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US 'to build 14 permanent bases in Iraq'

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A Finnish lawmaker has revealed that the US is planning to stay in Iraq by building as many as fourteen permanent bases in the country.

Jaakko Laakso told a group of Arab journalists-- who visited the Finnish Parliament in Helsinki recently-- that "the bases are not the bases the US government plans to build on the Iraq borders with Syria, but they are permanent bases located in the heartland of the country. "

"There is no difference between Republicans and Democrats as far as these permanent bases are concerned," Laakso added, according to Arabnews website.

The Finnish MP said that it is very unlikely that the EU would criticize the permanent presence of the US in Iraq.

The Finnish lawmaker also touched on Iran's nuclear issue and said that negotiation is the only way to resolve the issue.

"I hope the next president of the US would show some sort of positive attitude and would recognize that Iranians have the right to develop peaceful nuclear technology in the framework of international treaties, "he concluded.

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Jaakko Laakso

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