

IRAMONIT

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Center for Iranian Studies in Ankara

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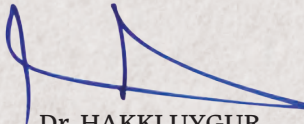
To Mr./Ms. _____

After our trial issue in July, we are here with our respected readers with the August issue of IRAMONIT. I am happy to see that the different institutions and organizations which we sent a copy of our trial-issue showed great interest in our report and we have received a significant number of membership applications from these institutions as well. This remarkable interest is very encouraging for us because we strongly believe that the scientific contributions of the strategic institutions like IRAM play a critical role in the policymaking and policy evaluation processes of the country on regional issues. We believe, this type of institutions' permanency is proportional to their ability to produce original works that have the necessary qualities to become classics over time. Therefore, having carried out extensive and rigorous studies for the past four years, we think this current report in your hand will play a unique role in the branding of IRAM and will encourage us to walk confidently into the future.

In this issue, we discussed important events in and concerning Iran that have become regional and global issues. We looked at a wide range of 11 various topics in total, from the US President Donald Trump's attempt to extend the arms embargoes against Tehran, the regional impacts of the Israel-UAE normalization agreement, to the consequences of the Beirut explosion that closely relate to Iran. Additionally, we reviewed some of the long-term effects of the U.S.' maximum pressure campaign, including the fresh wave of worker strikes in Iran, the high-inflation crisis that Iranians have begun to feel more intensely in the recent months, and Tehran's efforts to find new trade partners. Also, just as in our July issue, we enriched our extensive analyses with detailed tables, graphs, infographics, and charts.

Finally, in this month's special file, we focused on the Iran-backed factions in the Hashd al-Shaabi, which since 2014 has become a major actor in Iraq's political processes. We discussed the roles of these groups in Iraq, their advantages, their areas of competition, and their relations with Iran. These groups attach themselves to Iran in global as well as Iraqi policies.

I hope that this issue, which includes background information regarding the most important events that took place in August 2020 and incorporates the future projections that are based on our assessments, will be useful for you and your institution. I hope to meet you in our upcoming issues.



Dr. HAKKI UYGUR
Acting President

IRAMONIT

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SPECIAL FILE



UNDERSTANDING THE PRO-IRANIAN MILITIAS OF THE HASHD AL-SHAABI



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