

“Takeaways for Iran a Year After the Syria Sanctions Rollback,” *Lawfare*

Publications

July 21, 2026

By: Rachel K. Alpert

Partner Rachel Alpert co-authored an article for *Lawfare* examining what the year-long process of unwinding US sanctions on Syria suggests about the far more complex challenge of any future sanctions relief for Iran.

[Read More](#)

The authors trace how, even after a decisive regime change, it took the United States more than 18 months to substantially dismantle its Syria sanctions program, with private-sector reengagement slowed by lingering legal exposure and banks' reluctance to commit capital based on reversible waivers.

Applying those lessons to Iran, they point to Congress's central role in any durable relief, the risk of "snapback" if statutory sanctions aren't fully repealed, and the particular difficulty posed by Iran's SST designation and the IRGC's deep entanglement in its economy.

The authors conclude that any eventual US-Iran sanctions deal will likely follow a similarly long and uncertain path, requiring sustained coordination with Congress and international partners well beyond the signing of any initial agreement.

Related Capabilities

National Security and Crisis

Related Locations

Washington, DC

© 2026 Jenner & Block LLP. Attorney Advertising. Jenner & Block LLP is an Illinois Limited Liability Partnership including professional corporations. This publication, presentation, or event is not intended to provide legal advice but to provide information on legal matters and/or firm news of interest to our clients and colleagues. Readers or attendees should seek specific legal advice before taking any action with respect to matters mentioned in this publication or at this event. The attorney responsible for this communication is Brent E. Kidwell, Jenner & Block LLP, 353 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60654-3456. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. Jenner & Block London LLP, an affiliate of Jenner & Block LLP, is a limited liability partnership established under the laws of the State of Delaware, USA and is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority with SRA number 615729. Information regarding the data we collect and the rights you have over your data can be found in our Privacy Notice. For further inquiries, please contact dataprotection@jenner.com.

Stay Informed

