

Conflict Simulation Game in Caucasus 2009

Role Profile

Name of participant	Roman Melikyan
---------------------	----------------

Name of the role	Foreign Minister of Iran Manuchehr Motaki
------------------	--



Biography/CV (also little stories from “your” life):

I was born in 1953 in Bandar Gaz in Golestan Province, northern Iran. I went to school in Bandar-Gaz by that time during the Reza Shah era. It was an important city in the north with a national railroad and several infrastructures. This was because the city was considered as a transit bridge to the north mainly to the former Soviet Union. After graduation, I joined the army and as national plan joined the public education program by that day which was conducted by the government. I went to Khorasan province and established a school in a poor village around Mashhad and taught there. After my service in army, since I was interested in social and political issues, I decided to travel abroad both for experience and study. By that time many Iranians traveled to India as a popular academic destination. So I traveled there for a few years before the revolution in Iran.

After the revolution, I was elected by the people of my home town and the neighboring cities as the first parliament representative and assigned by other representatives as the head of the national security and foreign policy community due to my political and diplomatic talents. During my years in Majlis (Congress) and effective collaboration with the foreign ministry, I was employed by the ministry after parliament. I already served as member of parliament in the first Majlis, head of seventh political bureau of Foreign Ministry (1984), Iran’s ambassador to Turkey, Foreign Ministry’s secretary general for Western European affairs (1989), deputy foreign ministry for international affairs (1989) and deputy foreign minister for legal, consular and parliamentary affairs (1992). I have also been Iran’s ambassador to Japan (1994), adviser to foreign minister (1999), deputy head of Culture and Islamic Communications Organization (2001) and Head of foreign relations community of 7th Majlis National Security and Foreign Police Commission. Then I developed within the ministry during 24 years of continuous presence in different positions. Whilst technically appointed by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, I am considered to be close to more pragmatic conservative factions and during the 2005 presidential elections, I was campaign manager of Ali Larijani, the right-conservative candidate. Now I am the Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Background information / professional position / function / tasks:

I was awarded a bachelors degree in social sciences by India's Bangalore University in 1976 and a masters degree in international relations by Tehran University in 1991. I speak English well and know Urdu and Turkish. I have held various Key positions at the country's Foreign Ministry, ranging from deputy foreign minister to ambassadorships to Turkey and Japan. I was also the head of the new secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Larijani's election headquarters during the latter's presidential campaign. I was also a member of the newly-founded Islamic Iran Developers' Coalition, have criticized Iranian negotiators for being too soft in the country's nuclear talks with the EU.

I served as a MP in the first post-Islamic revolution Majlis in 1980. I have also held various positions at the Foreign Ministry which include: Iran's ambassador to Turkey (1985-1989); Foreign Ministry director-general for West Europe, deputy foreign minister for international affairs and deputy foreign minister for legal, consular and parliamentary affairs (1989-1994); Iranian ambassador to Japan (1994-1999), advisor to the foreign minister (1999-2001), deputy head of the Islamic Culture and Communication Organization for Communications (2001) and head of the seventh Majlis' National Security and Foreign Policy Community and head of Majlis' NPT Working Group (March 2004-August 2005).

Interests & positions concerning the situation in the region

Iran as a democratic country in its foreign policy is aiming to have good relations with the neighbouring countries. In the South Caucasus region Iran has an important geopolitical role. Therefore Iran is greatly interested in the development of political, cultural and economical relations with all the countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey and Russia. Iran is willing to enlarge his energetic infrastructures in sake of the interests of the countries in the region. Iran is ready to support the solving of the conflicts between the countries of the region becoming a guarantee of security and peace.

Room to negotiate / possible strategies:

There is always room for negotiation. The possible strategies are:

- a) Unilateral concession
- b) Mutual concession
- c) Compromise (without concessions)

Which resources do you possess?

(e.g. military, financial, territorial, lobbies, connections, goods of all kind...)

Diplomatic, political, lobbies, connections.

Allied stakeholders:

The allied stakeholders are: Armenia, Russia.

Opposing stakeholders:

The opposing stakeholders are: Turkey, Azerbaijan, Georgia.

Relevant forums, committees/panels, social/political/economical associations:

UN, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), WTO, The security organization for the Commonwealth of Independent (CSTO) etc.

If you want to tell the simulation-game supervisors s.th. special about your role or about your probable strategy, please use this space.

N/A