The **Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD** (PASCC) is run at the Center on Contemporary Studies (CCC) and sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). PASCC awards and supports strategic studies and dialogues that anticipate and try to reduce the threat of WMD capabilities.

The CCC has a respected track record for providing research and timely analysis on a variety of topics to leading decision makers in the U.S. national security community. Located in the Naval Postgraduate School, the CCC is the research wing of the Department of National Security Affairs.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information, please contact pascc@nps.edu.

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Iran's Evolving Ballistic Missile Doctrine: From Deterrence to Anti-Access/Area-Denial Strategies & Capabilities

Performer: International Institute for Strategic Studies
Project Lead: Michael Elleman
Project Cost: $77,000
FY15-16

Objective:

Iran is seeking to improve the accuracy of its missiles and is pursuing related technologies. Though it is unlikely that Iran will achieve the pinpoint accuracy and increased range it seeks, it is reasonable to assume that engineers will significantly improve the accuracy of Iran's short-range rockets and missiles. These capabilities could be used for political purposes by waging a campaign of fear on regional rivals. This study will estimate the accuracy of current Iranian missiles, forecast the accuracy of future systems, and assess the potential impacts of such improvements on Iran's current anti-access/area-denial strategy. Identified findings can then be shared with regional partners to help create a common operating picture for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). In addition, the project could help facilitate a harmonization of military-defense requirements, strategic policies, and procurement priorities across the GCC.

Approach:

Researchers will review the literature on recent missile developments in Iran. They will garner insights from a network of proliferation and export-control specialists to identify strategies to prevent Iran's access to hardware and technologies needed to improve its missile accuracy. Finally, the researchers will develop a strategy for mitigating the impact of Iran's increasingly accurate ballistic missiles.