Factors against the Influence of Terrorist Groups in the Foreign Policy Discourse of the Islamic Republic of Iran (a Case Study of the Blasphemous ISIS Group)

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the factors affecting Iran's regional relations in the context of fighting ISIS. The research method was applied in terms of purpose, descriptive in terms of nature, and exploratory mixed in terms of variables. The qualitative data came from interviews with experts and officials who deal with foreign relations, Takfiri groups, and ISIS. They work in decision-making and research centers and were selected in 2022. The quantitative data came from a random sample of 335 people involved in foreign relations and regional Terrorism. The qualitative data were analyzed using thematic analysis with Max Kyuda 10 software, and the quantitative data were analyzed using structural equation modeling with Lisrel software. The results of the quantitative analysis confirmed the qualitative findings based on the structural equation model. The results showed that affecting factors have a 0.170 factor loading on the impact of ISIS on Iran's regional relations.

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1. Introduction

*I*SIS's rise and takeover of large parts of Iraq created a serious threat to Iraq's security and territory, as well as to the region and the world. The power and politics in Iraq changed after Saddam's fall, which affected Iran-Iraq relations. But ISIS's presence changed these relations even more, especially since ISIS tried to form a new territory in Iraq and Syria. Many countries, including Russia, changed their regional stance after ISIS emerged. The US foreign policy toward ISIS also significantly impacted regional relations (Rezapour and Shohani, 2021). Different factors, such as history, geopolitics, economy, society, and culture, can trigger a crisis. Sometimes, governments try to limit the influence of terrorist groups to protect their interests and security in international relations. ISIS is the most violent terrorist group in the Middle East. It started as a branch of al-Qaeda in Iraq after the US invasion. It then moved to Syria when the civil war escalated. ISIS's presence in Iraq and Syria had many consequences for the region and the world. Many countries had to deal with ISIS in different ways. Iran was one of them because ISIS threatened its regional allies and its security and ideology. Iran's foreign policy had to adopt strategies to fight ISIS (Sanaei and Kavianpour, 2015). The spread of Salafist ideology began in recent decades, peaking in 2011, with groups such as the Taliban and ISIS emerging from it. The extensive activity of the ISIS terrorist group in Iraq and Syria from 2014-2018 elicited various reactions (Erdem et al., 2019). Terrorism is a major international security issue that poses a serious threat to human lives and relations between nations. The Islamic world is also grappling with the growth of Terrorism, which originated from Wahhabism and, under the guise of Salafism, has resulted in the killing of people (Hatami, 2014). These groups are known as supporters of Terrorism and disruptors of international order. In contrast to the Wahhabism discourse is the political Islam discourse of Imam Khomeini (RA), who sought to promote peace by identifying and eliminating insecure elements at the global level using authentic Islamic principles (Simber et al., 2016). This research has been conducted for the first time regarding the impact of the ISIS terrorist group on the foreign policy discourse of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The article is organized as follows: The second section describes the theoretical background, and the third section presents the literature review. The fourth section offers the research methods and data, and the fifth section provides the findings. Finally, it concludes in section six.

2. Theoretical foundations of research

ISIS is one of the branches of al-Qaeda and, specifically, one of the branches of Jabhat al-Nusra, which was a branch of al-Qaeda and operated in Syria. Al-Qaeda organization was established in the early 1990s, and its formation is based on a specific religious and political theory. Al-Qaeda forces underwent several changes in this decade: they were in Sudan for a while, then they went to Afghanistan until the attacks of September 11, 2001. After the fall of Saddam in Iraq, al-Qaeda in Iraq was established under the leadership of Zarqawi. After the changes in the Arab countries and the start of the civil war in Syria, one of the main armed opposition groups that happened to be armed was the al-Qaeda movement, which was renamed Jabhat al-Nusra. After some time, this river was also cut off, and ISIS was created (Jamei Mosque, 2014, 456). The ISIS crisis, which is one of the important challenges in the field of foreign policy of various countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, has had many effects on Iran's foreign policy. The main question of this article is, what effect did the emergence of ISIS have on the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran at different domestic, regional, and international levels? A theoretical discussion was first raised in foreign policy to answer this question. The foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran was examined, and after the introduction of ISIS and how it was formed in three dimensions, domestic, regional, and international, the influence of this group on politics Iran's foreign policy will be examined. The foreign policy of each country's government is formed as the theory of the regime in the constructivist regime. According to this view, reality and relationships between people are formed through language, ideas, and concepts. From a constructivist

perspective, actors and structures are interrelated. Identity and interest are essential to predicting history and creating order. Constructivists reject the central function of rationalism theory and the idea of actors making independent choices based on deductive logic. From a constructivist perspective, norms shape actors' identities and preferences and determine collective goals. Transnational constructivism emphasizes the influence of norms the international community applies or its parts together. Constructivism rejects realism's claim that a country's foreign policy changes as it gains or loses power because it emphasizes that foreign policy actors are subject to international norms.

The beginning of every crisis has different foundations and roots, including historical, geopolitical, economic, social, and cultural factors. Sometimes, in international relations, to achieve their interests or to prevent the security and stability of their country from being endangered, governments try to limit their effectiveness from terrorist groups. ISIS is the most violent terrorist organization among all prominent armed groups in the Middle East region. After the US attack on Iraq, the branch of al-Qaeda in Iraq became the foundation of ISIS. After the unrest in Syria intensified, ISIS entered Syria from Iraq. The emergence of ISIS in Iraq and Syria brought various consequences in the Middle East and then in most parts of the world. Different countries are also involved with the phenomenon of Daesh and have inevitably taken various measures against it. In the meantime, the Islamic Republic of Iran was directly confronted with ISIS because ISIS, in addition to challenging the territorial integrity and political regimes of Iran's regional allies, was also considered a security and ideological threat to Iran. Therefore, under the influence of ISIS, Iran's foreign policy had to implement strategies to deal with it (Sanaei and Kavianpour, 2015). The expansion of its Salafist thought began in the past decades and reached its peak in 2011, and sects such as the Taliban and ISIS have emerged from its womb. The extensive activity of the ISIS terrorist group in Iraq and Syria during 2014-2018 faced various reactions (Erdem et al., 2019).

One of the major problems of international security is the phenomenon of Terrorism, which has put human lives and relations between nations at serious risk. Now, the Islamic world is also faced with the problem of the growth of Terrorism, which originated from the teachings of Wahhabism and, in the name of Salafism, has caused the killing of people. By relying on the theoretical foundations and theological concepts of Wahhabism, the country of Saudi Arabia is known as one of the most important units that support Terrorism and, therefore, as a disturber of the international order. In contrast to the discourse of Wahhabism, there is the discourse of political Islam of Imam Khomeini (RA), who always tries to promote peace through the identification and destruction of insecure elements at the global level, using authentic Islamic principles (Simber et al., 2016). The extensive activities of the ISIS terrorist group during 2014-2018 in Iraq and Syria faced various reactions. The current security situation in the countries of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria, as well as the future security of these countries and the West Asian region against the activities and crimes of Takfiri-terrorist groups, the Taliban, ISIS, and Jabhat al-Nusra, and the development and expansion of the territory of these groups and the possibility of spreading to Other countries in the region and the rampant publication of their crimes in the news and online media of the world show a very strong conspiracy against the Islamic world by the Zionists and their western supporters with the Wahhabi-Takfiri tool to influence the public opinion of the world so that Islamophobia is widespread. The political developments that took place in the Arab countries since 2011 did not end only with the establishment of democratic governments in the region but also led to the emergence and expansion of ISIS. This terrorist group appeared in the countries of the region from North Africa to West Asia and started terrorist activities. Considering that Syria and Iraq were at the center of this terrorist crisis, the threat of ISIS became more visible for the Islamic Republic. Therefore, by adopting political and military measures and policies, Iran

tried to ward off these threats to prevent the collapse of resistance circles in the region (Derj and Noorani, 2022).

In recent years, the emergence of the Islamic Republic of Iran as an influential regional power in West Asia and the display of power in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen indicate a change in Iran's regional policy compared to the past. This show of power, in addition to the increase in relative capabilities and the power vacuum caused by the geopolitical developments in the surrounding environment, was due to the regional activism of Iran's advisory forces centered on the Quds Force (Hatami and Rezaei, 2018).

Table 1. Research background

Authors (year of research) - method used	Title	Results
Darj and Noorani (2022) Analytical method	What measures has the Islamic Republic of Iran taken to eliminate ISIS from the equation of Iraq and Syria?	It requires the adoption of an active defense policy in this country against the presence and activity of ISIS in Iraq and Syria, and in this regard, it takes measures to maintain its sovereignty and territorial integrity.
Moradi and Heydari (2022) Analytical method	What role have geographical factors played in creating insecurity in Iraq and its effect on relations with Iran?	However, the persistent tensions in Iran-Iraq relations are mainly geographical and geopolitical in nature, which doubles the need to pay attention to these factors by the decision makers of Iran's foreign policy.
Alipour Gerji et al. (2021) Analytical method	How can the US foreign policy towards ISIS be explained in 2013-2017?	The United States in 2013-2017 is trying to contain ISIS on the one hand and increase its influence on the other hand at the expense of the government to which the responsibility has been transferred.
Rezapour and Shohani (2021) Explanatory and analytical method	How will Russia's strategies change in the post-ISIS Middle East?	Post-ISIS Russia is trying to maintain troops and weapons and create military bases and intends to have a more stable and permanent influence in the competition with the Westerners and American

Authors (year of research) - method used	Title	Results
		hegemony to gain more political-security and economic benefits in the Middle East.
Kihanlo (2021) Analytical method	What is the Afghanistan crisis and Afghan refugees?	Despite the guarantees announced by the Taliban forces, a large number of Afghan nationals tried to leave the country. This caused the world to face the crisis of refugees once again.
Erdem (2020) Analytical method	what is Iran's foreign policy in dealing with the ISIS terrorist group?	Iran's perception of the ISIS threat has four main indicators: total power, geographical proximity, offensive power, and offensive intentions.
Almasi and Ozghandi (2020) Analytical method	What are the reasons and roots of the formation of terrorist groups and organizations in the Middle East?	The terrorist groups and organizations present in the modern world have an intellectual and historical background that can be investigated from the genealogy perspective.
Mahmoudi (2020) Analytical method	What is the Taliban's position regarding the future governance of Afghanistan?	The findings show that the position of the Taliban in the future of Afghanistan cannot be ignored.

Source: Research calculations

The ISIS terrorist group's extensive activities in Iraq and Syria from 2014-2018 elicited various reactions. The current security situation in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria, as well as the future security of these countries and the West Asian region against the activities and crimes of Takfiri-terrorist groups such as the Taliban, ISIS, and Jabhat al-Nusra, is a concern. The development and expansion of these groups' territories and the possibility of their spread to other countries in the region, along with the widespread reporting of their crimes in global news and virtual media, suggest a strong conspiracy against the Islamic world by Zionists and their Western supporters using the Wahhabi-Takfiri tool to influence global public

opinion and spread Islamophobia. The political changes that occurred in Arab countries since 2011 not only led to the establishment of democratic governments in the region but also to the emergence and spread of ISIS (Jamei Mosque, 2015). This terrorist group appeared in countries from North Africa to West Asia and began engaging in terrorist activities. Syria and Iraq were at the center of this terrorist crisis, making the threat of ISIS more visible to the Islamic Republic. As a result, Iran adopted political and military measures and policies to counter these threats and prevent the collapse of resistance circles in the region (Derj and Noorani, 2022). In recent years, Iran has emerged as a powerful regional force in West Asia, demonstrating its strength in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen. This shift in Iran's regional policy is due to increased relative capabilities, the power vacuum created by geopolitical developments in its surrounding environment, and the regional activism of Iran's advisory forces centered on the Quds Force (Hatami and Rezaei, 2018). This research aims to present the impact of geopolitical factors on the influence of ISIS on the regional relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The goal is to answer the question: What is the impact of ISIS on the regional ties of the Islamic Republic of Iran?

3. Method

This research, which focuses on the geopolitical indicators of countering the impact of ISIS on the regional relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, employs a mixed research approach. After conducting ten interviews, theoretical saturation of the categories was achieved. However, two additional interviews were conducted to ensure the accuracy of the data obtained from the interviews with participants.(Attachment 1 of Delphi committee members)

   MAXQDA software was used for the analysis in the qualitative section.

3.1. Qualitative validity fitting method

To ensure the validity of the mixed research and the accuracy of the findings from the perspective of the researcher, participants, or readers of the research

report, the following steps were taken in accordance with the criteria provided by Creswell:

3.2. Review by Delphi committee members
3.2.1. Collaborative research

In the quantitative part of this research, the statistical population consists of experts and officials responsible for foreign relations, Takfiri groups, and ISIS who worked in decision-making and research centers in 1401. The statistical sample for the qualitative part of the research is also composed of these experts and officials. In the quantitative section, 335 individuals will be randomly selected from among foreign relations and regional terrorism activists. The Table below shows the statistical sample of the research: 131 of the statistical population were women, and 204 were men.

3.3. Qualitative data collection tool:

A 5-item questionnaire was developed to gather data to evaluate the qualitative research model, focusing on the dimensions and components of the influence of existing regional relations, foreign relations, Takfiri groups, and ISIS. The questionnaire was based on the categories identified in the qualitative section and used a theme analysis approach. The Delphi method was employed to ensure the validity of the questionnaire.

Table 2. Content validity ratio (CVR)

Table of the minimum acceptable CVR value based on the number of grading experts					
Number of specialists	CVR value	Number of specialists	CVR value	Number of specialists	CVR value
5	0.99	11	0.59	25	0.37
6	0.99	12	0.56	30	0.33
7	0.99	13	0.54	35	0.31
8	0.75	14	0.51	40	0.29
9	0.78	15	0.49		
10	0.62	20	0.42		

Source: Research calculations

In this study, the CVR (Content Validity Ratio) value was calculated to be 0.91 based on the input of 10 experts, which is considered very good.

3.4. Content Validity Index (CVI)

The Waltz & Bausell method assesses the Content Validity Index (CVI). Using this method, experts evaluate the "relevance," "clarity," and "simplicity" of each item on a 4-point Likert scale. Experts rate the relevance of each item from 1 "not relevant," 2 "somewhat relevant," 3 "relevant," to 4 "completely relevant." The simplicity of the item is rated from 1 "not simple," 2 "somewhat simple," 3 "simple," to 4 "very simple." The clarity of the item is rated from 1 "not clear," 2 "somewhat clear," 3 "clear," to 4 "very clear." The minimum acceptable value for the CVI is 0.79. An item's CVI should be removed if it is less than 0.79. The reliability of the questionnaire factors was 0.76, 0.84 for central factors, 0.77 for social factors, 0.70 for management factors, and 0.76 for policy factors.

4. Data coding and analysis

This study used the narrative sampling method to analyze and code the interviews. Each category will be examined in detail. One area of focus is the infrastructure for preventing the impact of ISIS on the relations of the Islamic Republic. A sample of the responses provided by participants regarding this infrastructure is presented below. The Table below shows the indicators considered by respondents in relation to the infrastructure for preventing the influence in question:

Table 3. Indicators of the attention of the infrastructure to prevent impact

No	Extracted code
1	Lack of infrastructure, such as safe and secure internet
2	Infrastructure problems
3	Lack of regional relations specialists

No	Extracted code
4	Lack of flexibility
5	Failure to define the processes and actions of regional relations
6	The high cost of increasing the competence of experts and decision-makers and not allocating costs in this field
7	Costs of establishing regional relations
8	Reducing the possibility of interaction between regional relations centers, neighboring countries, and other negotiating parties
9	Lack of integration of software systems
10	The inequality of the balance of capabilities of experts and decision-makers in foreign relations
No	**Extracted code Index of horizons ahead of preventing impact**
1	Fighting against ISIS, experts and decision-makers in foreign relations, neighboring countries, and negotiating parties
2	International sanctions in the supply of necessary equipment to prevent impact
3	Technological dependence on infrastructure and application software
4	The high cost of increasing the competence of experts and decision-makers in foreign relations
6	Lack of deterrence of crimes related to arbitrariness, personal decisions, and use of abilities
7	Lack of competent specialists in regional relations
No	**Extracted code Geopolitical, cultural, and regional necessities and challenges**
1	The system for determining the efficiency of experts and decision-makers in foreign relations and policymakers in the country
2	Mental preparation of users
3	Changing the mentality of employees
4	Lack of culture
5	Reluctance of employees
6	Lack of sufficient experience of negotiators
7	The suspicious attitude of the government, political and commercial parties, and negotiators to this system
8	Weakness in employee policy

Source: Research calculations

Table 4. Most repeated answers and number of repetitions

No	Most cited indicators	No	Least cited indicators	No
1	Improper use of the capabilities of men's government	17	Infrastructure problems	4
2	The existence of appropriate policy gaps to prevent influencing experts and decision-makers in foreign relations	16	Lack of regional relations specialists	6
3	Legal and legal issues, the sharing of capabilities, the centers of anti-terrorism institutions, and regional relations	14	Lack of flexibility	2
4	Lack of specific strategies and policies	19	Lack of specialists	3
5	There are many cumbersome rules and regulations	20	Legal and legal issues, the sharing of capabilities, the centers of anti-terrorism institutions, and regional relations	5
6	The non-cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the general policy of the system	11	Lack of specific strategies	7
7	Changing the rules	22	The existence of cumbersome rules and regulations	8
8	Highly change of managers	21	Non-cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	8
9	Lack of technical mastery and appropriate policy to prevent influencing experts and decision-makers in foreign relations	19	High maintenance cost	9
10	Capabilities record	15	Capabilities record	6
11	Selection of capabilities	16	Selection of capabilities	5

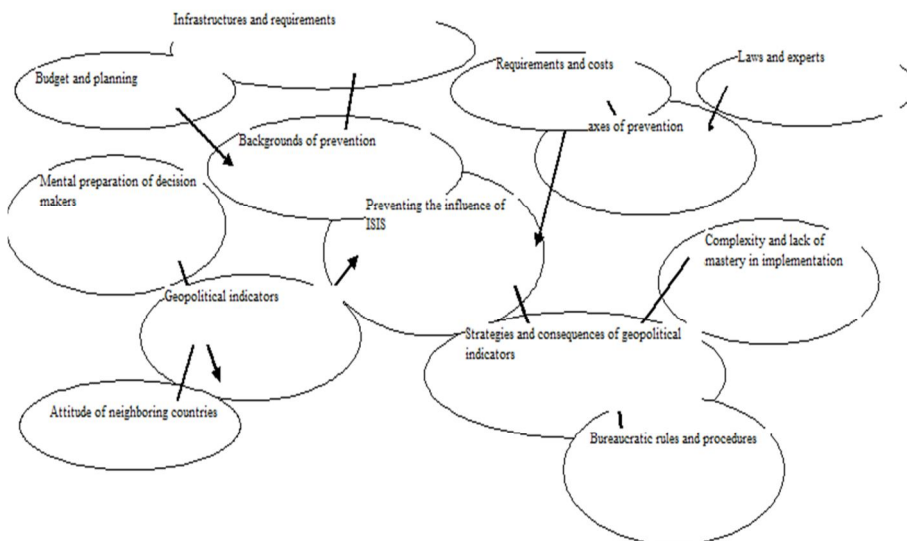| 12	Absence of specific procedures for anti-terrorism institutions and regional relations	19	Absence of specific procedures of anti-terrorism institutions and regional relations and other negotiating parties	3
13	Implementation of capabilities	18	Failure to comply with civil liability	2
14	The complexities of using capabilities	24	Indiscriminate expansion of regional relations and centers of non-profit anti-terrorism organizations	2
15	Non-compliance with international frameworks	9	Scientific warfare - possibilities implemented by sanctions	4

Source: Research calculations

Table 5. Identification of dimensions from the extracted codes

Basic classification of codes	Dimensions extracted
Paying attention to the infrastructure to prevent impact	Backgrounds to prevent influence
The horizons ahead prevent impact.	Axis of preventing influence
Geopolitical, cultural, and regional necessities and challenges to prevent impact	Socio-cultural indicators prevent influencing Prevent geopolitical indicators from influencing
Providing a suitable policy to prevent influencing experts and decision-makers in foreign relations and paying attention to the management to avoid influencing	A suitable policy to prevent influencing experts and decision-makers in foreign relations

Source: Research calculations

The main dimensions can be identified by analyzing the presented key sentences as follows: Backgrounds to prevent influence, Axis of preventing influence, Socio-cultural indicators prevent influencing, Prevent geopolitical indicators from influencing, A suitable policy to prevent influencing experts and decision-makers in foreign relations.

Fig 1. Final coding

Source: Research calculations

Table 6. The results of Kolmogorov-Smirnov normality test

Items	Obtained coefficient	Significance	Result
Items related to affecting factors indicators	0.105	0.47	Confirming the normality of the statistical distribution

Source: Research calculations

The results confirm that the distribution of the item is normal. The Table below summarizes the results of the T-Test for examining the research categories:

Table 7. Sample T-Tech test for research categories

Desired category		Significance level	Result
Items related to affecting factors indicators	16.82	0.000	Confirmation of geopolitical indicators

Source: Research calculations

Based on the approval of the categories, the following statement can be made: Geopolitical indicators affecting the influence of ISIS have an impact on the regional relations of the Islamic Republic. The regression relationships are presented below for further examination:

4.1. Model estimation

The following equation is used to estimate the relationship between the items using the regression equation method:

$$A=\alpha+\beta_1*A_1+\beta_2*A_2+\beta_3*A_3+\beta_4*A_4+\beta_5*A_5+\varepsilon$$

The following Table summarizes the result of the model estimation

Table 8. Regression model fitting results

Response variable = ISIS influence on the regional relations of the Islamic Republic			
Independent variables	**Regression coefficients**	**t test statistic**	**Significance level**
Equation constant (α)	0.0001	0.005	0.996
affecting factors	0.170	63.84	0.000
F test statistic = 8944.66, significance level = 0.000			
Watson camera statistics: 1.70, coefficient of determination = 0.99			

Source: Research calculations

The T-test is used to determine the significant effect of variables on the dependent variable. If the relevant category is significant, that variable is confirmed.

5. Conclusion and Suggestions

The primary objective of this research is to identify the factors that influence ISIS's impact on the regional relations of the Islamic Republic and to present a model of this influence. The priority is policy refinements, social, cultural, and geopolitical backgrounds, indicators, and axes. Geopolitical indicators, with a coefficient of 0.170, impact ISIS's influence on the regional relations

of the Islamic Republic. The fact that ISIS has never successfully carried out an operation in Iran does not mean that it does not influence Iran's relations. In July 2015, Iran established a 40 km deep security buffer zone along its borders in Iraq. In May 2015, Hossein Dehghan, the Minister of Defense and Support of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic, stated that ISIS does not have the power or capability to threaten Iran's borders. From a military standpoint, Iran has not allowed the presence of ISIS at its borders, but ISIS is also actively influencing the diplomatic scene through various means. The results of this research are in line with the research of (Derj and Noorani, 2022), (Moradi and Heydari, 2022), (Alipour and Gerji et al., 2021), (Rezapour and Shohani, 2021), (Kihanlou, 2021). The fact that ISIS has never had a successful operation in Iran is not a reason that ISIS does not influence Iran's relations. In July 2015, Iran created a 40 km deep security buffer zone behind its borders in Iraq. In May 2015, Hossein Dehghan, the Minister of Defense and Support of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic, claimed that ISIS does not have the power and ability to threaten Iran's borders. From the military point of view, Iran has not allowed the presence of Daesh in the borders, but Daesh is also busy influencing the diplomatic scene with various means. Iran shares a 1500 km border with Iraq. To prevent jihadists from infiltrating Iran, the Islamic Republic soon extended its hand of cooperation to the newly founded government of Iraq, and Iranian forces, especially the Quds Force under the leadership of Qassem Soleimani, rushed to the aid of the Iraqi forces. The Islamic Republic of Iran is the leader in the fight against extremism and Terrorism, including the terrorist activities of Takfiri groups in Iraq and Syria, which have been formed with the support of some regional and extra-regional countries. Takfiri groups claim to have established an Islamic caliphate on several continents. They rule the world, they act against the original teachings of the sublime Islamic Sharia, and their inhumane and cruel behavior is a serious threat to regional and international peace and stability. While the new military coalition, with a lot of hype, is preparing the space

for the start of air operations against ISIS terrorists three years after its creation, the real fight against ISIS in the past three years by various popular groups and regional governments in The field scene of the battle is ongoing, and the Islamic Republic of Iran has played its part in these struggles. Also, the results of this research are in line with the research of (Erdam, 2019), Almasi and Azghandi, 2019) (Mahmodi, 2019). The fight against Terrorism using air force has been tested in different countries, and not only did it not lead to the destruction of Taliban and Al-Qaeda terrorism. Rather, it has spread its scope to different countries and has led to the destruction of economic infrastructure and the killing and displacement of most innocent people. Some of the founders of this demonstration coalition are countries that have played the main role in creating, expanding, and strengthening the human, financial, weapons, and logistics resources of ISIS terrorists, and now, by being in the coalition, they are trying to divert the public opinion of the nations from their central role. They are the creators of this crisis. The Islamic Republic of Iran considers the ultimate goal of some of the leaders of the coalition against ISIS to be a long-term military presence in the region and believes in the ineffectiveness of the coalition against ISIS, just like the previous actions of the leaders of this coalition. The fight against Daesh terrorism requires serious determination and international cooperation through the central governments of the countries where Daesh is present and a serious and comprehensive fight with the political, financial, weapon, and propaganda tools of Daesh terrorists and their international supporters and in a real fight with Terrorism, the Islamic Republic of Iran is a leading country. ISIS is the most powerful manifestation of the terrorist organization that was created as a branch of Al-Qaeda in Iraq after the US invasion of Iraq in 2003. Considering the many effects of the crisis of the Islamic State, the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran has affected the national, regional, and international sectors. With the emergence of ISIS in the region, the Islamic Republic of Iran is trying to integrate its role as the main player of resistance in the Middle East region and in the current world system.

According to the constructivist view, the origin of identity in the world system lies in the internal principles, rules, and norms and the social activities of the world. Therefore, many concepts, such as security, threat, socialization, integration, and integration, are created based on the value system and identity of the actors. The main point of the constructivist approach is that international politics cannot be reduced to a set of interactions and rational behaviors in the real and organizational framework at the national and international levels because the interactions of governments are only based on a series of planned events. They are not accepted but formed over time as a behavioral pattern through identity. The identity of the Islamic Republic of Iran is formed based on Islamic traditions and external perspectives.

According to the analysis, it is necessary to prevent the influence of ISIS with solutions. Helping proxy groups to fight on the borders of Syria, Iraq, and part of Afghanistan is one of the appropriate solutions. Using international legal relations, the legal team approved by the Islamic Republic of Iran can ask the Security Council to request the International Criminal Court to try ISIS criminals in addition to verifying the breach of peace and taking appropriate action according to the Charter. It is suggested that in future research, using hierarchical methods, the effective factors of the influence of ISIS on relations should be investigated, in addition to recognizing the position of variables such as geopolitical indicators, infrastructures, and policies, which were the subject of the current research, the program A comprehensive plan should be provided to the managers of the organization to prevent the lowering of the quality of relations with neighbors and the fight against terrorists. In addition, in future research, it is possible to investigate the need of decision-making organizations, such as the diplomatic apparatus, for facilities to implement the influence of ISIS on relations in the two sections of hardware and software requirements.

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All authors contribute to preparing this paper.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest

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Appendix 1

Attachment 1 of Delphi committee members.

No	Field of expertise	University rank	Interview floor
1	Foreign Relations	Professor	
2	Foreign Relations	Assistant Professor	Audio file
3	Foreign Relations	Assistant Professor	Audio file
4	Foreign Relations	Professor	Audio file
5	Foreign Relations	Associate Professor	Audio file
6	Foreign Relations	Associate Professor	Audio file
7	Expert in takfiri groups	Assistant Professor	Audio file
8	Foreign Relations	Assistant Professor	Audio file
9	Fight against Terrorism	Professor	Audio file
10	Foreign Relations	Associate Professor	Audio file
11	Foreign Relations	Assistant Professor	Audio file
12	Foreign Relations	Assistant Professor	Audio file