

UN HAS NO JURISDICTION ON IRAN SANCTIONS: U.S.

Relevant for: International Relations | Topic: United Nations (UNO)

Jennifer Newstead, lawyer for the U.S. State Department.AFPJERRY LAMPEN

The U.S. told UN judges on Tuesday that they had no jurisdiction to rule on Tehran's demand for them to order the suspension of sanctions against Iran.

Iran has argued that U.S. President Donald Trump breached a 1955 treaty with his decision to reimpose the sanctions after withdrawing from a multilateral nuclear accord.

But U.S. State Department lawyer Jennifer Newstead told the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague that it "lacks prima facie jurisdiction to hear Iran's claims".

She argued that the U.S. had the right to protect its national security and other interests. The treaty "cannot therefore provide a basis for this court's jurisdiction" in the case, she said.

In the first day of hearings at the ICJ on Monday, Iran's lawyers said the sanctions were threatening the welfare of its citizens and disrupting business deals.

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