



Iran Strategy Brief No. 8: Iranian Ideology after the Nuclear Deal

January 10, 2017 **James S. Robbins**

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The Obama administration's Iran policy has been driven by the conviction that reaching a deal with Iran over its nuclear weapons program would constitute a historic diplomatic breakthrough, lead to a fundamental transformation in U.S.-Iranian relations, and prompt significant changes in the Islamic Republic's international behavior. This view was apparently based on a belief that American opposition to Iran's policies played a critical role in perpetuating Tehran's destabilizing activities, and that pursuing a rapprochement with the Islamic Republic could consequently lead to more moderate policies.