

# Fischer Expresses Doubts About Iranian Deal

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Sen. Deb Fischer voiced concerns Wednesday about the emerging nuclear deal with Iran, noting that the pact would allow Iran to retain its nuclear development infrastructure.

"The greatest threat, without a doubt, is a nuclear-armed Iran," Fischer told a University of Nebraska-Lincoln student audience.

Iran's goal is to become "the dominant regional power" in the Mideast, she said, and a nuclear agreement that leaves the infrastructure in place for possible Iranian development of nuclear weapons could spark a nuclear arms race in the region.

The United States and the five other nations negotiating with Iran need to forge "a deal our allies have faith in," the Republican senator said in a Thomas C. Sorensen Public Policy Seminar address.

The framework of an agreement leaves too many details unclear or unresolved, Fischer said, including the breadth of access for international inspection and an understanding of when economic sanctions now applied to Iran would be lifted.

Iran already is developing an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) system that would transform it from a regional threat into a global threat, said Fischer, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

A nuclear-armed ICBM "could reach our country," she said, transforming Iran into "a direct threat to the United States."

The Senate "should be updated" by the Obama administration about the negotiations with Iran, Fischer said. "Congress established the sanctions. The Senate should be involved."

The parameters of an agreement reached by the United States, Iran, Russia, China, France, the United Kingdom and Germany were announced a week ago.

A final agreement is due to be concluded by June 30.

