

Group 1 Instructions for Establishing Ground Truth

Please review the list of forecast statements that follow. Each statement on the list corresponds to a forecast made by a research firm. In some cases it was forecasted that the event would occur. In other cases it was forecasted that the event would not occur.

We would like you to review each statement and indicate whether it is true or false that the event occurred using the following scale:

1. True (the event occurred)
2. Not sure, but I tend to think the event occurred
3. I don't know... (*Please indicate reason "3a" or reason "3b"*)
 - a. ...because I cannot establish the facts of the situation
 - b. ...because the forecast is too vague
4. Not sure, but I tend to think the event did not occur
5. False (the event did not occur)

Feel free to do some research to help you make this judgment. We ask that you limit your total time for this task to up to 8 staff hours.

Forecast Statements for Sudan	Answer Using 5 Point Scale
1. Sudan doubled its oil output to 1 million barrels per day during 2006.	
2. Sudan was the most dynamic economic player among African countries in 2006.	
3. Sudan attempted a peace deal with the Darfur rebels in 2006.	
4. Sudan's relations with countries in the Horn of Africa were normalized in 2006.	
5. Sudan attempted to attract more business into the country in 2006.	
6. Sudan further implemented the January 2005 peace agreement with the former rebels in the south in 2006.	

Forecast Statements for South Africa	Answer Using 5 Point Scale
1. South Africa faced political turmoil in 2006.	
2. The African National Congress' (ANC's) internal political succession was seriously threatened in 2007.	
3. The African National Congress (ANC) splintered in 2006.	
4. There was a peaceful succession of South Africa's presidency in 2009.	
5. ANC's problems peaked in 2006 during ANC Deputy President Jacob Zuma's trials on charges of rape and corruption.	
6. All sides of South Africa's tripartite alliance used the March 1, 2006 local elections to gauge their standing within the coalition ahead of the 2007 battle.	

Forecast Statements for Iran	Answer Using 5 Point Scale
1. There was a crisis over the Iranian nuclear program with Israel in 2006.	
2. There was a crisis over the Iranian nuclear program with the United States in 2006.	
3. There was a negotiated settlement of the Iranian nuclear program crisis in 2006.	
4. Iran backed down over its nuclear program in 2006.	
5. Iran sought guarantees on Iraq from Washington in 2006.	
6. Iran played the anti-Israel card to pressure Washington into obtaining guarantees in 2006.	
7. A regime dominated by the Iraqi Shia emerged in Baghdad in 2006.	
8. There were negotiations over the long-term presence of U.S. military forces in Iraq in 2006.	
9. Iran achieved a deal on the nuclear issue in 2006.	
10. Iran achieved a deal that allowed it to have enrichment capability in 2006.	
11. Iran achieved a deal in 2006 on the nuclear issue that prevented it from moving toward weaponization.	
12. Russia was involved in the deal on the Iranian nuclear issue at the technical level in 2006.	

Forecast Statements for Iran	Answer Using 5 Point Scale
13. Russia was involved in the deal on the Iranian nuclear issue at the political level in 2006.	
14. The Iranian nuclear program conflict made its way to the United Nations Security Council in 2006.	
15. No substantive punitive measures were taken against Iran by the United Nations Security Council in 2006.	
16. Ayatollah Mesbah Yazdi made it into the Assembly of Experts when Iranian elections took place in 2006.	
17. There were a lot of negotiations between the Iranian ultraconservatives and the pragmatic conservatives for choice of supreme leader of the Assembly of Experts in 2006.	
18. Iran was one of the major security concerns for the West during 2006.	
19. Ahmadinejad was the radical figure who filled the vacuum in 2006 left by Moammar Ghadaffi and Sadam Hussein.	
20. Iranian moderates brought about a rapprochement with the United States in 2006.	
21. Tehran actively pursued a nuclear weapons program in 2006.	
22. Intense Western pressure was applied in 2006 to delay Iranian nuclear ambitions.	
23. Tehran's nuclear program was referred to the UN Security Council in 2006.	
24. There were pre-emptive military strikes against suspected nuclear facilities in Iran in 2006.	
25. Israel took the lead in waging preemptive military strikes against suspected nuclear facilities in Iran in 2006.	

Thank you very much for assisting our study.

OPTIONAL: Please provide any comments you may have on this exercise.

Group 2: Instructions for Establishing Ground Truth

Please review the list of forecast statements that follow. Each statement on the list corresponds to a forecast made by a research firm. In some cases it was forecasted that the event would occur. In other cases it was forecasted that the event would not occur.

We would like you to review each statement and do two things.

First, indicate whether it is true or false that the event occurred using the following scale:

1. True (the event occurred)
2. Not sure, but I tend to think the event occurred
3. I don't know... (*Please indicate reason "3a" or reason "3b"*)
 - 3a. because I cannot establish the facts of the situation
 - 3b. because the forecast is too vague
1. Not sure, but I tend to think the event did not occur
2. False (the event did not occur)

Second, we would also like you to indicate, using the five point scale, whether you would change your rating if the time period for the forecast was extended by six months.

Feel free to do some research to help you make the initial judgment. Please contact us if you anticipate that you will need more than 8 hours to complete this task. *Do not do any additional research to arrive at a judgment for the extended forecast time period.*

Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)	Probability That Event Occurred If The Time Period Was Extended by 6 months (Use 5 Point Scale)
1. Conflict continued in Sudan's Darfur region in 2007.		
2. Conflict continued in Sudan's southern regions in 2007.		
3. Sudan's insurgent groups remained intent on gaining greater autonomy in 2007.		
4. No U.N. peacekeeping force touched the ground in Darfur, Sudan in 2007		
5. There was widespread international pressure on Sudan to accept a U. N. peacekeeping force in Darfur in 2007.		
6. Khartoum, Sudan continued opposing the idea of a U.N. peacekeeping force in 2007.		
7. There was an impasse in 2007 between Khartoum and the Western governments that wanted the Darfur conflict to end.		
8. There was an impasse in 2007 between Khartoum and the nongovernmental organizations that wanted the Darfur conflict to end.		
9. Sudanese President Omar al Bashir accepted a token reinforcement of the African Union (AU) mission in Darfur in 2007.		

Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)	Probability That Event Occurred If The Time Period Was Extended by 6 months (Use 5 Point Scale)
10. The African Union (AU) force proved no more successful at containing the humanitarian crisis in Darfur in 2007 than in 2006.		
11. South Africa was paralyzed in 2007 by infighting in the ruling African National Congress (ANC) party.		
12. The South African government maligned Zuma in 2007.		
13. South Africa strengthened its role as a mediator of conflicts in Africa in 2007.		
14. South Africa strengthened its role as a mediator of conflicts elsewhere in the world in 2007.		
15. South Africa did not realize its goal as a mediator of conflicts in 2007.		
16. There was increased Russian Activity in Africa in 2007.		
17. There was increased Chinese Activity in Africa in 2007.		
18. There was alarm in Pretoria about Russian activity in Africa in 2007.		
19. There was alarm in Pretoria about Chinese activity in Africa in 2007.		

Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)	Probability That Event Occurred If The Time Period Was Extended by 6 months (Use 5 Point Scale)
20. South Africa welcomed the investment and cooperation Russia offered in 2007.		
21. South Africa welcomed the investment and cooperation China offered in 2007.		
22. South Africa resented the narrow terms and conditions that accompanied Russian involvement in 2007.		
23. South Africa resented the narrow terms and conditions that accompanied Chinese involvement in 2007.		
24. South Africa was Africa's champion to resist renewed colonial imposition in 2007.		
25. Tehran focused on increasing the political costs of the United States remaining in Iraq in 2007.		
26. Tehran focused on increasing the military costs of the United States remaining in Iraq in 2007.		
27. Tehran lent more support to militants in Iraq in 2007.		
28. Tehran lent more support to Shiite gunmen in Iraq in 2007.		
29. Tehran lent more support to segments of the Sunni insurgency in Iraq in 2007.		

Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)	Probability That Event Occurred If The Time Period Was Extended by 6 months (Use 5 Point Scale)
30. A political settlement of sorts between the United States and Iraq was forged in 2007.		
31. Iran pushed its nuclear agenda forward in 2007.		
32. The U.N. Security Council was unable to pressure Tehran in 2007 into curtailing its nuclear program.		
33. Iran moved closer to its objective of becoming a full-fledged nuclear power in 2007.		
34. Iran strengthened its bargaining position on Iraq in 2007.		
35. Iran expanded its influence in the region in 2007.		
36. Iran advanced its nuclear program in 2007.		
37. A nuclear Iran was accepted as part of any deal the United States wanted on Iraq in 2007.		
38. There was a major shakeup in the Iranian regime in 2007.		
39. The Iranian regime's dealings with the United States on Iraq were upset in 2007.		
40. Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei died in 2007.		

Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)	Probability That Event Occurred If The Time Period Was Extended by 6 months (Use 5 Point Scale)
41. The Iranian public doubted the government's ability to navigate the country in 2007.		
42. There was not a complete breakdown of the Iranian political system in 2007.		
43. The Iranian leadership transition went relatively smoothly in 2007.		
44. Khamenei positioned former Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to lead the country in 2007.		
45. Khamenei arranged in 2007 to remove Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad from his post.		
46. Rafsanjani received the position as supreme leader or president of Iran before the end of 2007.		
47. The United States kept a close eye on Tehran in 2007.		
48. The fate of Iran was a waiting game in 2007.		
49. The EU pushed for more sanctions against Iran in 2007.		
50. The situation between Washington and Iran was tense in 2007.		
51. The domestic opposition put pressure on Ahmadeinejad in 2007.		

Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)	Probability That Event Occurred If The Time Period Was Extended by 6 months (Use 5 Point Scale)
52. Ahmadinejad cemented complete control of Iran's nuclear negotiation strategy in the year from November 2007-November 2008.		
53. Iran's nuclear negotiation strategy veered to the right in the year from November 2007-November 2008.		
54. There was increasing conflict between Iran's president and influential pragmatists in the year from November 2007-November 2008.		
55. There was increasing conflict between Iran's president and conservative circles close to him in the year from November 2007-November 2008.		
56. The Iranian economy continued to falter in the year from November 2007-November 2008.		
57. Political discontent rose in Iran in the year from November 2007-November 2008.		
58. Tension between Iranian hardliners and conservatives increased in the year from November 2007-November 2008.		
59. Tension between Iranian hardliners and pragmatists increased in the year from November 2007-November 2008.		

Thank you very much for assisting our study.

OPTIONAL: Please provide any comments you would like on this exercise.

Group 3: Instructions for Establishing Ground Truth

Please review the list of forecast statements that follow. Each statement on the list corresponds to a forecast made by an organization. In some cases it was forecasted that the event would occur. In other cases it was forecasted that the event would not occur.

We would like you to review each statement and indicate whether it is true or false that the event occurred using the following scale:

1. True (the event occurred)
2. Not sure, but I tend to think the event occurred
3. I don't know... (*Please indicate reason "3a" or "3b"*)
 - a. Because I cannot establish the facts of the situation
 - b. Because the forecast is too vague
4. Not sure, but I tend to think the event did not occur
5. False (the event did not occur)

Feel free to do some research to help you make this judgment. We ask that you limit your total time for this task to 8 staff hours.

Iraq Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)
1. There was an increase in communal violence in Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
2. There was an increase in insurgent violence in Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
3. There was an increase in political extremism in Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
4. The overall security situation in Iraq deteriorated in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame at rates comparable to the latter part of 2006.	
5. Iraqi leaders began the process of political compromise necessary for longer term stability, political progress, and economic recovery in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
6. Iraqi leaders did not achieve sustained political reconciliation in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
7. The Kurds increased their control of Kirkuk in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
8. Arab groups in Kirkuk resisted violently what they saw as Kurdish encroachment in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
9. Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) were hard pressed in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame to execute significantly increased security responsibilities.	
10. Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) were hard pressed in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame to operate independently against Shia militias with success.	

Iraq Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)
11. Coalition capabilities were a stabilizing element in Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
12. The involvement of outside actors was not a major driver of violence in Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
13. The involvement of outside actors was not a major driver of stability in Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
14. Syria provided a safe haven for expatriate Iraqi Bathists in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
15. Syria took less than adequate measures to stop the flow of foreign jihadists into Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
16. Turkey eliminated the safe haven in northern Iraq of the Kurdistan People's Congress in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame	
17. There were sustained mass sectarian killings in Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
18. Major religious leaders in Iraq were assassinated in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
19. Major political leaders in Iraq were assassinated in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	
20. There was a complete Sunni defection from the government in Iraq in the January 2007 to July 2009 time frame.	

Iraq Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)
21. There was an increase in communal violence in Iraq in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame	
22. There was an increase in insurgent violence in Iraq in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame	
23. Iraq's central government's capacity to function deteriorated in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame	
24. Iraq's security services collapsed in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame.	
25. There was widespread fighting in Iraq in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame	
26. Iraq was divided into three parts in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame	
27. Iraq's Shia asserted its latent strength in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame.	
28. There was a checkered pattern of local control in Iraq in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame	
29. There was ethno-sectarian violence in Iraq in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame	
30. There were intra-group clashes in Iraq in the January 2007-July 2009 time frame	

Thank you very much for assisting our study.

OPTIONAL: Please provide any comments you would like on this exercise.

Global Terrorism Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)
1. Al-Qa'ida posed the greatest threat to the Homeland by a single terrorist organization during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
2. Al-Qa'ida posed the greatest threat to US interests abroad by a single terrorist organization during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe	
3. The global jihadist movement spread and adapted to counterterrorism efforts during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
4. Activists identifying themselves as jihadists increased in number during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
5. Activists identifying themselves as jihadists increased in geographic dispersion during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
6. There was greater pluralism in Muslim majority nations during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
7. There were more responsive political systems in Muslim majority nations during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
8. Some of the grievances jihadists exploit were alleviated in Muslim majority nations during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
9. There was sustained, multifaceted programs targeting the vulnerabilities of the jihadist movement during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
10. There was continued pressure on al-Qa'ida during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
11. Support for the jihadists eroded during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	

Global Terrorism Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)
12. The global jihadist movement was more diffuse during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
13. New jihadist networks and cells, with anti-American agendas, emerged during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
14. It was harder to find jihadist groups with anti-American agendas during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
15. It was harder to undermine jihadist groups with anti-American agendas during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
16. The operational threat from self-radicalized cells grew in importance to US counterterrorism efforts abroad during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
17. The operational threat from self-radicalized cells grew in importance to US counterterrorism efforts in the Homeland during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
18. The Iraq jihad shaped a new generation of terrorist leaders and operatives during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
19. The Iraq jihadist movement spread during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
20. The spread of Iraq jihadist movement began to slow during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	

Global Terrorism Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)
21. Muslim related conflicts continued during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
22. Respected Muslim voices of moderation emerged during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
23. There was Muslim criticism of violent tactics employed against mostly Muslim citizens during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
24. Peaceful political activism in Iraq grew during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
25. Broader Iraqi Muslim communities rejected jihadist violence during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
26. The Muslim mainstream emerged as the most powerful weapon in the war on terror during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
27. There was progress in democratic reform efforts in Muslim majority nations during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
28. A wedge was driven in Muslim majority nations between intransigent extremists and groups willing to use the political process to achieve their local objectives during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
29. There were destabilizing transitions to democratic reform in Muslim majority nations during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
30. There were new opportunities for jihadists to exploit during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	

Global Terrorism Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)
31. Attacks by Sunni extremist organizations, such as Jemaah Islamiya, Ansar al-Sunnah, and several North African groups ebbed and flowed between local regime targets and regional or global ones during the April 2006 to April 2007 timeframe.	
32. Most jihadist groups used improvised explosive devices focused primarily on soft targets during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
33. Most jihadist groups used suicide attacks focused primarily on soft targets during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
34. Most jihadist groups attempted to conduct sustained terrorist attacks in urban environments during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
35. Fighters with experience in Iraq were a source of leadership for jihadists groups using improvised explosive devices during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
36. Fighters with experience in Iraq were a source of leadership for jihadists groups using suicide attacks during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
37. Fighters with experience in Iraq were a source of leadership for sustained terrorist attacks in urban environments during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
38. CBRN capabilities were sought by Iraqi jihadist groups during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
39. Iran was the most active state sponsor of terrorism during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	

Global Terrorism Forecast Statement	Probability That Event Occurred During Stated Time Period (Use 5 Point Scale)
40. Syria, to a lesser extent than Iran was an active state sponsor of terrorism during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame	
41. Many states beyond Iran and Syria were unable to prevent territory and resources from being exploited by terrorists in the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
42. Anti-US sentiment raised during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
43. Anti-globalization sentiment raised during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
44. Some leftist, nationalist, or separatist groups adopted terrorist methods to attack US interests during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
45. There were surprise terrorist attacks by unknown groups whose members and supporters were difficult to pinpoint during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	
46. Terrorist groups increased their use of the Internet during the April 2006 to April 2007 time frame.	

Thank you very much for assisting our study.

OPTIONAL: Please provide any comments you would like on this exercise.

Group 4 Instructions for establishing Ground Truth

The original files seem to be missing, but follow exactly the same pattern as the above instructions and are easily reconstructed from the Reader Instructions for Group 4.