

## Axios: Holding the third round of negotiations depends on Iran presenting its plan to the US within the next 48 hours

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Quoting a senior U.S. official, the Axios website announced on Sunday, February 22, that if Iran presents a "detailed proposal" for a nuclear deal to the U.S. within the next 48 hours, U.S. negotiators are prepared to hold another round of talks in Geneva on Friday, February 27. This senior U.S. official said the Donald Trump administration is awaiting Iran's proposal. U.S. officials have said that current diplomatic efforts are likely the last chance the U.S. president will give Iran prior to a major joint U.S.-Israeli military operation. Axios stated that this operation could directly target Ali Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic. According to this report, Donald Trump's envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner—both of whom have advised him to give diplomacy a chance before ordering a strike—intend to be present in Geneva on February 27 if Iran submits a proposal early this week. A senior U.S. official said: "If Iran presents a draft proposal, the U.S. is prepared to meet on Friday in Geneva to begin detailed negotiations and see whether we can reach a nuclear agreement or not." This official also confirmed that the Trump administration and Iran may also discuss the possibility of reaching an interim agreement prior to a comprehensive nuclear accord. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said in an interview with U.S. network MSNBC on Friday that Iran will prepare a draft proposal for an agreement to the U.S. within the next two to three days.