

# Tulsi Gabbard: “I Don’t” Buy Report that Iran Wants to Strike U.S. Forces, Trump Looking for “Pretext” for War

By [Rep Tulsi Gabbard](#) and [George Stephanopoulos](#)

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa, USA](#)

Theme: [Media Disinformation, US NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [IRAN: THE NEXT WAR?](#)

*Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, a Democratic presidential candidate, said she doesn't buy reports saying Iran poses a new threat to U.S. personnel in Iraq in an interview Sunday with ABC's "This Week."*

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GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: You resigned your DNC post back in 2016 because you thought Hillary Clinton had a hawkish interventionist foreign policy. Does that apply to her colleague in the Obama administration, former Vice President Biden?

REP. TULSI GABBARD: We'll see what Vice President Biden's foreign policy vision is for this country. We may agree on some issues, disagree on others. The problem that I have seen is that across both Democrat and Republican administrations, and especially in this Trump administration where, right now, he is leading us down this dangerous path towards a war with Iran ...

STEPHANOPOULOS: He says he doesn't want it.

GABBARD: He says he doesn't want it but the actions of him and his administration, people like John Bolton and Mike Pompeo, tell us a very different story. They are setting the stage for a war with Iran that would prove to be far more costly, far more devastating and dangerous than anything that we saw in the Iraq war, a war that I served in a medical unit where every single day I saw firsthand the high human cost of war.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Well, one of the actions they took this week was evacuating, as you know, our diplomatic posts in Iraq because they were concerned, based on the intelligence, that Iran may be looking to strike U.S. interests. You don't buy it?

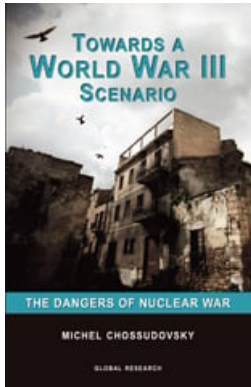
GABBARD: I don't. You know, we heard conflicting stories coming from the British commander who is the co-commander of the fight against ISIS and Al-Qaeda there in Iraq and Syria saying, hey, he hadn't seen an escalation of tensions or threats coming from these Iraqi – or these Shia militias serving in Iraq. I think what we're seeing, unfortunately, is what looks a lot like people in the Trump administration trying to create a pretext or an excuse for us to go to war against Iran, a war that would actually undermine our national security, cost us countless American lives, cost civilian lives across the region, exacerbate the refugee crisis in Europe, and it would actually make us less safe by strengthening

terrorist groups like ISIS and Al-Qaeda.

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*[Michel Chossudovsky](#) is Professor of Economics at the University of Ottawa and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), which hosts the critically acclaimed website [www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) . He is a contributor to the Encyclopedia Britannica. His writings have been translated into more than 20 languages.*

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is recklessly endangered. If we must have a military, it belongs entirely in the public sector. No one should profit from mass death and destruction.

*-Ellen Brown, author of 'Web of Debt' and president of the Public Banking Institute*



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