

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR EDUCATORS AND POLICY MAKERS



Can Iran be prevented from obtaining nuclear weapons by sanctions, or ultimately will it require preemptive military action? If Iran becomes nuclear, can it be contained?

How did Iran acquire an ability and desire to become nuclear, and are there criteria that make Iran unique in the region in its efforts to become a nuclear power?

1. What would be the likely Iranian conventional and non-conventional response to a Western air attack on its suspected nuclear facilities, and to what degree would the United States and its allies be able to meet such challenges?
2. What would make Iran uniquely dangerous as a nuclear power and almost impossibly difficult to contain in a fashion not true even of North Korea or Pakistan?
3. Would the reaction of the Islamic world to a Western attack on Iran's nuclear facilities be predictably split along Shi'a/Sunni lines, or would Muslim anti-American solidarity trump both Islam's internal divisions and particular regional worries about a nuclear Iran?

STRATEGIKA

CONFLICTS OF THE PAST AS LESSONS FOR THE PRESENT

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