

# Iran's foreign minister responds to Trump 'maximum pressure' campaign amid regime panic

written by Dr. Yossi Mansharof | 05.02.2025

Dr. Yossi Mansharof: Despite oil sanctions on Iran, data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) reveals that Iran's oil revenue surged to \$144 billion in the first three years of Biden's presidency (January 2021-January 2024), \$100 billion more than during the last two years of the Trump administration.

While Biden tightened sanctions, he did not enforce them, allowing Iran to continue profiting from oil exports, providing critical support to its economy. This approach reflects a flawed strategy of attempting to engage Ali Khamenei [the supreme leader of Iran] diplomatically while ignoring Iran's oil smuggling.

it is unclear whether this strategy is sufficient. Military pressure on Iran is needed to disrupt its activities, send a clear message on its nuclear ambitions, and prevent further destabilizing actions.

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