



Contemporary Researches on Islamic Revolution

Scenarios of the Islamic Revolution Influenced by the Megatrends of the New World Order in the 2035 Horizon

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ABSTRACT

Objective: The purpose of this research is to identify the scenarios for the Islamic Revolution as influenced by the megatrends of the new world order in the 2035 AD/1414 SH horizon.

Methodology: This study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative techniques. It utilizes futures studies methods such as balanced cross-impact analysis and scenario writing, supported by Scenario Wizard and Micmac software.

Findings: From initial 1,536 scenarios generated by the software, seven core scenarios were selected based on expert opinion: "Rise of Resistance, end of resistance, fall of the eagle, new American era, and coalition against Iran, everyone's failure, and order in disorder."

Conclusions: Seven core scenarios of rise of resistance, end of resistance, fall of the eagle, new American era, coalition against Iran, everyone's failure, and order in disorder were identified and confirmed by experts as the primary scenarios.

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Introduction

The Islamic Revolution of Iran, as one of the most influential events in contemporary history, not only transformed the political and social structure of Iran but also has served as a strategic model in confronting the dominant global order. For the past forty-five years, this revolution has remained steadfast in the face of complex international developments, based on principles such as independence, justice-seeking, Islamism, resistance against arrogance, and paving the way for the ideal of a new Islamic civilization.

One of the influential international components in the realm of international relations is the world order. World order refers to the structures, rules, and relationships that regulate international interactions among states, organizations, and non-state actors globally. This concept includes the distribution of power, the norms governing state behavior, international institutions, and legal frameworks that shape cooperation or competition between countries. World order does not necessarily mean stability or justice, but rather reflects the balance of power and a relative consensus among major actors in a specific historical period. It is necessary to clarify here that although the international order is different from the international system, in this research, we consider order in the sense of the system and focus on changes in the structure of international relations. Wherever order is mentioned, the system is intended. Since the world order affects the destinies of countries and, consequently, the fates of individuals in society, its effective arrangements and direction are of great importance.

The world order itself is influenced by megatrends in various fields, which are long-term transformation processes with a broad scope and profound impacts. Megatrends are powerful forces that shape the future and can have deep transformative effects in various dimensions such as political, social, or economic, severely impacting a wide range of actors like governments, societies, companies, and organizations. Therefore, although various internal and external factors affect the Islamic Revolution, given the importance of the world order and the megatrends influencing it in international relations and its role in the destiny of countries and their future, the goal of this research is to examine the future of the new world order and the international and peripheral environment of the Islamic Revolution.

1. Theoretical Foundations

International order, like international relations, can be defined in various ways depending on the type of actors involved. In one definition, international order is considered synonymous with the international system. In this sense, the international order is defined as a set of activities and actions that characterize the reciprocal behavior of states. In another definition, international order is defined as patterned combinations and behaviors. These patterns are based on principles and structures that indicate this type of order is purposeful, voluntary, and self-aware. International order is also sometimes defined as the rules and regulations governing the relations of international actors. Shared values and norms are at the core of this definition (Dehghani Firoozabadi, 2015 AD/1394 SH).

Different theoretical schools of thought each emphasize a specific dimension of the world order.

Realists emphasize the axis of security; they believe a fundamental structure of anarchy exists in the international system, and this primary structure is not easily changeable, even in the long term (Waltz, 2002).

While a broad spectrum of realists incorporates various dimensions of power in their discussions, liberals emphasize governance networks, especially international institutions and the cross-border relationships formed through them. The more centralized and binding the networks of institutions and common rules, the greater the possibility of creating a world order (Cohen, 1989; Inkberry, 2001: 54).

The third theoretical tradition concerning world order is constructivism in its broad sense, where ideas or systems of meaning are considered the basis for analyzing order in the global structure (Wendt, 1999: 74).

The fourth and final theoretical tradition is the International Political Economy perspective. Theorists of this school are a diverse group, but they all emphasize the creation and maintenance of a global capitalist economic system in their discussions of the international order (Wallerstein, 1979: 55; Haugel, 2001: 76).

The following table is presented to articulate the differences between the macro-level perspectives of international relations regarding the international order.

Theory	Main Component of International Order	Possibility of Transforming the International Order and Alternatives
Realism	State-centrism, distribution of power among states	Pessimistic view on fundamental change; possibility of structural change through power transition among great powers.
Liberalism	State-centrism, pivotal role of international institutions and regimes	Optimistic view on transformation based on strengthening democratic peace, transnationalism, trade, and institutional development.
English School	Importance of shared goals, rules, institutions, values, and norms within an international society	Concern with change in the international order. Alternatives: survival of the state system without a societal element; survival of states without a system; world government; emergence of a new medievalism.
Constructivism	Simultaneous influence of material and ideational structures, emphasis on international society	Possibility of systemic change in order through changes in practices, rules, and norms. Three natures of order: Hobbesian, Lockean, and Kantian cultures.

Table 1: Differences between Macro-Level International Relations Perspectives on International Order

While we face a multitude of theories in international relations, due to following the mainstream in this field, we have primarily chosen realist approaches, specifically Morton Kaplan's systemic perspective. Kaplan names three types of international systems with historical equivalents:

1. Inflexible Bipolar System;
2. Flexible Bipolar System;
3. Flexible Multipolar System.

Flexibility or inflexibility refers to the degree of rigidity the two poles exhibit in maintaining their positions and interests, or generally what they consider to be related to their ideological and economic concerns. The lower this degree of rigidity, the more flexible the system will be, and naturally, the opposite is also true. The inflexible bipolar system has many similarities to the flexible bipolar system, but the key feature that distinguishes the inflexible model is that in the flexible model, all countries, whether from the Third World or Western and Eastern Europe, are in some way absorbed by one of the two poles. Furthermore, the characteristic of inflexibility regarding ideology and security, which is specific to the bipolar system, spreads throughout the world (Azqandi, 1991 AD/1370 SH: 10).

Structure, as an expression of how power is distributed among units and as the shaping element of the international system, is considered the most important variable in the formation of various systems in the arena of international relations. Based on this, Kaplan proposes the following systems:

1. Flexible Bipolar International Systems;
2. Inflexible Bipolar International Systems;
3. Balance of Power Multipolar Systems;
4. Hierarchical Hegemonic (Directive and Democratic) Systems;
5. Unit Veto Systems;
6. Universal International Systems.

Kaplan believes that four of these systems do not actually exist, and for the other two—the balance of power and the flexible bipolar system—historical evidence can be cited: the classic example of the balance of power existed in 18th and 19th century Europe, and the flexible bipolar system emerged as a result of the transformation in the power distribution process after World War II (Qawam, 2005 AD/1384 SH).

Therefore, Morton Kaplan introduces six models of the international system, each describing a specific structure of interactions among states and international actors. These models are used as a framework for analyzing the dynamics of power, alliances, and conflicts in the international system and serve as the theoretical basis for this article.

2. Literature Review

Regarding the literature, several studies and books related to the topic of this article were found, which are mentioned below.

2.1. Foreign Studies

- A 2020 study by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) titled "Four Scenarios for Geopolitical Order in 2025-2030: What Will Great Power Competition Look Like?" presents four possible scenarios for the geopolitical order between 2025 and 2030, focusing on the competition between great powers. The four scenarios are:

Business as Usual: Competition between the US and China continues without leading to direct military conflict. International cooperation is maintained in areas like climate change, though tensions in security and economy persist.

China Ascendant: China surpasses the US economically and militarily, reshaping the world order in its favor. This could reduce the influence of the US and its allies.

Return to Multipolarity: Regional powers like India, Russia, and the EU play a larger role, creating a multipolar power structure.

Global Disorder: The inability to manage global challenges like pandemics and economic crises leads to widespread instability and conflict, severely weakening international cooperation. This study focuses heavily on the US-China rivalry and neglects potential wild cards or surprise factors. The present research attempts to be more comprehensive by considering various factors with different probabilities.

- A 2022 study by the Brookings Institution titled "Perspectives on the future of the global order" describes the current world order as facing tensions and multiple forces. Bradford argues the world is transitioning from a West-led unipolar order to a multifaceted one where diverse cultural voices play a greater role. The study focuses too much on the role of G20 countries and shows an optimistic bias towards global cooperation. Our research aims for a more comprehensive view of all powerful global dimensions to derive diverse scenarios.
- The Atlantic Council's report, "How Iran's Interpretation of the World Order Affects Its Foreign Policy," argues that Iran's foreign policy is heavily influenced by its ideological and strategic view of a world order it sees as dominated by the US. Iran perceives the existing order as unjust and has adopted a confrontational, revisionist approach. The report overemphasizes Iran's ideological interpretation and internal factors, relying more on qualitative analysis than quantitative modeling, which may reduce the credibility of its predictions. This research seeks to fill these gaps by using expert opinions and a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods.
- The report "Autocrats United: How Russia and Iran Defy the U.S.-Led Global Order," published by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in 2024, examines the strategic cooperation between Russia and Iran in challenging the US-led order. It argues that despite historical rivalries, their shared adversary (the US) has brought them closer. The analysis is personality-driven, focusing on current leaders, and is written from a Western perspective, framing the Iran-Russia cooperation mainly as a threat. Our study tries to rectify these shortcomings.

- The UK Ministry of Defence's 2024 document "Global Strategic Trends: Out to 2055" examines key global trends up to 2055 to help policymakers prepare for an uncertain future. It outlines four future order scenarios: multilateral cooperation, continued Western hegemony, a participatory world, or widespread instability. Given its source, the report has a defense and security bias and does not comprehensively address all dimensions of the future order, ultimately presenting only four scenarios. This study aims to provide a more comprehensive and pluralistic view of the possible future orders.
- The book "Iran in an Emerging New World Order: From Ahmadinejad to Rouhani" by Ali Fathollah Nejad examines Iran's foreign policy and its place in the emerging new world order from 9/11 to the late Rouhani presidency. The book focuses on a specific period and its framework of an "inter-polar empire" is heavily reliant on critical perspectives of US hegemony, possibly reflecting a Western-centric view.
- Noam Chomsky's book "Old and New World Orders," translated by Mahbod Iranitalab in 2008 AD/1387 SH, examines the changes in the world order from the Cold War era to the post-Soviet Union collapse, based on three lectures he delivered at the American University in Cairo in 1993. In this book, Chomsky criticizes the policies of the countries of the North, especially the United States, regarding global issues, and compares these policies with the old and new world orders. He introduces the United States and its supporters as lawbreakers and violent actors, and analyzes the events of global crises such as the Middle East and Latin America (Chomsky, 2008 AD/1387 SH). This book provides a good understanding of American policies in the world. It also presents a narrative of changes in the world order, but it does not seek to provide future scenarios regarding the world order. In the present study, in addition to explaining the theories of various thinkers regarding the world order, the various trends affecting the formation of the order and its future scenarios are described. Also, the opportunities and threats of the Islamic Revolution will be examined in each scenario.
- Luimi and colleagues (2021), in their research "Analysis of the Role of the New World Order in the Middle East," by explaining the various dimensions of the New World Order, propose hypotheses that the application of the New World Order policy by the United States after the Cold War has led to the expansion of American

influence in the Middle East. In this research, the researchers focus on examining the Middle East region and rely on the behavior of the United States. They consider the New World Order plan by the United States to be the cause of the development of American presence and influence in the region. The current research, while examining the various powers, examines the scenarios of the future order and offers suggestions for using opportunities and dealing with the threats of the Islamic Revolution.

- Salahi (2019), in his research "Areas of Conflict between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States in West Asia and its Impact on the New International Order," states that after analyzing America's goals, he has concluded that this conflict has been ongoing in three strategic, economic, and cultural areas. Undoubtedly, America's victory in this conflict would lead to the country's global hegemony, and its defeat would lead to the emergence of a major Islamic power center and the formation of a multipolar system in the world. This research, focusing on the areas of conflict between the United States and the Islamic Republic in the West Asia region, enumerates its effects on the global order. In this regard, the details have not been well examined, and the conclusion has been drawn in a general manner. The current research focuses on the details of the international scene and the formation of future scenarios of the global order.

2.2. Domestic Studies

- The book "Discourse of the Islamic Revolution and Regional and Global Trends" is written by Sayyid Abbas Hassanniya Moghadam. Discourses emerge, compete with each other, become dominant, and undergo various trends in regional or global balances. However, the dominance of a discourse in a region, such as the discourse of the Islamic Revolution, depends not only on the power of that discourse but also on the trends of the international system and the trends that rival discourses undergo. For this reason, the book "Discourse of the Islamic Revolution and Regional and Global Trends" attempts, while examining the precise content of the discourse of the Islamic Revolution and the content of the Axis of Resistance, to examine the secular Ikhwani discourse of Turkey and the Salafi-Wahhabi discourse of Saudi Arabia as rival discourses to the discourse of the Islamic Revolution, and also examines global trends to find out what the international system will look like in 2030 and where it will move.

In this path, the book not only benefits from the analysis of the political situation but also grounds its political analysis in the economic situation of Iran, the region, and the world, and uses the SWOT method to conduct future research on the three discourses in the Middle East and the future of the international system. (Hassanniya Moghadam, 2024 AD/1403 SH) In this book, the researcher focuses on the discourse of the Islamic Revolution and also addresses regional and rival discourses. In addition, global trends in various fields have also been examined in detail. This book examines the rival discourses of the Islamic Revolution with extensive explanation and explores various trends and global powers. In terms of methodology, this book uses various methods such as SWOT, but does not engage in scenario writing, and the text of the book is also long.

- The book "International Order and Future Scenarios" is written by Alireza Khosravi and Ali Akbar Asadi. In this book, while highlighting the concept of complexity and the characteristic of uncertainty in examining order, an attempt has been made to discover future scenarios of international order and define its guiding indicators by relying on the methodology of strategic foresight. To this end, by focusing on the role and position of major powers and issues related to the international order in their relations, the driving forces involved as well as key uncertainties have been identified and narrated in the form of three scenarios: the American World, the Return of the Dragon, and the Eagle and Dragon Conflict (Khosravi, Asadi, 2024 AD/1403 SH). Despite its strengths, such as examining the situation of powers from various political, economic, and social aspects, this book has shortcomings in terms of its future research method. Among these is that the drivers have not been carefully considered and the application of the method has not been done correctly. In the present study, an attempt has been made to cover the weaknesses of this research and to apply the methodology correctly. Also, the drivers and possible futures in the field of world order are comprehensively examined.
- In their article "The Inception of a New World Order and Scenarios for the Future Geometry of the World," Mohammad Shamseddini and Mohammadreza Arab Baferani conclude that ultimately eight different scenarios are identified and introduced for the international order. Considering that the current situation is a "Moment of Multiplicity," the dominant form of future scenarios will focus on

plurality and multiplicity in power centers in each of the dimensions mentioned. Ultimately, considering the formulation of the scenarios, redesigning the grand strategy of the Islamic Revolution in accordance with current conditions, and moving away from geostrategic introversion under the idea of "Revolution Effusion" based on the "Emergence of Revolution trickles in the region and beyond the region" was proposed. The focus of this research is not on presenting a scenario, which will be examined in the present study.

- In his article, "The Future of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and Future Conflicts of the World," Mohammad Rahim Eyvazi, in response to the question of the future challenges of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, concludes that in analyzing the developments and conflicts of Iran in the future, the general policy of the international system and regional rivalries, as well as the internal developments of countries, should be considered. Also, in its analysis, the strategy of each of the rival powers in the world, and especially in the region, should be examined in order to explain the nature of future conflicts of the revolution (Eyvazi, 1388). In this article, in addition to examining the Islamic Revolution, the future conflicts of the world and the region have been discussed, but the global order and future scenarios and the state of the Islamic Revolution in it have not been considered, which are examined in this research.
- Amin Ravanbalad, Hadiseh Koulaei, and Ali Mohammad Haghghi, in their article "Drivers Affecting the Structure of the International System Using the ISM Model," concluded that political, economic, military, and cultural power is the most influential drivers. The emergence of significant events with global impact, climate change, institutions, accepted international laws, war and conflict, the entry of technology into the realm of international politics, the growth of the global middle class, infectious diseases, and population each contribute to the process of changing the power structure in the international system. The main issue of that article was the effective driver, and it did not address scenarios, which are comprehensively addressed in this research.
- In their article "The Islamic Revolution and the Formation of Discourses of Power in the International System," Sayyid Jalal Dehghani Firoozabadi and Alireza Esmaeili Mazger conclude that the ascending trajectory of the discourse of political Islam can

be mapped and explained within the geometry of global power. The othering of political Islam in relation to both hegemonic discourses of the international system, namely communism and liberalism, and consequently with the dependent sub-discourses of the West Asia region, has led to the decline and fall of a number of dependent sub-discourses of the West Asia region. While this article examines the discourse of the Islamic Revolution and competing discourses, it does not address the drivers and factors influencing the future global order and its scenarios, which is one of the points of distinction from the present research, which comprehensively addresses the influential factors and macro-trends of the new order.

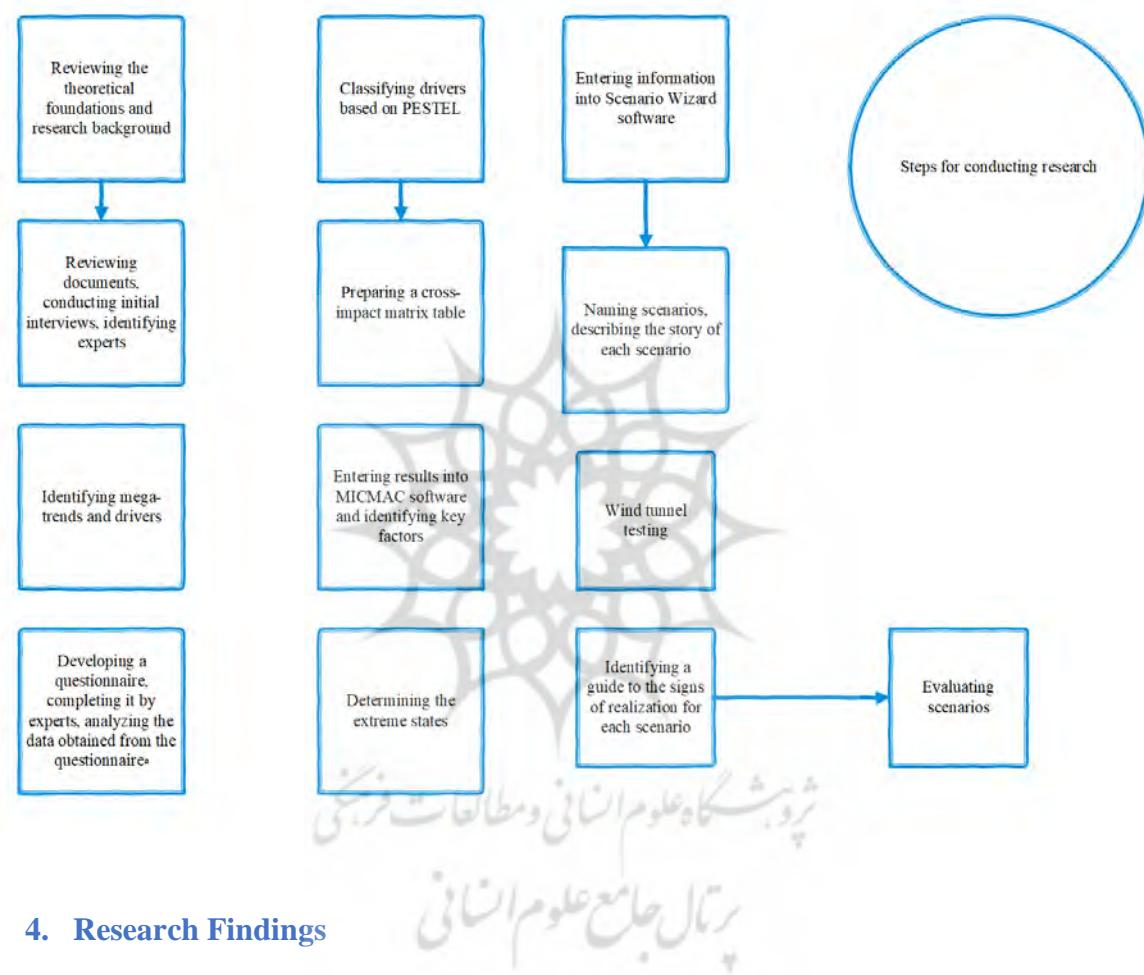
- In their article "Explaining Change in the Structure of the International System Facing the Islamic Republic of Iran," Hadiseh Koulaei, Amin Ravanbod, and Ali Mohammad Haghghi conclude that the current structure of the international system cannot be defined by the concept of polarity. China, with its miraculous growth, is likely to be the world's largest economy in the future, but the power gap in military and technological dimensions between China and the United States is very deep, and there are serious obstacles to filling this gap. The current structure of the international system includes a superpower (the United States) alongside China as a challenger and candidate for becoming a superpower in the future, and several major powers (the European Union, Russia, Britain, and Japan), and this structure will continue in the short term. In order to optimize the fulfillment of national interests in such a system, the Islamic Republic of Iran can, while trying to maintain close relations with China and Russia, adopt a "neither friend nor foe" stance towards other major powers. While examining the structure of the international system and its changes in recent years, this article does not discuss the future situation and scenarios of the global order, and this is the point of distinction with the present study.

3. Research Methodology

For this research topic, we initially conducted a literature review through library studies to examine the existing theoretical foundations. In the next stage, to identify the key and important drivers, we needed to perform trend analysis and cross-impact analysis of trends. The subsequent stages, up to the writing and development of scenarios, were carried out with

the help of experts through an iterative process, as well as by using software such as Scenario Wizard. Therefore, the main research method employed is scenario planning.

Figure 1: Research Process Stages



4. Research Findings

To begin this section, it is necessary to provide a definition of megatrends. A megatrend refers to regularities formed from the combination of several smaller, subsidiary trends. Thus, the most important characteristics of a megatrend are its high significance, high probability, and persistence over time; that is, factors that will occur under any scenario (Toivonen, 2004). By reviewing various sources and searching through different global reports that have examined megatrends on various horizons, and by focusing on the future world order, we compiled a list of megatrends based on the PESTEL model.

To proceed, this list needed to be refined based on expert opinions. Therefore, the items were presented to experts in the form of a questionnaire. The table below shows the aggregated scores from experts for the most important items.

Macro Trends
Political
Global power shift
Rise of emerging powers
Increased diversity of governance approaches and formation of regional alliances
Social
Ideological conflicts
Demographic changes
Lifestyle changes
Social changes and global movements
Economical
Emergence and development of the digital economy
Growth of the global economy
Environmental
Climate change
Resource scarcity
Technological
Growth of technologies
Competition for superior technologies

Table 2: Aggregated Expert Scores for the Most Significant Megatrends

In order to answer the main research question, "What are the future scenarios of the Islamic Revolution influenced by the macro trends of the new world order in the horizon of 1414?" we need drivers with the highest importance and greatest uncertainty based on the extracted macro trends. Accordingly, 133 factors were identified, and a questionnaire was developed, and its validity and reliability were confirmed. Experts and specialists in the field were asked to score the factors in two dimensions: the degree of importance in the subject under investigation and the degree of uncertainty in that subject. The method comprised a 5-point scale from 1 to 5 (corresponding to the intensity of importance or uncertainty). Subsequently, in order to determine the most important and uncertain factors influencing the macro trends affecting the new world order, a descriptive analysis was performed by calculating the mean and standard deviation of the given scores, resulting in 17 factors that were also confirmed by experts. To identify the key factors among the 17 factors, the cross-impact analysis method was used. A 17*17 matrix questionnaire was prepared according to the number of drivers, and experts judged it based on valuation with a number on a scale of zero to 3 (the number zero: no effect, the number 1: low effect, the number 2: medium effect, and the number 3: shows a high effect).

Factors with high importance and uncertainty	
Political, security, and military alliances like NATO	Resistance discourse
Military capability of the resistance axis	Power transition from West to East
China-US technological competition	Role and status of the United Nations
US hegemony in the world	Power status of the Islamic resistance front
Emergence of potential global poles	US power in global norm-setting (liberal order)
Political situation in resistance countries	Global financial and economic system
US policies towards the resistance axis	US domestic political, cultural, and social situation
Russia's power level	US economic capacities
	China's power level

Table 3: Drivers with the Highest Importance and Uncertainty

To determine the key drivers among the 17 factors, the cross-impact analysis method was used. A 17x17 matrix questionnaire was prepared and judged by experts on a scale of 0 to 3 (0: no influence, 1: low influence, 2: moderate influence, 3: high influence). This matrix was then entered into the Micmac software.

Influences range from 0 to 3, with the possibility to identify potential influences:
 0: No influence
 1: Weak
 2: Moderate influence
 3: Strong influence
 P: Potential influences

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Figure 2: Cross-Impact Matrix in Micmac Software

Following the analysis of the data from the table above in MicMac software, the following data are noteworthy: According to the table below, the matrix dimensions were set to 17*17, and based on the results, the matrix filling rate is 72.3 percent, which indicates that the selected factors have influenced each other in more than 72 percent of cases. Out of a total of 209 evaluable relationships, 80 relationships were zero, meaning that the factors did not affect each other or were not affected by each other. On the other hand, according to the table below, the matrix, based on statistical indicators with two data rotations, has 100 percent desirability and optimization, which also shows the high validity of the questionnaire and its responses

Indicator	Value
Matrix size	17
Number of iterations	2
Number of zeros	80
Number of ones	137
Number of twos	57
Number of threes	15
Number of P	0
Total	209
Fillrate	72/3%

Table 4: Data analysis of the matrix and its statistics

The influential variables are the most critical components. Given that the system in this study is considered unstable, the key factors, according to the software results and expert opinion, are:

1. **Power transition from West to East**
2. **Power status of the Islamic resistance front**
3. **Emergence of potential global poles**
4. **Russia's power level**
5. **US hegemony in the world**
6. **China's power level**

To answer the main research question, after identifying the six key drivers from the Micmac software output, Scenario Wizard software was used to develop the scenarios.

First, different states for each key driver were extracted through expert interviews and subsequently validated. Experts were then asked to rate the impact of one state on another using a scale from -3 (strongly constraining effect) to +3 (strongly reinforcing effect). The six drivers had 2, 3, 4, 4, 3, and 4 states respectively, resulting in a total of 1,152 possible scenarios ($2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 4 \times 3 \times 4$).

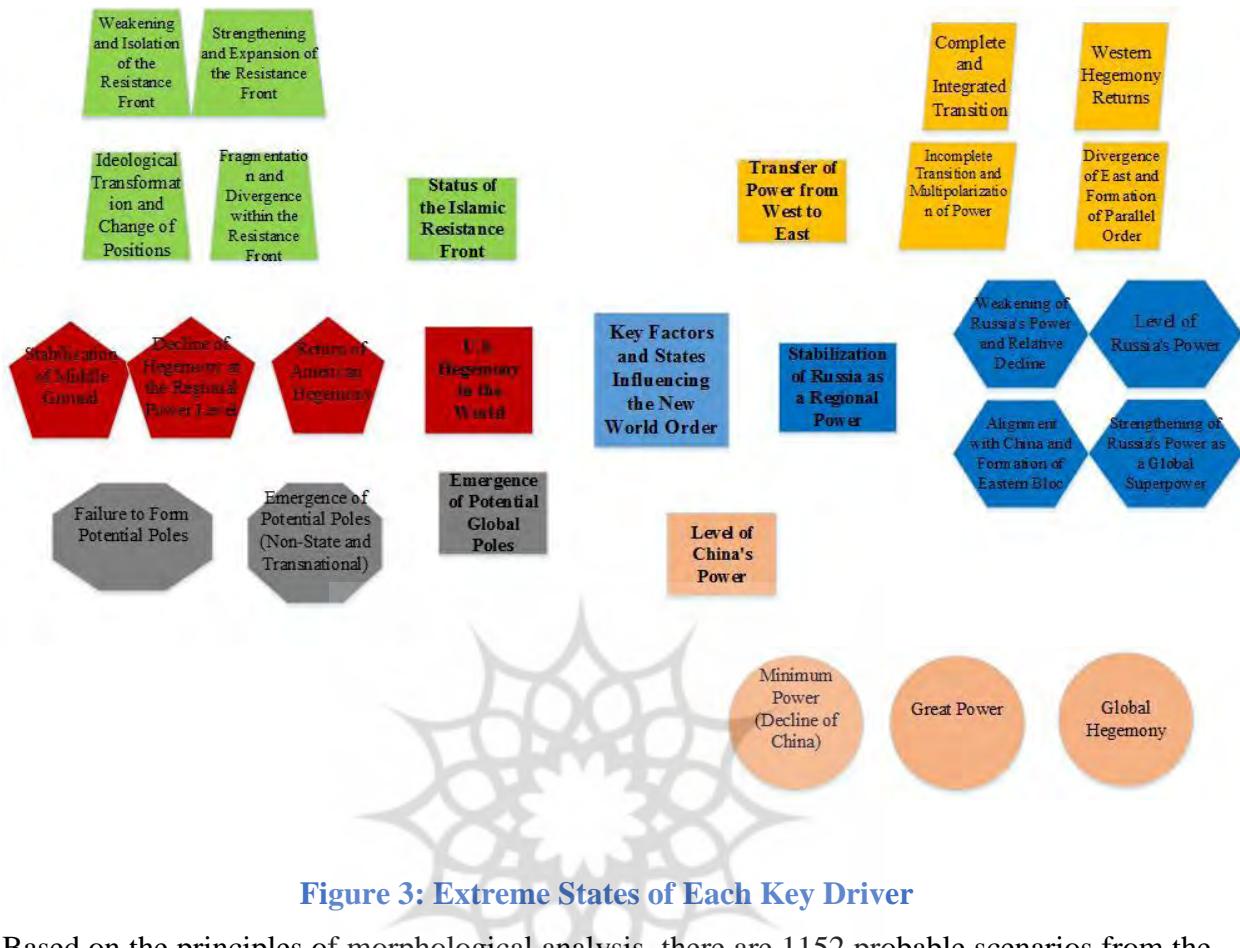


Figure 3: Extreme States of Each Key Driver

Based on the principles of morphological analysis, there are 1152 probable scenarios from the combination of states of these 6 uncertainties. To reduce the number of scenarios, a cross-impact matrix of states was formed, and the results were analyzed with software. Scores were entered as follows, with the presence of experts in a panel that was formed:

- ≠ Strongly limiting effect = -3
- ≠ Moderately limiting effect = -2
- ≠ Weakly limiting effect = -1
- ≠ No effect = 0
- ≠ Weakly reinforcing effect = 1
- ≠ Moderately reinforcing effect = 2
- ≠ Strongly reinforcing effect = 3

Based on methodological recommendations, scenarios with a consistency of zero to approximately 2 are usable. Accordingly, 7 reliable scenarios were selected; ultimately, with the experts' opinion, 7 scenarios with higher consistency and value were chosen, and all experts approved them. Then, names were suggested for each scenario, and after the final summary, the name of each scenario was also determined.

Therefore, with the experts' opinion, 7 scenarios with higher consistency and value were chosen, and all experts approved them. Then, names were suggested for each scenario, and after the final summary, the name of each scenario was also determined. The final names of the 7 scenarios are listed below, along with a description of the story for each scenario.

- ≠ **Rise of Resistance**
- ≠ **End of Resistance**
- ≠ **Fall of the Eagle**
- ≠ **New American Era**
- ≠ **Coalition Against Iran**
- ≠ **Everyone's Failure**
- ≠ **Order in Disorder**

5. Scenario 1: Rise of Resistance

Consisting of the limit states of the propellants as follows:

Complete and integrated transfer of power from West to East

Strengthening and expansion of the resistance front

Emergence of potential poles (non-state and transnational)

Stabilization of Russia as a regional power

Decline of hegemony at the regional power level

Great power China

Scenario Synopsis:

In the year 2035, the Islamic Resistance Axis has become a major pole in the global multipolar order. The United States, facing widespread crises and strategic failures, has lost its former power, and the dollar is no longer the dominant global currency. China has become the world's leading economy but lacks effective soft power. Russia is in effective interaction with the Resistance Axis. The collapse of the Zionist regime and the liberation of Palestine marked the turning point for the victory of the resistance. This axis now inspires global movements, and a new world order based on justice and independence has taken shape.

6. Scenario 2: End of Resistance

Composed of the limit states of the promoters as follows:

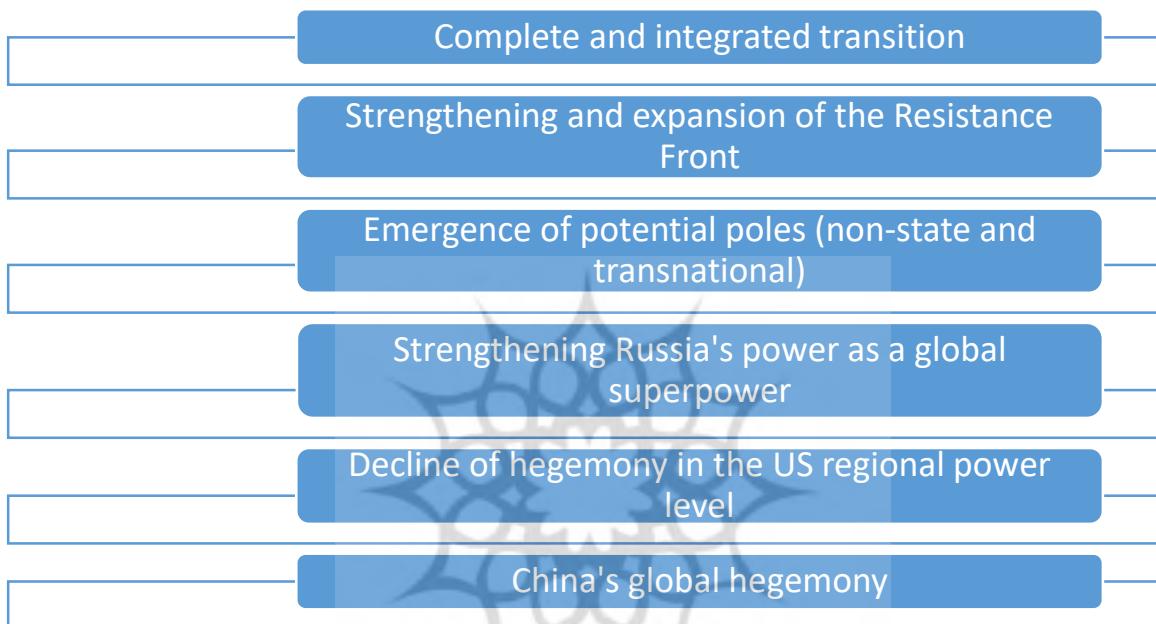
**Scenario Synopsis:**

By 1414 SH (2035 AD), the Resistance Axis has collapsed due to internal problems, external pressures, and sanctions. The United States, through reforms and new technologies, has re-emerged as the dominant global power, expanding its influence in the Middle East and elsewhere. China and Russia have grown but have not been able to replace the West. Iran, weakened by internal crises and external pressure, has lost its ability to support the resistance front, and groups like Hezbollah and Hamas have been neutralized. Using soft power and advanced technology, the US has established a new form of colonialism, effectively silencing

the voice of resistance. The world is moving towards a multipolar order, but one dominated by the United States.

7. Scenario 3: Fall of the Eagle

Composed of the limit states of the promoters as follows:



Scenario Synopsis:

In 2035, the world order is transformed. The US has lost its hegemony, the dollar is no longer the dominant currency, its economy is in recession, and its military influence has ended in the Middle East and Asia. China, having surpassed the US economically and dominating global trade, has become the world's foremost power, with the yuan replacing the dollar. Russia, with a weak economy, has become an ally of China, but its global role has diminished. Iran, after joining BRICS and with China's support, has become a regional power with significant missile and economic capabilities. The resistance front is united and stronger than ever. Israel, without US support, has retreated and is weakened against the resistance axis. In this new multipolar world, the slogan on the streets of Tehran is: "New World, New Order".

8. Scenario 4: New American Era

Composed of the limit states of the promoters as follows:



Scenario Synopsis:

The US revitalizes its economy by investing in advanced technologies like AI, clean energy, and robotics. Major tech companies dominate global markets. The dollar maintains its status with the support of the Federal Reserve and the European Union. China, facing an economic crisis (property bubble, aging population, internal unrest), retreats from global projects and becomes a marginal regional power. Russia faces economic collapse due to falling energy prices and declining regional influence. Iran is weakened by severe sanctions, cyber-attacks, and an anti-Iran coalition (US, Israel, Saudi Arabia). The Islamic resistance front, with reduced support from Iran, is relegated to a limited local force. A new global structure is formed by a Western alliance including the US, EU, UK, Japan, South Korea, and India.

9. Scenario 5: Coalition Against Iran

Composed of the limit states of the promoters as follows:

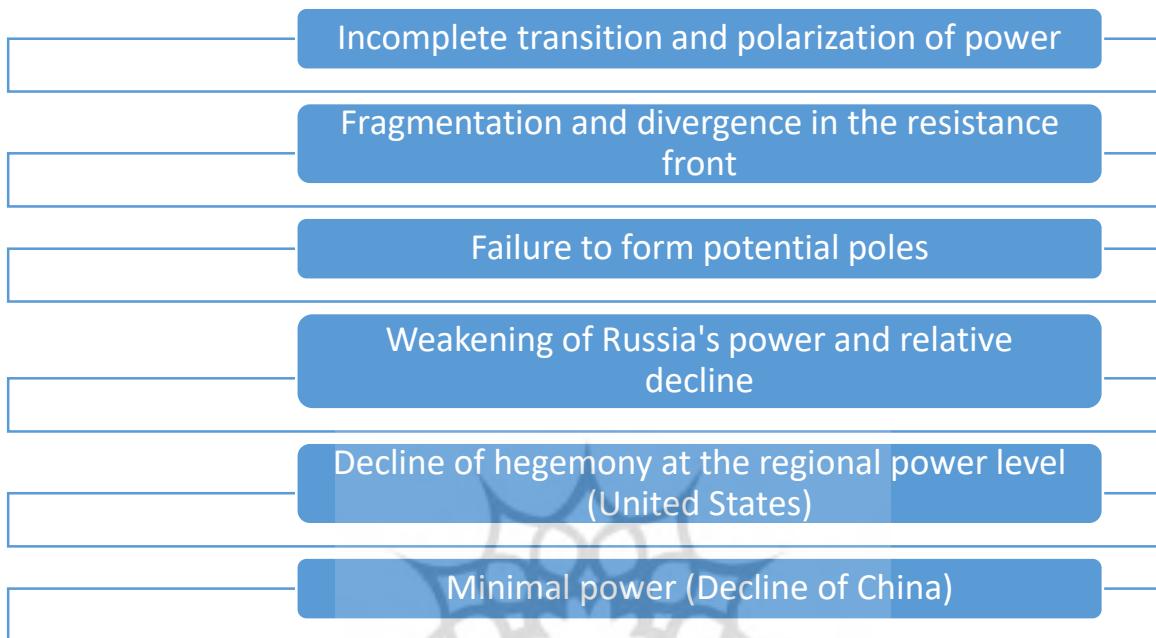


Scenario Synopsis:

In 1414 (2035), an unprecedented anti-Iran coalition forms, including the US, Israel, Arab countries (like Saudi Arabia and the UAE), Turkey, the UK, and other Western allies. This coalition is created in response to Iran's growing regional influence and its military and nuclear advancements. The consequences include the weakening of the resistance front, China and Russia retreating from active support for Iran, the reconstruction of the international order with a new Security Council dominated by Western allies, and Iran's relegation to a marginal regional power.

10. Scenario 6: Everyone's Failure

Composed of the limit states of the promoters as follows:



Scenario Synopsis:

China as a major power By 2035, the world is witnessing the simultaneous collapse of all power poles and international institutions. This global breakdown leads to civilization regressing to a tribal and chaotic state. Key features include the collapse of global powers, the disintegration of the economic and financial order, the breakdown of social and security structures, the collapse of global infrastructure, and the demise of international institutions.

11. Scenario 7: Order in Disorder

Composed of the limit states of the promoters as follows:



Scenario Synopsis:

In this scenario, the world is in the midst of a multi-layered crisis stemming from climate change, economic instability, and the collapse of the traditional international order. The world is moving toward a new but fragile order. The US, against expectations, has forged a new order amidst the disorder. Other powers are either weakened (China) or marginalized (Russia, UK). The Middle East is in turmoil, and nation-state structures are collapsing. This scenario represents a global transition from a liberal order to a decentralized and crisis-ridden one, where order and leadership emerge from disorder.

Conclusion

This research, aimed at identifying scenarios for the Islamic Revolution influenced by the megatrends of the new world order in the 2035 horizon, resulted in the seven detailed scenarios described above. Each of these scenarios presents opportunities and threats for the Islamic Revolution. By monitoring the signs of each scenario's realization, one can achieve a precise prediction of the most probable scenario and take appropriate measures accordingly.

The Islamic Revolution, as the beating heart of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the driver of the resistance front, possesses numerous actual and potential capacities in various cultural,

economic, and geopolitical domains. Considering these capacities in line with the global situation in each of the world order scenarios is the key to achieving an acceptable status for the Islamic Revolution to play a maximum role in the new world order. Key capacities include:

- ≠ People-based military forces with revolutionary morale and faith
- ≠ Possession of indigenous and modern weapons technology
- ≠ Access to international waters
- ≠ A large number of neighbors with high populations (650 million people)
- ≠ Strategic location on communication and economic crossroads
- ≠ Difficulty of a territorial conquest of Iran
- ≠ Security dependence of China and Russia on Iran's security
- ≠ The system of Velayat-e Faqih (Guardianship of the Jurist) and a religious government
- ≠ Strong logic in global issues
- ≠ Capacity of the Persian-speaking population
- ≠ Capacity of the Shia population in the region
- ≠ Young and specialized human resources
- ≠ A motivated and faithful young generation
- ≠ Energy and mineral capacities
- ≠ Suitable strategic and maritime access
- ≠ Adequate agricultural capacity

Finally, considering the mentioned capacities, the following recommendations are presented as a summary, tailored to the situation of the Islamic Revolution in the areas discussed:

- Establishing joint political, security, and economic institutions among countries and resistance groups.
- Strengthening regional trade with friendly countries and creating economic corridors (such as the North-South corridor between Iran, Russia, and India).
- Strengthening the spirit of active anticipation in society, focusing on justice and fighting against oppression.
- Redefining relations with the West and emerging powers based on the principle of "constructive engagement without compromising principles" to reduce international pressures.
- Maintaining and developing missile and cyber capabilities as the main means of deterrence against foreign threats.

- Establishing joint technology parks with aligned countries (such as Russia and China).
- Strengthening cooperation with powers challenging the order to confront the Western axis.
- Developing cyber capabilities to counter electronic attacks and enemy espionage.
- Strengthening Islamic unity as a foundation for confronting common threats.
- Reducing inequalities and increasing public satisfaction within the country.
- Focusing on self-sufficiency in key sectors such as agriculture, industry, and technology.
- Increasing transparency and government accountability to improve the legitimacy of the political system.
- Explaining the intellectual and philosophical foundations of resistance as a global discourse that applies not only to Iran but to oppressed nations around the world.
- Shaping and developing regional and international coalitions with countries and movements that share common goals to create an international network of resistance.
- Strengthening the defense and deterrence capabilities of oppressed nations and those interested in the discourse of resistance by developing and exporting missile and cyber capabilities as deterrents against US threats.
- Exposing America's double standards by using public diplomacy and media to reveal human rights violations, interventionism, and America's warmongering policies on a global scale.
- Strengthening anti-war and justice-seeking movements in America by supporting social movements that oppose American interventionism in the world.
- Strengthening regional cooperation through the establishment of regional alliances such as cooperation with Russia, China, and member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.
- Strengthening financial cooperation outside the dollar system by using national currencies in international exchanges and developing alternative financial systems such as cryptocurrencies.

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Support for alternative financial institutions by strengthening institutions such as the Asian Development Bank and the New Development Bank to reduce dependence on Western-dominated institutions.

Support for alternative financial institutions by strengthening institutions such as the Asian Development Bank and the New Development Bank to reduce dependence on Western-dominated institutions. Srrrrr rgg cccia add ctt aaa eevemmm i ceeeeeee eessccce by nnnnnnnnn economic, technical, and educational assistance to countries such as Iraq, Yemen, and Lebanon to strengthen their internal stability.

See~~ng~~gnnnnnn social and cultural solidarity by creating cultural and social networks between the countries of resistance to strengthen the sense of solidarity and shared goals.

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cccciiii i eeef-sufficiency and food security in the sphere of cultural influence. eeeeeemmmeeeeeee-to-people communication.

Ethical Considerations Adherence to the principles of research ethics the authors have observed ethical principles in conducting and publishing this scientific research and this is confirmed by all of them. The contribution of the authors in the article extracted from the thesis should be approximately as follows:

First Author: Preparation and preparation of samples, performing experiments and data collection, performing calculations, statistical analysis of data, analysis and interpretation of information and results, preparation of the article draft Second Author: Thesis supervisor, research design, supervision of research stages, review and control of results, correction, revision and finalization of the article Third Author: Thesis advisor, participation in research design, supervision of research, reading and reviewing the article Fourth Author: Thesis supervisor, research design, supervision of research stages, review and control of results, correction, revision and finalization of the article

Conflict of Interest According to the authors, there is no conflict of interest in this article.

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