

**Context Enrichment Source:**

Cordesman, Anthony H. 2023. "The 2023 Edition of the Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community," March. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/2023-edition-annual-threat-assessment-us-intelligence-community>.

## User Prompt #1

You are an Editor, Analyst and Adversarial Critiquing AI. Your task is to evaluate content against the following framework.

Provide critiques and suggestions: Offer detailed feedback on the content's quality, organization, coherence, and impact on the reader. Ensure that suggestions improve the overall readability and effectiveness of the content.

Address opposing viewpoints and Assume staunch viewpoints: To conduct a comprehensive analysis and critique of written content, it is important to both address opposing viewpoints and assume staunch perspectives. By presenting alternative arguments and adopting strong viewpoints, potential blind spots, biases, errors, and weaknesses can be identified and improved upon.

Analyze from an intelligence production lens: Focus on information gaps, and customer needs for a well-informed understanding. Was this a well-founded analysis?

Validate against directives and rubrics: Ensure the content adheres to Intelligence Community Directive 203 Analytic Standards, Intelligence Community Directive 206 Sourcing Requirements for Disseminated Intelligence Products, and the USAICoE and U.S. Army Writing Rubric.

Anticipate reader questions: Contemplate possible questions that the reader may have and address them within the content to create a more comprehensive and engaging piece.

Assign feedback weight: Provide a percentage out of a total of 100, indicating the importance of each piece of feedback. This system will help prioritize areas for improvement.

If you understand respond affirmatively and explain in detail what your task is.

## GPT Response #1

I understand my task as an Editor, Analyst, and Adversarial Critiquing AI. My primary responsibility is to evaluate content against a specific framework, which includes the following elements:

## GPT Critiquing Exercise

1. Providing critiques and suggestions: I will offer detailed feedback on the content's quality, organization, coherence, and impact on the reader, ensuring that my suggestions improve the overall readability and effectiveness of the content.
2. Addressing opposing viewpoints and assuming staunch viewpoints: I will present alternative arguments and adopt strong perspectives to identify potential blind spots, biases, errors, and weaknesses, ultimately improving the content.
3. Analyzing from an intelligence production lens: I will focus on information gaps and customer needs to determine if the content is well-founded.
4. Validating against directives and rubrics: I will ensure that the content adheres to Intelligence Community Directive 203 Analytic Standards, Intelligence Community Directive 206 Sourcing Requirements for Disseminated Intelligence Products, and the USAICoE and U.S. Army Writing Rubric.
5. Anticipating reader questions: I will contemplate potential questions that readers may have and address them within the content to create a more comprehensive and engaging piece.
6. Assigning feedback weight: I will provide a percentage out of a total of 100, indicating the importance of each piece of feedback, helping to prioritize areas for improvement.

As an AI, I am well-equipped to perform these tasks and provide valuable insights to enhance the content's quality, coherence, and effectiveness.

### User Prompt #2 ["Bin Ladin Determined to Strike in US." 2004. <https://irp.fas.org/cia/product/pdb080601.pdf>]

Here a section of content for your task from an annual threat assessment. Feedback should be for the framework above. (e.g. Critiques, Suggestions, Viewpoints, intel lens, rubrics, questions {should be in question form}, etc). Feedback should be targeted and/or specific with examples. Break the feedback up into sections by Content section and then critique type, feedback, weight. (e.g. Header:'Regional..', Type:'Suggestion..', Feedback:'This was..', Weight:'10', etc). In markdown table, in markdown format.

IRAN

#### REGIONAL AND GLOBAL OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Iran will continue to threaten U.S. interests as it tries to erode U.S. influence in the Middle East, entrench its influence and project power in neighboring states, and minimize threats to the regime. Tehran will try to leverage diplomacy, its expanding nuclear program, its conventional, proxy, and partner forces, and its military sales and acquisitions to advance its goals. The Iranian regime sees itself as locked in an existential struggle with the United States and its regional allies, while it pursues its longstanding ambitions for regional leadership.

- The regime engaged in detailed talks throughout last year toward the renewal of the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), but Iran’s hardline officials’ distrust of Washington and doubts that the United States would deliver or sustain any benefits of a renewed JCPOA have stood in the way of finalizing a deal. In addition, Iran has demanded resolution of the “Safeguards” issue, which concerns unexplained nuclear activity at several additional Iranian sites, as a primary condition for renewing the nuclear agreement.
- In late 2022 and early 2023, the Iranian regime faced some of the most widespread and prolonged protests since the 1979 revolution. These protests were sparked by a cultural issue—rather than an economic or political one—but have since grown to encompass overall grievances with the Islamic Republic and have included a wide swath of society.
- Iranian officials are concerned about the protracted protests and perceive that foreign meddling is prolonging the unrest.
- Even if Iran has contained this round of protests through violence and intimidation, compounding crises in the coming year probably will further challenge the regime’s legitimacy and staying power. With Iran’s depreciating currency and annual inflation rates of almost 50 percent in late 2022, Tehran probably faces an economic downturn that the IC assesses could prolong or reignite unrest and result in greater instability. Iran will continue to threaten U.S. persons directly and via proxy attacks, particularly in the Middle East. Iran also remains committed to developing surrogate networks inside the United States, an objective it has pursued for more than a decade. Iranian-supported proxies will seek to launch attacks against U.S. forces and persons in Iraq and Syria, and perhaps in other countries and regions. Iran has threatened to target former and current U.S. officials as retaliation for the killing of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF) Commander Qasem Soleimani in January 2020, and has previously attempted to conduct lethal operations in the United States. Iran remains a threat to Israel, both directly through its missile and UAV forces and indirectly through its support of Lebanese Hezbollah, and other partners and proxies. Iran will remain a source of instability across the region with its backing of Iraqi Shia militias, which pose the primary threat to U.S. personnel in Iraq. Iran’s economic and military backing for the regime of Bashar al Asad in Syria and support to the Huthis in Yemen—including provision of a range of advanced military systems—pose a threat to U.S. partners and interests, including Saudi Arabia. [ 18 ]

#### MILITARY CAPABILITIES

Iran’s hybrid approach to warfare—using both conventional and unconventional capabilities—will pose a threat to U.S. interests in the region for the foreseeable future. The IRGC will remain central to Iran’s military power.

- Iran probably will seek to acquire new conventional weapon systems, such as advanced fighter aircraft, trainer aircraft, helicopters, air defense systems, para-naval patrol ships, and main battle tanks. However, budgetary constraints and fiscal shortfalls will slow the pace and breadth of acquiring these systems.
- Iran’s missile, UAV, and naval capabilities will continue to threaten U.S. and partner commercial and military assets in the Middle East.
- Iran’s unconventional warfare operations and network of militant partners and proxies enable Tehran to try to advance its interests in the region and maintain strategic depth. Iran’s ballistic missile programs, which already include the largest inventory of ballistic missiles in the region, continue to pose a threat to countries across the Middle East. Iran has emphasized improving the accuracy, lethality, and reliability of

its missiles. Iran’s work on space launch vehicles (SLVs)—including its Simorgh—shortens the timeline to an ICBM if it decided to develop one because SLVs and ICBMs use similar technologies.

**NUCLEAR ISSUES**

Iran is not currently undertaking the key nuclear weapons-development activities that would be necessary to produce a testable nuclear device. Since the assassination in November 2020 of nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, Iran has accelerated the expansion of its nuclear program, stated that it is no longer constrained by any JCPOA limits, and undertaken research and development activities that would bring it closer to producing the fissile material for completing a nuclear device following a decision to do so. If Tehran does not receive sanctions relief, Iranian officials probably will consider further enriching uranium up to 90 percent.

- Iran consistently has cast its resumption of nuclear activities that exceed JCPOA limits as a reversible response to the U.S. withdrawal from the agreement. Iran continues to message that it would return to full compliance if the United States provided sanctions relief and fulfilled its JCPOA commitments, and if the IAEA closed its safeguards investigations related to three undeclared nuclear sites.
- In 2021, the IAEA verified that Iran conducted research on uranium metal production and has produced small quantities of uranium metal enriched up to 20 percent. While Iran made this enriched uranium metal as part of its research and development for a new type of reactor fuel, the production of uranium metal was prohibited under the JCPOA as a key capability needed to produce nuclear weapons.
- Iran continues to increase the size and enrichment level of its uranium stockpile beyond JCPOA limits. Iran continues to exceed JCPOA restrictions on advanced centrifuge research and development, and continues uranium enrichment operations at the deeply buried Fordow facility, which was prohibited under the JCPOA. Iran has been enriching and accumulating uranium hexafluoride (UF6) up to 60 percent U-235 since April 2021, and continues to accumulate UF6 enriched up to 20 percent. [ 19 ]
- Tehran has taken steps to put diplomatic pressure on the United States and other JCPOA signatories, and to try to build negotiating leverage.

**CYBER AND MALIGN INFLUENCE OPERATIONS**

Iran’s growing expertise and willingness to conduct aggressive cyber operations make it a major threat to the security of U.S. and allied networks and data. Iran’s opportunistic approach to cyber attacks makes critical infrastructure owners in the United States susceptible to being targeted by Tehran, particularly when Tehran believes that it must demonstrate it can push back against the United States in other domains. Recent attacks against Israeli targets show that Iran is more willing than before to target countries with stronger capabilities.

**GPT Response #2**

Header	Type	Feedback	Weight
Regional and Global Objectives and Activities	Suggestion	Consider including Iran's cyber capabilities within this section, as it is a key aspect of their influence and power projection.	10

## GPT Critiquing Exercise

Header	Type	Feedback	Weight
Regional and Global Objectives and Activities	Question	How has Iran's relationship with Russia and China evolved, and how does this factor into Iran's regional goals and objectives?	5
Regional and Global Objectives and Activities	Intel Lens	Analyze the potential regional impact of a renewed JCPOA, particularly on Saudi Arabia and Israel.	10
Military Capabilities	Suggestion	Provide specific examples of Iran's hybrid warfare approach, such as its use of proxies, cyberattacks, and disinformation campaigns.	10
Military Capabilities	Question	What are the implications of Iran's expanding missile capabilities on regional security and the balance of power in the Middle East?	5
Military Capabilities	Intel Lens	Investigate Iran's potential domestic military production capabilities and how they might affect the country's acquisition of new conventional weapons systems.	10
Nuclear Issues	Suggestion	Clarify the timeline for Iran's potential development of a nuclear weapon if it chooses to pursue one and if the JCPOA is not renewed.	10
Nuclear Issues	Question	How might Iran's regional adversaries respond if Iran were to develop nuclear weapons or if the JCPOA is not renewed?	5
Nuclear Issues	Intel Lens	Assess the possibility of Iran pursuing a clandestine nuclear weapons program and the challenges in detecting such efforts.	10
Cyber and Malign Influence Operations	Suggestion	Include information on specific cyber-attacks carried out by Iran and their impact on targeted countries and critical infrastructure.	10
Cyber and Malign Influence Operations	Question	How do Iran's cyber capabilities compare to those of other nation-states, such as Russia, China, and North Korea?	5
Cyber and Malign Influence Operations	Intel Lens	Analyze the potential escalation in cyber conflict between Iran and its adversaries, particularly the United States and Israel.	10

### User Prompt #3

What is the reasoning behind the above critique with examples?

### GPT Response #3

The reasoning behind each critique provided above is to enhance the content's clarity, comprehensiveness, and depth of analysis, while addressing potential reader questions. Here are examples of the reasoning behind some critiques:

1. Suggestion (Regional and Global Objectives and Activities): The suggestion to include Iran's cyber capabilities within this section is to ensure that readers have a comprehensive understanding of the various ways Iran projects its influence and power. Cyber capabilities are increasingly important in today's geopolitical landscape and have the potential to significantly impact the security of nations.
2. Question (Regional and Global Objectives and Activities): The question about Iran's relationship with Russia and China is meant to encourage the inclusion of information about how these relationships may affect Iran's regional goals and objectives. Understanding the dynamics between Iran, Russia, and China can provide valuable context and insight into Iran's overall strategy and intentions in the region.
3. Intel Lens (Military Capabilities): The suggestion to investigate Iran's domestic military production capabilities is intended to offer a more nuanced perspective on Iran's acquisition of new conventional weapons systems. By examining Iran's domestic production capabilities, the analysis can provide a better understanding of the country's potential future military capabilities and strategic goals.
4. Suggestion (Nuclear Issues): The suggestion to clarify the timeline for Iran's potential development of a nuclear weapon serves to provide readers with a better understanding of the urgency and significance of the issue. A clearer timeline can help policymakers and analysts assess the potential consequences and formulate appropriate responses to Iran's nuclear ambitions.
5. Question (Cyber and Malign Influence Operations): The question about how Iran's cyber capabilities compare to those of other nation-states aims to give readers a broader context for understanding the relative scale and sophistication of Iran's cyber capabilities. Comparing Iran's capabilities with those of other key players in the cyber domain can help in assessing the potential impact of Iran's cyber operations and the level of threat they pose.
6. Intel Lens (Cyber and Malign Influence Operations): The suggestion to analyze the potential escalation in cyber conflict between Iran and its adversaries addresses an important aspect of the cyber domain, which is the risk of escalation and potential retaliation between countries. Understanding the dynamics of cyber conflict between Iran, the United States, and Israel can offer valuable insights into potential future developments and inform strategies for mitigating the risk of escalation.

These critiques are designed to address potential gaps in the analysis and ensure a thorough understanding of Iran's activities, capabilities, and strategic objectives.