Iran: Pengunjuk Rasa Yang Ditahan Dalam Unjuk Rasa Tahun Lalu "dicambuk, dilecehkan secara seksual dan disetrum"*, *Ungkap Amnesty International*. <https://www.bbc.com>.

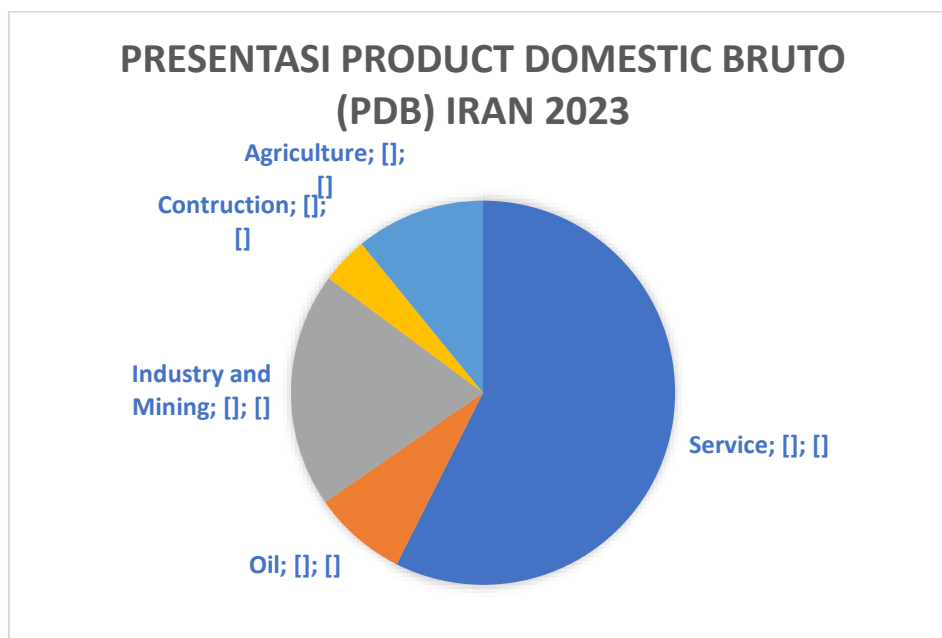
²⁷ <https://www.komnasham.go.id/>. (2009). *Komentar Umum: Kovenan Internasional Hak Sipil Dan Politik, Kovenan Internasional Hak Ekonomi, Sosial, Dan Budaya*. Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia.

Based on article 1 paragraph (1) of the UN Charter which is one of the objectives of the establishment of the United Nations which aims to maintain international peace and security.²⁸ This has a crucial humanitarian impact assessment, namely:

1. Avoiding adverse impacts on civilians;
2. Safeguarding the principles of international humanitarian law;
3. Increasing Legitimacy and Acceptance of Sanctions; and
4. Facilitate Adjustment and Mitigation.

The purpose of international economic sanctions set out in Iran's nuclear programme is to force Iran to comply with UN resolutions related to its nuclear programme development programme so that its use can be measured. The success of sanctions can also be affected by effective monitoring and enforcement systems. In the right of sanctions imposed on North Korea over its nuclear and missile development programmes because it is tacit due to the lack of verification and enforcement mechanisms. It is different with Iran's nuclear programme, which has been supported by a monitoring mechanism carried out by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

As a result of Iran's international sanctions that have an impact on Iran's economic condition, Iran's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has decreased, so many foreign companies have withdrawn from Iran. However, Iran still contributes almost 58% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the services sector. So that Iran continues to consolidate itself as a merit-based economy.²⁹



Source: Amwaj.media

²⁸ Fulenzi Amri, I., & Mayra Tsabitha, T. (n.d.). *Analisis Hukum Internasional: Dinamika Geopolitik Amerika Serikat & Rusia dengan ISIS dalam Gerakan Terorisme Di Moskow*.

²⁹ Bijan Khajehpour. (2024, February 24). *Deep Data: Ekonomi Iran pada tahun 2024*. <https://Amwaj.Media/Article/Deep-Data-the-Iranian-Economy-in-2024>.

However, this has no effect on Iran over the economic sanctions it faces, in fact until now Iran continues to carry out the process of developing its nuclear program even though it has caused many very high humanitarian consequences, namely the lack of state sources of income due to the blockade, food shortages and medicines that have an impact on the welfare of the Iranian people. Sanctions against Iran that only embargo in terms of economy without being accompanied by other efforts have so far proven to be ineffective.

4. Conclusion

This study demonstrates that although international economic sanctions imposed on Iran, both by the United Nations Security Council and Western countries, have had significant impacts on the country's economy, such as a decline in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the withdrawal of foreign companies, these sanctions have not succeeded in halting Iran's nuclear ambitions or improving its human rights record. Iran's nuclear program continues despite international pressure, while repressive policies against domestic protests and discrimination against religious and ethnic minorities persist. The lack of international consensus and insufficient support from major countries like Russia and China have further undermined the effectiveness of these sanctions.

To achieve more significant change, a more comprehensive approach is required, one that combines more targeted economic sanctions with stronger diplomatic efforts and stricter international oversight. Without solid international consensus and the vigorous enforcement of sanctions, efforts to address the nuclear and human rights challenges in Iran will continue to face significant obstacles. Therefore, the international legal response to Iran's nuclear ambitions and human rights violations must involve a more integrated approach and better coordination among states to achieve the goals of peace and international justice.

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