

25 April 2024





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Oxford

Publication date: 14 August 2018

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ISSN: 0964-8496

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# The sanctions interview: Justin Dargin, Middle East energy scholar, University of Oxford

The agreement in 2015 of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was a pivotal moment for the oil and gas sector in Iran, and for the geopolitical stability of the region. With the second-largest gas reserves in the world, Iran has the potential to pave the way for energy security in the Middle East. But the threat of renewed sanctions from the US marks the beginning of another period of uncertainty. Justin Dargin, Middle East energy expert at the University of Oxford, Saudi Aramco-OIES fellow and formerly one of OPEC's legal team, speaks to Gas Matters about the legal implications of the sanctions for the international gas industry and the potential areas in which Iran could focus its efforts as the sun sets on its European trading ambitions.







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