

**National Security Working Group**  
***Weekly National Security Working Group Update***  
**Congressman Jim Jordan (R-OH), RSC Chairman**  
**Congressman Trent Franks (R-AZ), NSWG Chairman**  
**2 March 2011**

The National Security Working Group (NSWG) is comprised of Trent Franks, 2nd, AZ; Connie Mack, 14th, FL; Duncan Hunter, 52nd, CA and Allen West, 22nd, FL. We look forward to providing RSC members updates on national security issues and matters using this forum. We welcome your inputs.

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*The Need for a National Security Roadmap (Rep West)*

In 2009, Congressman Paul Ryan introduced to the American people *A Roadmap for America's Future*, a comprehensive, alternative approach to the Nation's most pressing domestic priorities. At this time in our history when government growth is outpacing private sector growth and America is seen as growing weaker by the day, it is crucial that policymakers have a long term threat analysis when laying out our defense posture. It is in the spirit of peace through strength that we produce a National Security Roadmap.

The National Security Roadmap will feature an analysis of threats that our country and allies face currently, and are likely to face over at least the next 10 – 20 years. Although the White House has been hesitant to do so, the Roadmap will clearly and unequivocally define our enemy. Furthermore, the Roadmap will provide a comparison between the threats we face, and the military force structures – weapon systems, personnel and all the other aspects needed to defeat our adversaries – to yield a CBO-scorable roadmap which is as realistic and reliable as can be devised without reference to classified information. The study will be done in conjunction with outside experts and be steered by a small committee of Members. We plan to have the study accomplished and ready for publication before the end of 2011.

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*Middle East Unrest and Potential Impacts to US Energy and National Security (Rep Mack)*

The current unrest in Libya and the Middle East highlights the danger of depending on unreliable foreign nations to provide oil supplies in a volatile worldwide energy market. The United States, despite recent investments in the alternative energy sector, is dependent on foreign imports to secure an energy supply critical to our national security. Libya is one of world's major suppliers of oil and Egypt's Suez Canal is a key chokepoint in the world's network of oil shipments with an estimated 1.8 million barrels passing through the canal daily, according to Department of Energy estimates. A closure at Suez could cause a significant disruption in the world's energy market, forcing shipments to

add 6,000 miles to their trip, disrupting the US economy, and threatening our energy and national security. The unrest in the Middle East underscores the imminent threat posed by potential skyrocketing oil prices. This is one of many reasons I am fervently supporting projects like Keystone XL and the enhancement of energy cooperation with nations like Canada, a reliable and responsible supplier of oil.

For more information on the recent rise in gas prices as it relates to the turbulence in Libya and across the region, [click here for a RSC Policy Brief](#) with additional background on the issue.

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### *Iran: Destabilizing the Middle East and World (Rep Franks)*

Iran will begin unloading fuel from the country's first atomic power plant due to unspecified safety concerns. The setback will delay the start of electricity production at the newly completed nuclear power plant near the southern city of Bushehr. The vague explanation raised questions about whether the Stuxnet computer worm caused more damage at the plant than previously acknowledged.

The announcement comes after the International Atomic Energy Agency's report which offered evidence that Iran has contained the damage inflicted to its uranium plant. According to the IAEA report, Iran continues to recover from the setbacks of 2009 with increased production and more efficient technology, including increasing its stockpile at a steady or slightly higher rate compared with production before the attack.

The IAEA report raised further concerns about Iran's activities with regard to its nuclear activities. Although Iran insists its nuclear program is entirely peaceful, the IAEA report claims Iran is not implementing several obligations or providing the necessary information and cooperation to provide the UN assurance about the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities.

Additionally, two Iranian warships sailed through the Suez Canal to the Mediterranean Sea, last week. Iran said the warships were heading to Syria for training, a mission Israel has described as a "provocation". It is believed to be the first time since Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution that Iranian warships have passed through the waterway.

Iran's continued resistance to cooperate with IAEA officials and recent military events further confirm the dictatorship's goal to gain nuclear weapons which will ultimately destabilize the region and world.

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### *Electric Infrastructure Council (EIS) Summit - 11 April 2011 - Washington DC (Rep Franks)*

The first Electric Infrastructure Security (EIS) Summit took place in London on September 20, 2010, in the U.K. Parliament, Westminster Hall. As the first world summit on infrastructure security, EISS London founded a new international security framework designed to foster information sharing, discussion, coordination and cooperation in assessing and protecting national infrastructures against physical threats such as EMP and Severe Geomagnetic Storms.

The second EIS Summit will take place in the Capitol Building, Washington D.C. on April 11, 2011. To apply for registration for EISS Washington D.C., please email [info@eissummit.com](mailto:info@eissummit.com)

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Question or comments regarding RSC National Security Working Group items can also be directed to Bruce F. Miller, [bruce.miller@mail.house.gov](mailto:bruce.miller@mail.house.gov)