



Midday Assessment – 2026-03-25

AI-powered OSINT synthesis • Human-verified • Structured tradecraft

Categories in this Brief

- Counter-Terrorism
- regional conflicts
- cybersecurity

Counter-Terrorism

- **Insight [G, Confidence: Moderate]:** The intersection of religious tensions and geopolitical conflicts is heightening the risk of sectarian violence in regions like Nigeria and Lebanon, with extremist groups exploiting these divisions to further their agendas.
Credibility: Reports from credible sources highlight ongoing violence and religious persecution, corroborated by multiple incidents across different regions.
Coherence: This pattern aligns with historical trends where religious and geopolitical conflicts have been intertwined, often leading to increased violence and instability.
Confidence: Moderate confidence due to consistent reporting but limited direct evidence linking all incidents to a coordinated strategy.
- **Insight [S, Confidence: High]:** The potential Iranian influence in antisemitic incidents in the UK suggests a broader strategy of using proxy groups to destabilize Western societies and target specific communities.
Credibility: The investigation by UK authorities and the involvement of counterterrorism officers lend strong credibility to the potential Iranian link.
Coherence: This fits with Iran's known use of proxy groups to exert influence and create instability in adversarial regions.
Confidence: High confidence due to the involvement of credible investigative bodies and historical patterns of Iranian proxy activity.

Sentiment Overview

Escalatory rhetoric with a focus on religious and geopolitical tensions, indicating a volatile environment.

Policy Relevance

Stakeholders should monitor the intersection of religious and geopolitical tensions, particularly in regions like Nigeria and Lebanon, where extremist groups may exploit these divides. The potential Iranian influence in Western antisemitic incidents requires close scrutiny to prevent further destabilization. Intelligence and law enforcement should prioritize identifying and mitigating proxy group activities.

regional conflicts

- **Insight [G, Confidence: Moderate]:** The ongoing US-Israel conflict with Iran is creating a complex geopolitical environment, with mixed signals about potential peace talks and continued military actions.
Credibility: Reports from multiple sources, including official statements, provide a credible basis for the ongoing conflict and negotiation claims.
Coherence: This situation reflects the longstanding geopolitical tensions in the region, with periodic escalations and attempts at diplomacy.
Confidence: Moderate confidence due to conflicting reports about the status of negotiations and military activities.
- **Insight [R, Confidence: Low]:** The return of Syrian refugees from Lebanon amid Israeli strikes suggests a potential humanitarian crisis, with implications for regional stability.
Credibility: Reports from credible news outlets highlight the refugee movements, though the broader implications are less clear.
Coherence: This movement aligns with historical patterns of displacement due to regional conflicts but lacks clear evidence of long-term impacts.
Confidence: Low confidence due to limited data on the scale and impact of the refugee return on regional stability.

Sentiment Overview

Fragmented and tense, with conflicting narratives about peace efforts and ongoing military actions.

Policy Relevance

Policymakers should focus on the dual narratives of conflict and negotiation in the US-Iran-Israel dynamic, as these could influence broader regional stability. The movement of Syrian refugees back to a still-recovering Syria requires humanitarian attention and could signal shifts in regional population dynamics. Monitoring these developments is crucial for anticipating potential escalations or opportunities for de-escalation.

cybersecurity

- **Insight [S, Confidence: High]:** Iranian-linked cyber activities, particularly through groups like Handala, are increasingly sophisticated, targeting dissidents and leveraging social engineering for intelligence operations.
Credibility: The FBI's detailed reports on Handala's operations provide a high level of credibility and insight into their tactics.
Coherence: This aligns with broader trends of state-sponsored cyber activities targeting political opponents and leveraging advanced techniques.
Confidence: High confidence due to detailed and consistent reporting from authoritative sources.
- **Insight [R, Confidence: Moderate]:** The development of quantum-resistant blockchain platforms like Q-AmChain indicates a strategic shift towards securing digital infrastructure against emerging quantum threats.
Credibility: Announcements from reputable cybersecurity firms align with ongoing global efforts to address quantum computing risks.
Coherence: This development is consistent with increasing global focus on quantum security and the need for resilient digital systems.

Confidence: Moderate confidence due to the nascent stage of quantum-resistant technologies and their deployment.

Sentiment Overview

Anxious but proactive, with a focus on emerging threats and strategic technological advancements.

Policy Relevance

Cybersecurity stakeholders should prioritize defenses against state-sponsored cyber activities, particularly those linked to Iran, which continue to evolve in sophistication. The advancement of quantum-resistant technologies represents a critical area for investment and development to safeguard digital infrastructure. Policymakers should support initiatives that enhance resilience against both current and future cyber threats.

Legend – Analytic Tags & Confidence Levels

- **[G]** **Geopolitical Risk:** Power shifts, diplomatic friction, alliance impact.
- **[S]** **Security/Intelligence Signal:** Operational/tactical insight for defense, police, intel.
- **[R]** **Strategic Disruption:** Systemic instability in digital, economic, or governance layers.

Confidence Levels

- **High:** Strong corroboration and high reliability.
- **Moderate:** Some verification; potential ambiguity.
- **Low:** Limited sources, weak signals, early indications.