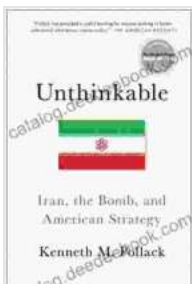


# Unthinkable: Iran, the Bomb, and American Strategy



The Islamic Republic of Iran is one of the most important and volatile countries in the world. It is a major oil producer, a key player in the Middle East, and a potential nuclear power. The United States has a long and complicated history with Iran, and the two countries have been at odds for decades.



## Unthinkable: Iran, the Bomb, and American Strategy

by Theodore H. White

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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One of the most pressing concerns about Iran is its nuclear program. Iran has long denied that it is seeking to develop nuclear weapons, but many experts believe that this is exactly what it is ng. If Iran were to acquire nuclear weapons, it would pose a serious threat to the United States and its allies in the region.

The United States has a number of options for dealing with the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran. One option is to launch a military strike against Iran's nuclear facilities. This would be a risky move, as it could lead to a wider war in the Middle East. Another option is to negotiate with Iran and try to persuade it to give up its nuclear program. This could be a difficult task, as Iran is unlikely to give up something that it sees as essential to its security.

The debate over how to deal with Iran's nuclear program is a complex one, with no easy answers. The United States must weigh the risks and benefits of all its options before making a decision. The future of the Middle East, and perhaps the world, could depend on the decision that it makes.

## **The Iranian Nuclear Program**

Iran's nuclear program began in the 1950s with the help of the United States. The United States was eager to help Iran develop its nuclear energy program, as it saw Iran as a potential ally in the Middle East.

However, after the Iranian Revolution in 1979, the United States became increasingly concerned about Iran's nuclear program. The United States believed that Iran was seeking to develop nuclear weapons, and it imposed sanctions on Iran in an effort to prevent it from doing so.

Iran has always denied that it is seeking to develop nuclear weapons. It claims that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes only, such as generating electricity and producing medical isotopes. However, many experts believe that Iran is not being truthful about its nuclear ambitions. They point to a number of factors, including Iran's history of deception and its refusal to cooperate with international inspectors.

In 2015, Iran signed a nuclear deal with the United States and other world powers. The deal placed limits on Iran's nuclear program in exchange for the lifting of sanctions. However, the United States withdrew from the deal in 2018, and Iran has since begun to ramp up its nuclear program again.

## **The American Strategy**

The United States has a long history of involvement in Iran. The United States supported the Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, for many years. However, the Shah was overthrown in the Iranian Revolution in 1979, and the United States has been at odds with Iran ever since.

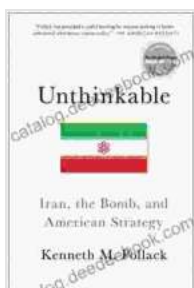
The United States has a number of goals in its dealings with Iran. These goals include preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, promoting democracy and human rights in Iran, and countering Iran's influence in the Middle East.

The United States has a number of options for dealing with Iran. These options include military strikes, negotiations, and sanctions. The United States must weigh the risks and benefits of all its options before making a decision.

## The Future of Iran

The future of Iran is uncertain. The country is facing a number of challenges, including economic sanctions, political instability, and the threat of war. It is unclear whether Iran will be able to overcome these challenges and build a more prosperous and stable future.

The United States has a significant role to play in the future of Iran. The United States can help Iran to overcome its challenges and build a more prosperous and stable future. However, the United States must also be prepared to confront Iran if it poses a threat to the United States or its allies.



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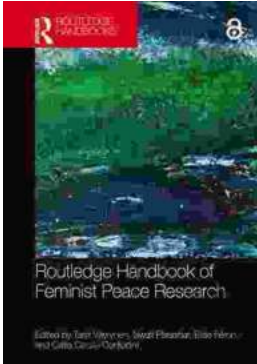
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