

**An Islamic theory of international relations and Iran's foreign policy
toward the Syrian crisis**

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Abstract

Currently, the Syrian crisis has become one of the pivotal issues for decision-making in Iran's regional foreign policy. In this research, we're going to answer this question the functions of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Syrian crisis, what is based on the elements of national interest of this country, and also the hypothesis studied the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Syrian crisis, based on the fight against terrorism and maintain the security of civilians, maintaining the existing political situation and support the legitimate government of Syria and finally, maintain stability and security in the Middle East according to Islamic standards. This paper is intended addition to addressing the important parameters of Iran's foreign policy toward The Syrian crisis, exploring the reason for adopting these policies from the perspective of the theory of Islam and with a focus on an Islamic State (Islamic Republic of Iran). Iran to maintain, spiritual and worldly interests, geopolitical conditions and influenced by the structure of the international system, has adopted specific strategies such as having a strong national government, geopolitical situation, and ideological element that gives in this country a prominent role in regional issues. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran is an important role in the Middle East with innate rationality in deciding the direction of strengthening the position and increasing its moral and material interests.

Keywords

Iran's foreign policy, The Syrian crisis, Islamic theory of international relations, ISIL, security, Middle East.

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Introduction

Widespread developments in some Arab countries, including Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Yemen, and Bahrain under the name of Arab Spring (Islamic Awakening) in the Middle East and North occurred; it is a turning point in the new millennium. These developments (Arab Spring) began in Tunisia and extended to Egypt, Yemen, Libya, and Bahrain, This changed the rulers of these countries and, as a result, affected them were transferred to Syria. But, it is worth noting that the shape of Syria's internal events was the obvious difference from that of other countries in the region. This, with the rise of the Salafi and Takfirist groups and ISIL and turn it into a war of attrition and the presence of regional and trans-regional powers became more visible. In other words, tensions in Syria, in addition to the internal consequences, will have an enormous impact on international and regional issues such as the stability issue in Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Palestinian issue, Iran's influence, and Organizations such as Hamas and Hezbollah. Therefore, it is more important to examine the developments in Syria compared to other Arab countries. Because Syria is a strategic partner of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the main link of the Islamic resistance (axis of resistance) in the region. This country is not only the strategic depth of the Islamic Republic of Iran but also the kind of government in this country, it also plays a decisive role in the future equations of the Middle East and the material and spiritual interests of the Islamic Republic. Therefore, it can be stated that the most important regional ally of Iran in the Middle East is Syria and Iran to maintain the front line of resistance in the fight against Israel and to strengthen and support resistance movements, it needs the support of the Syrian government. For this reason, the Islamic Republic of Iran's strategy towards the Syrian crisis, emphasizes the fight against terrorism and the establishment of stability and security in this country and the region, Support for the Assad government, and the lack of foreign intervention. Because Iran's political necessities in Syria are based on safeguarding this country's material and spiritual interests (Iran) and the importance of its place in the region's political-security equations. Therefore, In this research, we're going to answer this question the functions of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Syrian crisis, what is based on the elements of national interest of this country, and also

hypotheses studied are the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Syrian crisis, based on the fight against terrorism and maintain the security of civilians, maintaining the existing political situation and the government of Syria and finally, maintain stability and security in the Middle East according to Islamic standards. This paper is intended addition to addressing the important parameters of Iran's foreign policy toward The Syrian crisis, exploring the reason for adopting these policies from the perspective of the theory of Islam and with a focus on an Islamic State (Islamic Republic of Iran). Iran to maintain, spiritual and worldly interests, geopolitical conditions and influenced by the structure of the international system, has adopted specific strategies such as having a strong national government, geopolitical situation, and ideological element that gives in this country a prominent role in regional issues. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran is an important actor in the Middle East with innate rationality in deciding the direction of strengthening the position and increasing its moral and material interests.

1. An Islamic theory of international relations and foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Iran's approach is based on objectivity religion and politics and the existence of a religious state to prompt the authors, this time from an Islamic perspective are examined Iran's foreign policy, specifically in one of the world's geopolitical regions. According to this, so far, not been raised a separate theory with the Islamic approach in international relations has, but Iran's foreign policy performance is based on Islamic assumptions and is obtained application of valid logic and Islamic warranted. In the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ayatollah Khamenei and Khomeini's statements adopted from the Qur'an and Sunnah are considerable. The Islamic religion has general rules and established rules such as rejection of way. But the mission of The Islamic religion as a complete religion is full of direction and guidance the human; is not explain all the principles and major and minor rules of international relations. The holy legislator, the authority of human reason to understand political affairs, is an emphasis based on the principle of concomitance. Because the inclusion of Islam over all human sciences such as international relations is a violation of Allah's wisdom.

Because of the holy legislator, many of the political and international affairs that reason can devise reason and rational practice is entrusted. Although the fundamentals of international relations today are based on secularism, by putting the Islamic philosophical foundations can be by adopting an Islamic perspective pay description and analysis of the foreign policy; Iran's foreign policy is based on a theory of Islam, which is examined with the method and purpose. Islamic theory instead of emphasizing the level of analysis units emphasized the order and the international community. In the framework of the approach established of pluralism, the Islamic theory of international relations can be defined as follows: a series of logical propositions consistent and relevant based on assumptions derived from sources and Islamic Sciences by the method of experiential, rational, intuitive, and anecdotal that express the view and the idea of systematic and accurate about relations and international order. In this way, science is a matter of gradation. It should be noted, that in the event of the emergence of conflict in the results of judgment on an issue, wisdom is preferred and valid. Thus, the Methodological of pluralism is considered from the assumptions of the methodology of Islamic theory. By assumptions anthropological, human societies follow a certain nature. Human societies in the field of international relations have the will and functionality. Islamic international relations theory explains "is" an international phenomenon as they understand it to pay (Dehghani Firoozabadi, 2010: 124-125). Check the social world adopted from reality independent of the human mind; the phenomena studied have the attributes and traits that they need to explain and describe. Phenomena are orderly and obey the law of causality but what that have a different perspective to the ontological Islamic theory in foreign policy, are the doctrine of tawhid, justice, and the primacy of the individual and society (see: Dehghani Firoozabadi, 2010: 130).

- **The doctrine of tawhid:** A universe is a whole unit that Allah the Almighty is the origin and destination so that; there are overall communication and coordination between the ultimate constituents of the world which is moving to the single destination.
- **The principle of justice:** the creation system is the best system. Also in the international system should be inherent entitlements compliance with

the agreement of all the human societies and be capable of their flourishing the great talents and is to achieve perfection and happiness.

- **Individualism and Society:** or interaction between agent and structure (both individual and community).

This theory is not to maintain the status quo but also seeks to explain how and why the puzzles and the system's problems and the existing international order is for the treatment of them. The major problem of international relations, is unjust means do not just order. Since the tendency and the desire for justice were natural and there is in the universe. In other words, neglect of human fitra and Islam is the true religion as a social tradition. The purpose of the Islamic theory of International Relations contrary to solving of explanatory theories is not to maintain order and the status quo; because revealing the power relations and fair international order, structural violence, and then the abolition of relations of domination and suppression of it (arrogance) knows a moral obligation. This moral responsibility is particularly towards a human and communities that as a result of unequal power relations suppressed and have been subjugated (Mustaz'afin). So Islamic theory of international relations has moral dimensions and elements. Because it seeks to influence the formation and principles, values, and moral discourse on international relations and has revealed the moral commitments and obligations, and is a normative theory of homeland-oriented that seeks to the application of standards, principles and universal moral thoughts in the international relations that is rooted in human fitra and the topics are the standard of moral judgment in international relations and seeking common humanitarian principles and rebuilding social procedures. The non-secular Islamic desirable international order, ethical and fair determines the excellence and happiness of all mankind. Here, the government is a single and integrated agent and here we look at the patterns of decision-making (Dehghani Firoozabadi, 2010: 132). Meaning rationalism is the diagnostic force that the creator of the universe uses to recognize good and evil. This kind of rationality, rules, and moral standards are based on human needs and knows personal profit based on cost-benefit and require little. This type of reason has a normative and communicative dimension and according to the policies of the ruling values and norms and dimension cognitive duty that is, the action is based on moral standards in the field of foreign policy. Finally,

we can say this type of reason is said to be religious wisdom because of maintaining the relationship between the origins of religious standards. Accordingly, in the following, the explanation of Iran's foreign policy will be based on the above assumptions.

2. Iran's foreign policy and the hypotheses of Islamic theory

The Islamic Republic of Iran versus the Syrian crisis works other international phenomena are based on task logic, in this sense, the motivation of the behavior of the Islamic Republic of Iran is not maximized but also The action based on intrinsic integrity and incorrectness and compatibility with divine rules and its legitimacy based on the duties and duties of the religious. The Axial assignment is based on the divine nature of responsibility in foreign policy. Here, the concepts of rationality, interest, and duty are related to each other, because the diagnosis of duty at a time needs to use wisdom in expediency and assignment before it's done. The task is what the holy founder as primary or secondary laws, and the individual is required to follow it. But the diagnosis of the verdicts responsible person is required. For example, that is the wisdom that recognizes instances of justice. In the field of Iran's foreign policy, the main task is to preserve the existence of Islam, the Islamic system, and the spread of justice and there is a relationship between the practice of legal duties and the spread of justice. In this way, the social, political, economic, and cultural structures and traditions that lead to the distortion of fitra and human society are null and void and by correcting them, humans achieve their divine fitra and peace of stability. In this regard, Iran's foreign policy is based on the negation of any subjugation and domination, maintaining all-inclusive independence and territorial integrity of the country, defending the rights of all Muslims and non-alignment with the dominant powers, and Peaceful Mutual Relations with Non-hostile governments (Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 2001). In addition to this principle, there are also other principles in line with these goals, which give way to the mentality of the elites active in the field of Iran's foreign policy. Considering the constitution and the performance of Iran in the international arena, the international and regional goals of this country can be divided into three categories:

- A. Economic growth and development, preservation of territorial integrity, and national sovereignty
- B. Defending Muslims and liberation movements and fighting the Israel regime and Western (especially the United States).
- C. Peaceful Mutual Relations with Non-hostile governments

In this regard, Article 152 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran states: “The Islamic Republic of Iran considers human happiness as a whole human society and Independence and freedom, and the rule of justice and truth, are recognized by all people, therefore, while avoiding any interference in the internal affairs of other nations [states], protects the rights-based struggle of the oppressed against the oppressors anywhere in the world”. Also, according to the Crimean verse “Verily, this brotherhood of yours is a single brotherhood (92 Al-Anbiya)”, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is required to put its general policy based on a coalition and unity of Islamic nations and it has been endeavoring to realize the political, economic and cultural unity of the Islamic world. According to the above principles, the General lines of Iran’s foreign policy are as follows:

“Neglect of domination, neglect of subjugation, to preserve all-inclusive independence, prohibition of treaties that cause foreign domination over the country, the idea of knowing the happiness of man for the whole human society, recognition of independence and freedom and the rule of law and justice as the rights of all people of the world, absolute refusal to intervene in the internal affairs of other nations, protects the rights-based struggle of the oppressed against the oppressors anywhere in the world, the inseparability of freedom, independence and unity and territorial integrity of the country, defending the rights of all Muslims in the world, non-alignment with the dominant powers, peaceful and prosperous peace relations with non-hostile governments, respect for international treaties, resolving international disputes through peaceful means and accepting arbitration on the basis of truth and justice, co-operation and participation and active role in international affairs, similar action in the necessary cases, priority and preferences of relations with Islamic countries on non-Islamic countries, observance for dignity, wisdom and expediency in foreign policy”.

These principles, in addition to being fully compatible with our religious (Islam) teachings, are also consistent with rational principles and principles. In other words, the embedding of wisdom and religion is seen in the principles of foreign policy, like all other issues. In this way, wisdom can be considered as the basis of Islamic international law; That is, the rules of international law of Islam are principles based on wisdom and arising from rational human equations. Of course, it should be noted that Islam is the religion of Khatam, it usually states the fundamentals of subjects, but the coordination and harmonization of these principles with the requirements of time and place is the task of the Islamic policy-makers and thinkers. As general principles are of particular importance, it is also important to supply them in the community and to use it in the right place. So, given the fact that reviewing all of the preceding principles is beyond the scope of our article, several titles were briefly reviewed. Given the above, Iran's macro-foreign policy approaches to the Syrian crisis can be divided into the following four categories:

1. **Human rights approach:** According to this approach, the Islamic Republic of Iran, while supporting the government of Bashar al-Assad and condemning foreign interference, is based on the need for a national dialogue between the government and the opposition on the immediate cessation of violence and respect for the legitimate demands of the Syrian people. The positions taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the face of this crisis show that the Syrian people have the right to enjoy legitimate freedom and civil rights, On the other hand, Iran emphasizes that there is no military solution to the Syrian crisis and that it should be done through dialogue and negotiations between the government and the opposition and without foreign interference.

2. **Ideological approach:** According to this approach, the religious and ideological affinity and the nature of the belief between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the government and people of Syria, which threatens the presence of Takfirists and their inhumane behavior, confirms the need for Iranian support. On the other hand, as mentioned, Article 54 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran emphasizes the need to oppose oppression and support the oppressed of the world against the arrogant. In other words, due to the doctrinal and ideological nature of the Islamic Republic of Iran, support for Syria has been based on religious duty. The

defense of the sanctity of the Ahl al-Bayt (AS) in Syria can also be analyzed in this regard.

3. **Geopolitical approach:** According to this approach, the location of Syria as one of the main pillars of the axis of resistance in the Mediterranean region and its proximity to Israel also confirms the importance of Iran's role in the Syrian crisis.

4. **Security and Strategic Approach:** The Islamic Republic of Iran pursues a policy of safeguarding strategic interests in the light of relations with regional allies and transnational groups such as Hezbollah and Hamas, which play a special role in the region's political and security equations, in the foreign policy approach. Iran's economic support and military advisor to Syria can also be explained in this regard.

3. Iran's foreign policy and the fight against terrorism and maintaining the existing political status

Today's Takfirist terrorism has become one of the most important security challenges in the Middle East, which has put regional order at risk of collapse. Takfirist terrorism has increased in the region in recent years, and this affects the political-social stability and economic progress of countries. In recent years, especially after September 11, 2001, this ideology has become more widespread and diffused by the general regional disturbance and some political considerations of the stakeholders. Terrorism and extremism, especially in Iraq and Syria, have been reinforced by various internal and regional factors, but now they have become a major source of instability and insecurity. So now, terrorism and extremism have become one of the biggest regional and international challenges. In this way, the fight against extremism and terrorism, helping to strengthen political trends, resolve crises, deny foreign intervention, opposition to militarism, and support the fulfillment of the wishes and demands of the people of the Middle East, is one of the main indices of Iran in the Middle East, which has shaped Tehran's foreign activity and behavior. Following the September 11 incident and the US strategy of "fighting terrorism" and putting the name of Islamic resistance groups such as Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Hezbollah, Iran, and Syria, thanks to the support of these groups, they were practically accused and threatened by the United States, but the parties not only did not support their support for the Islamic Resistance But also more explicitly supported the course of the Islamic resistance in the 33-day Israeli war

against Hezbollah and the 22-day Israeli war with Hamas in Gaza and for 51 days and Battle of Saif al-Quds (2021). Iran, as the only Islamic country that strongly emphasizes the support for self-determination by the Syrians, plays a role in this country. To explain and evaluate the performance of Iran as a powerful regional actor in Syria and analysis of the events in the country, it should be noted that Iran since the beginning of the Syrian war, with a democratic approach and the fight against terrorism in Syria, has played the role of an adviser. In this regard and in support of the resistance and the Syrian people, the commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Guards, Mohammad Ali Jafari (former) stated:” given the manpower and the presence of the people of that country, there is no need for the military intervention of other collections and we provide them with empirical training and software, and we see the effect of this after several years of conflict”. Iran, along with the Syrian government and army, plays an important role in fighting terrorism and the policy of some Arab and Western countries, including Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United States, is divided into terrorism, a factor exacerbating the Syrian crisis and spreading terrorism. The logical approach and influential role of Iran in Syria have forced the great powers to consult Iran as an active and active actor in resolving the regional crisis. Iran, as the sole Islamic country, has strongly emphasized the fight against terrorism and the security of Syrian civilians and plays a role in this country. In explaining Iran's actions as a powerful regional actor in the developments in Syria, it should be noted that Tehran has played a role in advancing the starting point of the Syrian war with a democratic approach and the fight against terrorism in Syria. On the other hand, according to the principles of Iran’s foreign policy, the policy of maintaining the status quo in countries that have anti-Israeli policies in the region and supporting Hezbollah and Hamas against Israel and the United States. Also, such a policy has been implemented in Syria. On the other hand, Syria was on the resistance front and the support of the resistance front –with the emphasis on fundamental reforms in this country- was a religious, legal, and human duty and with the goals of the revolution, the national interests, territorial integrity, and Iran’s foreign policy are matches. In this regard, Ayatollah Khamenei said:” We are explicit; we intervened in cases of anti-Israelis; this result was the victory of the 33-day war and the victory of the 22-day war.

After that, every nation, every group that fights the Zionist regime, will confront it, we are behind it and help it and we are not afraid to say that. This is the truth and reality". That's why Iran supports Hezbollah, Syria, and Palestinian resistance. Also, the doctrinal and religious reasons for defending the shrine of Al-Allah led to the establishment of a movement called "Defenders of the Shrine" in defense of the shrine of Hazrat Zainab (PBUH). In this regard, it can be said that following the influence of ISIL in Iraq and Syria, the presence of resistance forces, especially Iranians in these two countries, has originated from the intellectual, ideological, and political foundations of Islam. In other words, defending the sanctuary is defending Islam, as Imam Khomeini (RA) said: "Today, all Islam stands against all blasphemy (Kofr)" who took this sentence, including the Prophet (PBUH) in the war of parties. Those who encroach on the shrines of the Ahl al-Bayt (AS) in Iraq and Syria have nothing to do with the land of Syria and Iraq, but with Islam.

4. Iran's foreign policy and government of Syria and civilians

As said, Iran and Syria share common interests in the Middle East (West Asia). The good relations between Iran and Syria started before the Islamic Revolution in Iran and during the imposed war period (the regime of Saddam against Iran), it continues to play a role in the region as the two countries with common interests and from this perspective, Iran together with Syria and groups such as Hezbollah, Hamas and the Islamic Jihad of Palestine, has formed the so-called "resistance" axis. Accordingly, following the US-led invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq in 2001 and 2003, relations between Syria and Iran entered a new stage due to regional developments. The Ba'ath rule of Iraq fell as a common enemy of Iran and Syria but there was no change in the approach of the United States to the two governments. The United States in this period, Iran, and Syria called the insurgent governments and sponsors of terrorism; this was very influential in the closer relations between Iran and Syria, bringing the positions of the two countries closer together. In the same vein, the two countries signed a strategic cooperation agreement in 2004, and in 2006 signed a bilateral defense treaty. Also, with the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the Gaza Strip in 2006 and 2008, when Israeli warring tendencies became more prominent, the

Lebanon-Iran-Syria-Hezbollah strategic alliance was strengthened (Niakuye et al., 2013: 129). For this reason, Iran and Syria have kept their alliance in line with some of the Middle East issues, such as the fight against terrorism and fundamentalism. Hence, Iran has played a special role in maintaining the status quo in Syria and supporting its legitimate government. In this regard, the Islamic Republic of Iran, while supporting the Syrian government, emphasizes the political resolution of this country's crisis by providing a people-centered approach. In this regard, Iran's six-point plan (at the beginning of the crisis of 2011) and four-point plan (2015) provided that include: An immediate ceasefire, the formation of a national unity government, political reform in Syria, and the conduct of elections in Syria under international supervision. Considering the above considerations, in reaction to the Syrian crisis, Iran has always tried to support the demands of its people, and announced all-around support to this country (Nejat and Jafari Valdani, 2013: 41). Therefore, Iran has made extensive efforts to support the Syrian government. Indeed, Iran's foreign policy toward Syria is based on stabilizing, ending violence, and resolving the political crisis through political means. In this regard, Iran's main option is to strengthen the Syrian government (Bashar al-Assad), Rebuilding this country and granting civil liberties is in the form of national demands. Accordingly, Iran's supportive policy toward the Syrian crisis is summarized in three important components (Parchamdar, 2013: 58-59):

1. Stop the violence and kill the Syrian people
2. Lack of political and military intervention by foreigners
3. Preserving Bashar al-Assad's government along with emphasizing the need for internal reforms

In line with the above three components, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei stated in an official position:” The Islamic Republic of Iran's stance on Syria, Supporting any reform for the benefit of the people of this country and opposing US intervention and its follower countries in Syria's internal affairs” (Khamenei, 2011). Also, the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hassan Rouhani, in a congratulatory message on the occasion of Aleppo's release, told to Bashar al-Assad:” The victory in Aleppo and the return of the second largest Syrian city to the nation was the great success of the resistant and united Syrian nation against the terrorists and their

supporters. Today the task of the international community is to help the oppressed Syrian people” (President, 2016). Rouhani also noted Iran's readiness to send humanitarian and medical aid to the Syrian people, and especially to the residents of Aleppo:” it is imperative to support the oppressed Syrian people in the current situation, and now is the time for a great test for all human rights advocates. International Community Assistance to Syrian Refugees and the Damaged is a Priority for All after Aleppo's Freedom” (President, 2016). Also, Ismail Qa’ani, a deputy commander of the Quds Force, said in an interview with ISNA:” The Quds Force has an "effective presence" in Syria, with this presence “Physically and non-physically, major killings were prevented in Syria” (ISNA, 2011). Foreign Ministry spokesman; Bahram Qasemi also said:” The policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the importance of human and humanitarian issues is clear and We have always insisted on it and have worked hard to achieve it by consulting and encouraging all countries affected in the Syrian crisis and we will do our best now. This means saving the lives of innocent people and preventing the killing of civilians by terrorist groups, unchanging principles and policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been and will be (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran, 2016). Iran’s foreign policy towards Arab uprisings, defend and support the rights of the deprived and fighting nations and in Syria, it is based on supporting its sovereignty while defending the rights of the Syrian people; The rights that must be secured through political reforms and now such as this reforms has begun in Syria. Therefore, the principle of the defense of the rights of nations in all countries as an inviolable principle in Iran’s foreign policy has always been respected, and also in the current developments in the region (after 2011), especially the Syrian crisis, it operates on the same principle. As such, Iran, as one of the most important actors in the Middle East, plays a key role in the Syrian crisis, so it is impossible to achieve any kind of successful agreement without Iran's presence. Iran, while supporting the Syrian government and people, rejects any solution that is not based on a peaceful and political solution to the Syrian crisis and fully supports the Syrian government. So, based on the principle of good intention in foreign policy decision-making, Iran seeks to achieve material and spiritual interests in the region. The good

intention in addition to removing national interest in its common sense also seeks to avert possible harm and corruption to religious interests.

5. Iran's foreign policy and maintaining stability and security in the Middle East

Historically, the Middle East region as a vital and strategic region, in the arena of world politics, has enjoyed a special place. Therefore, the security and stability of the region, it has been important for regional and trans-regional powers. The Middle East because of divergences in national interests, the Intervention of world powers in regional affairs, the Arab-Israeli conflict, The Role of "Political Islam" and the Crisis in Syria, Iraq, and Yemen, has always been faced with instability and insecurity. Thus, since the Middle East has always played an important role in international developments, the Islamic Republic of Iran after the victory of the revolution has played a leading role in the region. This has become more prominent in recent years, especially during the Syrian crisis, consultation of regional authorities, especially in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen with the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran and international leaders acknowledged the importance of Iran's participation in peace and tranquility in the region and the fight against terrorism and ISIL also confirms this. In this regard, President of the European Parliament; "Martin Schultz" meets with Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran; "Mohammad Javad Zarif" Noted:" We emphasize that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been an important role in resolving regional conflicts and its role in peace and stability is undeniable and the presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in future conferences in Vienna is important" (Farsnews, 2015). In this regard, the Hungarian Foreign Minister also stated:" For Hungary, stability in the Middle East is very important, because maintaining stability and peace in this region will ensure security in Europe, and Iran, as a regional power, plays an undeniable role in Middle East peace and stability" (Farsnews, 2016). It is noteworthy that the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy has also emphasized efforts to establish stability and security in the region and even internationally. The principle of peaceful coexistence and peacemaking is one of the tenets of Iran's foreign policy; it considers resolving the conflicts and tensions in the Middle East following its foreign policy

strategies. Therefore, the components of de-escalation, de-tension, pivotal justice, and constructive interaction to achieve Iran's foreign policy goals are recognizable. For example, the doctrine of pivotal justice in the foreign policy of this country is "cost-effective for pacifism and deterrence" (Eywazi, 2008: 217). Without a doubt the most important priority in Iran's Middle East policy, regional cooperation is with its neighbors in the Middle East and the restoration of peace and stability in the region. This is an issue that Iranian political elites and scholars have explicitly emphasized in their interviews and discussions. In this regard, the [former] spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of Iran; Bahram Qasemi stated: "The presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran's advisers in Syria and spiritual and political support for the defenseless people of some Islamic countries in the region who have been subjected to brutality and brutal violence by terrorist-takfirists groups and ISIL; to maintain stability and security of the region and the world It is expected that all countries in the region will work with a positive approach and constructive measures to restore security, peace and prevent the killing of more the defenseless people" (Tasnim, 2016). Also, Ali Larijani, Chairman of Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran noted: "The strategy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is to cooperate closely and broadly with the Syrian government and nation to bring stability, peace, and security to the region" (IRNA, 2016). In this context, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif stated in an interview: "The whole situation of Iran makes our country a peaceful country and we must explain to the world this message of peace and alongside this peacemaking, we are a country that speaks to other countries because of the existence Islamic Republic and Our example of democracy and independence, when extremism and secularism have failed to answer the needs of regional countries, has been able to continue on its way and rebuild a huge social capital for our country that gives us a lot of power internationally" (IRINN, 1392).

Generally, Iran entered the regional and international equations after the victory of the Islamic Revolution as an active and independent actor. The Role of Islamic Teachings in Outlining Iran's Foreign Policy, It made the Islamic Republic have an effective role in achieving regional and even international peace and security. Indeed, Iran's unique political and

geopolitical position in the strategic region of West Asia and is considered at the macro level of the Islamic world, made the Islamic Republic of Iran an important source of regional and international peace and security. In other words, the Islamic Republic of Iran has always pursued world peace and security based on its strategic principles. Accordingly, under Article 152 of Chapter 10 of the Constitution mentioned in previous discussions, Neglect of domination, neglect of subjugation, preserving the country's total independence and territorial integrity, defending the rights of all Muslims, and lack of commitment to dominant powers and Bilateral peaceful relations with non-hostile states are based. That is to say, peaceful coexistence and peacemaking are principles that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always insisted on interacting with other states and nations. From an international standpoint, the Islamic Republic of Iran has emphasized the above-mentioned issues in its foreign policy. These principles, in addition to being fully consistent with our religious teachings, are also consistent with rational principles. In this regard, the former Iranian Permanent Representative to the Organization of the Islamic Conference stated: We must work seriously to establish peace in the region. If there is no peace in the region, there will be no progress on the issues as it should. Mutual trust between neighbors and calm conditions in the region will in turn solve many problems (Ehteshami, 1999: 101-100). Finally, it can be said that peaceful coexistence and peacemaking in the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy should be considered a result of Islamic ideology and teachings; because Islam prohibited aggressive war and expansionism in war. So inhuman and international relations, Peaceful coexistence, and peace are original, therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy towards the Syrian crisis follows the logic of obligation and innate rationality that is derived from religious obligations in the Qur'an and Sunnah.

Conclusion

Syria has always been the gateway to Iran's entry into the Arab world and its strategic link to the Mediterranean. Therefore, weakening Syria will weaken the axis of resistance and reduce Iran's regional influence and contain it. Thus, The Islamic Republic of Iran as a powerful regional actor, since the beginning of the crisis in Syria, has always tried to take a completely

different stance from other emerging regional actors and to pursue the establishment of stability and security and support of the Syrian political system as one of the most important foreign policy priorities. So with the onset of the 2011 crisis in Syria, the need for cooperation and expansion of relations between the two countries was felt more than ever. Therefore, Iran, despite regional and international pressures due to its security considerations and national interests and also playing its power at the regional level has become a key player in Syrian affairs. In this regard, Iran and Syria should be called the strategic depth of each other in the Middle East. For this reason, the Islamic Republic of Iran is pursuing an approach to maintaining the status quo in the Syrian crisis. To analyze this approach, it is important to consider the general orientation of Iran's foreign policy. Iran, by Article 152 of the Constitution, its Foreign policy is based on Neglect of domination, neglect of subjugation, preserving the country's total independence and territorial integrity, defending the rights of all Muslims, and Non-Aligned against dominant powers. Therefore, fighting the USA and Israel and supporting the axis of resistance and the resistance groups (such as Hezbollah, Hamas, and Ansarollah) play a central role in Iran's foreign policy. As such, the Syrian crisis, like other political phenomena that has been the issue of Iran's foreign policy, is subject to the principles of the Constitution that from an Islamic and religious perspective on international relations issues have arisen. Based on religious assumptions such as equating human Fitrat and Supporting of oppressed and establishing justice and building peace in the international community, The Islamic Republic of Iran has adopted strategies to support Bashar al-Assad's government and fight terrorism and maintain stability and security in the region. Thus, the present research sought to answer this question: functions of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Syrian crisis, what is based on the elements of national interest of this country, and also the hypothesis studied is the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Syrian crisis, based on the fight against terrorism and maintain the security of civilians, maintaining the existing political situation and support the legitimate government of President Bashar al-Assad and finally, maintain stability and security in the Middle East according to Islamic standards. This paper is intended addition to addressing the important parameters of Iran's foreign

policy toward The Syrian crisis, exploring the reason for adopting these policies from the perspective of the theory of Islam and with a focus on an Islamic State (Islamic Republic of Iran).

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