Twitter Space January 13, 2026

[00:00:00] Welcome everybody to our first X space of 2026. We finished last year, 2025, discussing Iran, and we are back today talking about Iran. My name is Sarah Burkhard and I'm joined by my colleagues David Albright and Spencer Faragasso. Hello, good morning. hello. Now, of course, since the beginning of 2026, there's been a lot of news coming out of Iran.

A lot of changes happening. We've seen mass protests across the country initially. Lots of people unsure if these demonstrations are any different from what we've seen in the past, what we saw in 20 22, 20 19, back in 2009. However, of course, one key difference is that. President Trump has come out in support of the protests.

He's [00:01:00] declared that the US is willing and ready to intervene militarily if the regime is too brutal, too violent in its response. Even though that military intervention hasn't happened yet and many protestors have died, we've seen numbers coming out in the hundreds, if not the thousands. but the momentum of the protest is still strong.

More and more people are, who are monitoring the situation are saying that this could really be different. If we cease to, if we start to see cracks in the security apparatus, it could really be the beginning of a revolution and to transform Iran, of course, we, at the institute, we have colleagues from Iran.

We all know people from Iran. And we, you know, we feel with the people from Iran, we, even if I didn't know anyone from Iran, I would wish for the people of the country that the country would transform not just into something different, but something better for the [00:02:00] people you know, and into the oppression, a chance for peace and prosperity, a transition to democracy.

Of course, this is one of the reasons we at ISIS have been. Monitoring the nuclear weapons program and the, we've been working so hard to oppose a nuclear weapon in the hands of the Iranian regime because it would only strengthen the regime and weaken anyone who opposes it, and then of course, also threaten the whole region.

David Spencer, before we really get into the space, do you have any message you would like to send out to the Iranian people? Certainly. I hope. I hope they win. I mean, it's, it's absolutely horrible what they're going through. And the

regime from the, in the, the reports that do exist coming out are, are pretty horrific.

I just looked at some statements in the New York Times and Twitter that, you know, 3000 have been killed. Other, [00:03:00] even automatic weapons are being used to kill people. So it, it's a horrific time. And, and you know, and I hope President Trump does intervene. I mean, we will talk more about what that may mean or what form it would take, but I think people, including me, expect him to do something quite dramatic.

I mean, yesterday he did impose sanctions on countries that deal with Iran, 25% additional tariffs that he imposed on countries that trade with Iran. But that's a very small step in what needs to take place. Yeah. And ultimately we have to remember that regimes like these often collapse the same way people go bankrupt gradually and then all at once. Right now is really an opportunity for the United States, its allies and for the people of Iran most importantly too. To take advantage of the situation and create a new future for themselves. I'm for the Trump administration. I'm most worried for them [00:04:00] that this will not become a, a red line in the sand moment, and this is really an opportunity.

That the Trump administration can leverage to achieve actually something really great in the Middle East to achieve a, a new security situation that can bring in a prosperous and safe and, and secure Middle East for generations to come. and so really it's up to the Iranian people ultimately to achieve that outcome and to secure, a more favorable and hopefully democratic government.

but. We should all be clear eyed about the risks of this current moment. there's a lot of ways this can go badly, and this is why the Iranian people need support now more than ever. you know, the, the nightmare scenarios include civil War. That includes, a transition to a military dictatorship if the [00:05:00] military decides to take over.

And these scenarios, are really, could be devastating, especially for the people in the lives of Iran, of the, in Iran. Ultimately it's their lives and it's their country and they need support right now more than ever. And, and, and I'm hope that, I really hope that the Trump administration follows through and provides that support.

Um mm-hmm. Yeah, definitely. I mean, the, definitely these. Different possibilities and this uncertainty. What could happen next is something I want to discuss closely today with you, especially given that we have a country that

has a nuclear weapons capabilities much less today than at the beginning of last year.

Then before the June, 2025 war, but still significant capabilities remain in the country, and who takes charge of those capabilities? What happens to these assets is, you know, can be very critical. And [00:06:00] you already mentioned two possibilities. Spencer, you mentioned that there could be a military dictatorship taking over and that military dictatorship could have very unclear nuclear intentions.

They could be hell bent on securing nuclear weapons, even if that means being more isolated, inviting additional attacks, from Israel or from the us but they could, you know, that's the way they could go. It could be an equally oppressive military regime. it could also be the same regime getting out of the situation, you know?

Surviving somehow, or even by entering the last minute deal with President Trump, that then stops Trump from intervening. whether it's a deal that's actually worthwhile or maybe not. And then of course, one other, possibility is that just, chaos in the country.

But hopefully, and that's one real [00:07:00] possibility I also want to discuss with you, is that maybe we do see the transition to a democratic government, one that's willing to completely get rid of the nuclear weapons portions of the nuclear program and that type of transformation. You know, the country could keep some of the peaceful components of the nuclear program.

They could keep nuclear energy production, nuclear desalination, nuclear research, isotope production, et cetera, but all the nuclear weapons capabilities would be secured, dismantled, and removed from the country. Now, David, I wanna start out with the worst outcome and then kind of walk my way back to the more positive outcomes.

what, what's your take on the current regimes claims that, you know, if you attack us, we can build a nuclear weapon in 24 hours.

Well, I think I, I don't know what the basis of those claims are. I mean, there's no, I don't think they're [00:08:00] fact-based. I mean, regime officials or proponents have tried to put these kind of numbers out, but I don't think there's any basis in fact for them.

And in fact, what, what we see is a country not really prepared to make nuclear weapons even in the short term right now, there. The regime is highly traumatized by the June war. It hasn't moved very much at all to try to recover the highly enriched uranium and, it's suffered quite a bit of damage to its nuclear weaponization program.

So I don't, I don't see them, the regime being able to move in the short term to build nuclear weapons. That being said, I mean, if, you know, the, one of the worst outcomes is the regime survives and that, and that it hunkers down. It knows that the amount of sanctions would increase and then it thinks in the longer term that it's better off with, with nuclear weapons and, and [00:09:00] starts to move in that direction.

Which if discovered, will guarantee more military strikes and more hardship on the Iranian people. But if, but so in my mind, one of the worst outcomes is just the regime survives and, manages to outlist this or just suppress this protest. And President Trump doesn't react in a way. And, , Spencer pointed out, we have to worry about that because look at what's happened to Ukraine peace in a few days.

And yet he's woefully irresponsible in how he's acting on the Ukraine crisis. So, particularly not providing aid. And so you, that is also part of my worst case, thinking that President Trump talks big and acts small. in terms of these dictatorships, I mean this, this, again, is in the worst case, is that they, some group decides to push aside the supreme [00:10:00] leader.

he's pretty ineffective anyway. He's real drag on the system. he's lost any moral right to rule the country and he's driven it into the ground. And so, instead of going for a Democratic solution, they go for some kind of military dictatorship of some kind and then try to, to outlast the protestors while making concessions.

What those would be would be hard to predict. But one people in Iran could certainly think of all kinds. And, if they gave up enrichment. If that was one of the concessions, then that may be a bid to reduce the sanctions and improve the economy and try to win over some fraction of the Iranian population to, to get behind this, this new authoritarian, government.[00:11:00]

at the same time, I think Sarah and Spencer mentioned, maybe it will just again, hunker down like. The current regime is doing and try to just maintain a nuclear weapons capability and maybe even make some progress on it. And, okay. I think that we also have to remember that even in the event where the regime does make some sort of deal with the Trump administration to avert, any sort of,

immediate military retaliation against its actions, against its own people. this is a regime that lies, it subverts, it hides, so at the end of the day, can it really be trusted? and, and in any deal that involves the nuclear program, it will require an extensive verification monitoring program. and, this will have to be implemented.

Yeah, let's, let's stay with that for a little bit. Let's, kind of look at the, what nuclear capabilities remain in [00:12:00] Iran. What are the things that would need to be secured, accounted for, dismantled, verified in the country? you know, whether we have a nuclear deal or whether we have a limited nuclear deal, or whether we have a full transition to a Democratic government that says we want nothing to do with nuclear weapons. I think as a general rule of thumb, we need to look at all the things that were targeted in the June war. Those are the, the main concerns about the program. We're talking about enriched uranium stocks, we're talking about, the enrichment program, enrichment related equipment, but then also the weaponization side of things.

Yeah, and I think, but I, I, well, I assume we'll talk about some, some options on this, but, but the Iran has quite a nuclear [00:13:00] program and, and, and we tend to focus on the ones related to nuclear weapons capabilities. And you mentioned the most important part of it, enriched uranium. The centrifuges and uranium mining or uranium stocks.

but Iran also has, has a very large nuclear power plant at Bushehr as some research reactors. It's building more nuclear power plants and research reactors. So, so I think the, these, we need to be considered in any transition about, about, what would, who would control those, those, those facilities and hir in particular could cause a major, radioactive disaster if, if control was lost over that facility.

mm-hmm. Yeah, that's a good point. We do have a, a large nuclear program. A lot of these. Were [00:14:00] not attacked in June because they're not threat to nuclear weapons, building nuclear weapons. But they can be dangerous if, you know, uncontrolled factions take over or there just a loss of territorial control, there's looting going on, and they're pretty dispersed around the country. It's not just Tehran or around Tehran that we need to be looking at. It's really, these sites are all over the country. David mentioned Bushehr, then we have the Dharkhovin reactor. We have additional reactors that Iran is building, near the straight for Hormuz

We, of course, we have several research reactors as well, and so we do have nuclear materials and radiological materials as well that would have to be secured.

Currently though, who is in charge of these assets and how could that change and how does that kind of impact things.

Again, it, it is very [00:15:00] much scenario driven and maybe we should talk about through some of the scenarios, but currently they're, they're under the control of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran and, and with quite a bit of physical protection provided by various government, government entities, including the IRGC.

And so, particularly if you get into the weaponization side, so I think it. The existing situation is that the government has control of these things, and so. I think we have to look at the scenarios in more detail to, to think about who would control them in the future.

And, yeah, I mean, if you want, we can, you know, we can start, we can just go with the scenario of the, the military taking over.

I think what you just mentioned right now, it's the A EOI who is controlling at least the nuclear enrichment, nuclear reactor side of things, but. We do have the IRGC already involved in terms of physically [00:16:00] protecting the sites. And so maybe, you know, given that they're already present, it may not be too difficult for them to take over control of some of these sites.

Yeah, and it, and some of it. And if there's, if it evolves toward a military dictatorship, there's gonna be social, probably quite a bit of, of conflict. you may see, provinces of, of Iran trying to gain independence on the periphery. You may see sabotage. You may see the opposition groups in Iran militarizing themselves, think of the ANC in South Africa.

It was a revolutionary force with the affection or section devoted to violent overthrow the South African government. And they, they did an actions against some of the nuclear sites. Not very effective and, but you could see that if it is this, if it goes toward a military dictatorship, you could [00:17:00] see armed groups arising that that could decide to attack some of the, the nuclear assets.

Yeah, it could provide great leverage for them if they manage to get control over some of sites you know, especially a Bushehr reactor.

Or, or just damage them to damage the reputation of the regime. Yep. I mean, that was the intent of the ANC. It wasn't to take over, it was to, to tarnish the, the government as something that cannot protect the people or cannot protect its assets.

So I think I wouldn't exclude it in this case. Again, I don't particularly I don't how to weigh the options in front of us, but in terms of probability, I would not dismiss that one. And that could have implications for the security of the various nuclear assets.

Yeah, I mean, there's also the case where, you know, there's not really intention to seize much of anything but just looting and destruction because it is chaos. I did wanna ask you about, You know, some precedents that we've seen in other countries, because of [00:18:00] course there's been other countries that had nuclear assets and then they've undergone a significant transition or just, instability, a regime change.

You already mentioned South Africa, and I do wanna get back to that in a little bit, but before that, I wanna ask you about Iraq. You were an inspector in Iraq some 30 years ago looking in detail. At the, the nuclear weapons remnants in the nineties. And then of course after that we saw the ousting of Saddam Hussein, at which time Iraq did not have a nuclear weapons program anymore, but they did still had nuclear material, radiation sources.

what do you remember from that time? What happened?

Well, the institute was very active in trying to secure the assets that it remained. this is particularly during the US invasion, and we did this as an outside group. We weren't, were, well, we were coordinating with the US government and, one of the one [00:19:00] episode, and also was often interacting with journalists who were embedded with the US military troops and, and, One of these journalists, was with the Army unit, and they went into the main nuclear site called, and they didn't know it was a nuclear site. In fact, he was calling me and to ask me what it is describing where they were, that, and that, you know, they sort of realized they were a nuclear site and they, and there's also out right outside the main site just surrounded by very, very high berms.

There was a storage site for uranium. Natural uranium, several tons. And, and the uranium was, much of it was significant amount was just dumped on the floor and that the place had been looted. But the looters had wanted the barrels, the these blue plastic barrels in which the uranium yellow cake was stored.

and didn't want to take the uranium, but it was [00:20:00] fine to take, and it took several days after this call where the Army established control over the, the entire site in this, this, this inventory of uranium. And so, you know, if there is military conflict, and this would again, would be more of a civil war, You, there can be places where control is lost and you just won't know what's taking place

and, and places may be looted. So I think that was one part of it. Another part was the, that people may opt to, to take what they have. could be various types of secrets they have, could be material and use it to leverage a place, some, you know, leverage of getting someplace else or making money.

Mm-hmm. And so, you know, again, if, if there, if control is lost, there's a lot of ways it can go bad. And, and those were happening in Iraq. Fortunately, there wasn't much there. [00:21:00] the people, there was one group that did wanna leverage their knowledge of centrifuge. documentation and components, but they were, came to us, came to me in fact, to leverage their escape from, from, from Iraq to the United States.

So fortunately that person didn't go to Iran, for example, or some other state to, to use what he had. And, but yeah, there would take. But go. Yeah. Let me just add one other case. There were massive amounts of, of high explosive HMX. It's more sophisticated, at a facility called Alcon. It just disappeared.

Wow. It was not controlled and, and it was tons and tons of it. And, and the working assumption was that it ended up in Iran.

Yeah, no, you definitely bring up some very important points of why it would be so important to steer this in a positive direction and make sure that. [00:22:00] You know, both the, the hardware, the, the physical assets, but also the knowledge, the intangible assets, that they are steered in a positive direction, that they are accounted for, that they're secured, that the people have a sense of, that this is not a collapse of the, of the program of their lives, but that there's something positive coming after that they're not defecting or going to another country.

About that, you can kind of steer it in a positive way, maybe get a, you know, steer it into a nuclear research, nuclear energy program, following a democratization of the, of the regime. And since we do also have a precedent on this case. And David, you've studied extensively the transition that South Africa has undergone.

South Africa, of course, being the only country that has ever developed and build nuclear weapons before giving [00:23:00] them up.

Yeah, and the background is one of the very first projects. After founding the institute was work with the ANC nuclear policy people on, on how to make sure that the program is thoroughly exposed.

The ex nuclear weapons program is thoroughly exposed how new institutions would be set up to prevent, people working on nuclear weapons, how to get better control over. Over the assets and what would happen to 'em and what would they be used for. And so South Africa is really the best case applied to Iran where a democratic force comes to power and is committed to a verified denuclearization and denuclearization of this case is on the nuclear weapons side, the enrichment plant, the enriched uranium stockpiles, all the facilities associated with making the nuclear weapon themselves and all the people involved in that.

And those, and that was all done in South Africa, that the nuclear weapons people, [00:24:00] were convinced to take part in creating a new future that prohibited nuclear weapons work. And, and they all had to change careers, but there was work. Done to facilitate that change. And I don't think any look back and say they regret what they did.

So I think, but the democratic movements have to incorporate the denuclearization into their thinking. I mean, it, it really needs to be there. It's hard to, you don't want to be blindsided by it and you don't want, you don't want forces getting dominant that say, well, but we want to build nuclear weapons.

I mean, 'cause you don't want to, because it will, if a democratic government comes into Iran that wants to build nuclear weapons, there'll be sanctions just as the regime is now. Mm-hmm. And so you don't want to pervert a, a kind of a, a reintegration into the international community with, with nuclear weapons, a nuclear weapons [00:25:00] program dragging you down.

And so the, and the A NC made it very clear. And then there were dissidents. I mean, there were some powerful dissidents, but they could be controlled, particularly because Mandela was fully behind the idea that that, or South Africa's future was through a no nuclear weapons program. In that context, there were also, there were nuclear power plants.

The coberg nuclear power reactors continued to operate, and so the commitment to nuclear power was maintained. There was a research reactor that that much larger than what Iran has, that that continued to operate and converted to making medical isotopes. Using up the, existing highly enriched uranium stockpile that South Africa had.

So, so I think it, you know, south Africa's a great model and that, and I think the, the, the democracy movements in Iran need to start looking seriously at, at

that example and, and how if they do win, that those kinds, that [00:26:00] kind of thinking can be deeply integrated into, into the future of Iran. Yeah, I agree.

Spencer, did you have anything to add? No, it's, it is all very interesting. I, I guess I had a question. David, how would you think that this current situation compares to the aftermath of the fall of the Soviet Union in terms of securing nuclear materials, scientists, et cetera?

I, I think the central government of Iran is stronger than the communist government of, that existed in, at, at the time the Soviet Union collapsed. and I think it's economic prospects are better. 'cause part of their problem was, you know, it it, as these nuclear cities and and other places dealing with nuclear were kind of forced to live without the state subsidies. They, couldn't, they didn't have a livelihood and, and they certainly couldn't [00:27:00] afford physical protection. And so, so you lost this huge, massive guards and guns system with a lot of secrecy, and then it, it opened up. And I, and I think, I would hope that doesn't, I would, I would be surprised if that happened in Iran.

I think the controls are better. the, there's money through oil. I mean, Russia now has oil, in the nineties it didn't. And, and so there was, there was deep poverty and, and particularly in these nuclear cities and, and, Iran, I think is more, is it the prospects looks a lot better. And particularly if, if a democratic movement comes in and, and understands that it needs to take control of these assets and make sure that with the help of international organizations like the IAEA, with foreign governments that can help friendly governments that can get, get a handle on all and make sure that the assets are fully protected and then.

As I would recommend, key parts are simply eliminated that are just [00:28:00] going to prevent Iran rejoining the international community.

Yeah. I guess that gets at my, my next question a little bit. you know, talking about the IAEA, what can they do now to ensure that this doesn't get out of hand?

I don't think they can do very much, to be honest.

If the government of Iran Won't let 'em in, won't be honest with them. I, I think they could just wait. I mean, it's the same in the eighties with South Africa. They, they constantly misled the IAEA even after, even after. South Africa signed the Nonproliferation Treaty and it dismantled its nuclear weapons.

They, they made, the government made a decision. This was FW de Klerk's government that they would not reveal they had a nuclear weapons program and they were taking active steps to hide what they'd done. And the IAEA was struggling because it could see their lying and, but it then. Took the international [00:29:00] community, Russia and the United States combined to put pressure on South African government to reveal the program.

And then once that was done, the IAEA within months could verify the elimination or that the nuclear weapons program had been eliminated. The the making the bomb itself. And so if there's willingness, the IAEA can come in and provide tremendous assistance to help get rid of things. They, they directed the South African nuclear weapon ears to destroy this and that and, you know, go way beyond what South Africa actually destroyed as part of its, its getting rid of its nuclear weapons program and then could send to the signal to the outside community that this country really has gotten rid of these dangerous nuclear weapons assets.

And that sends a powerful signal to countries that, you know, this is a country you want to integrate back into your international community. So, so I think the IAEA can do tremendous amount if, when it, the country's ready for that, these [00:30:00] steps to take place.

Yeah. I think, at this point I do wanna mention if the listeners have any questions, please just respond to the, please just post a comment under the space.

and I do kind of now want to go into how can we, again, steer things in the right direction. what can the US do, maybe Israel, Europe, what can be done from the outside to, to support the protesters to make sure that, you know, if the regime collapses, that it will be for, for the positive change.

We already mentioned that, you know, Trump has threatened to intervene militarily. He hasn't done it yet. why hasn't he done it? What, what is he waiting for? David, do you really think he believes that he can get a positive nuclear deal? Is there anything that's worth stopping the momentum that the protestors of [00:31:00] going in exchange for a nuclear deal?

Spencer pointed this out. I, I don't think this regime can honestly negotiate a deal. It's just he is looking to buy time, and I think Trump made a statement today that he's not gonna meet the Iranians. All meetings with Iran are canceled for the time being, and so I don't think they, I don't think we want to negotiate, the United States wants to negotiate any nuclear deal with Iran at this time,

because again, it'll just. It'd just be a way to stall and, and the regime, I mean, how many people can be killed per day? I mean, in two weeks? Think of the number of people that can be killed. And the, and the movement suppressed just by brute force.

Mm-hmm. All done in secrecy because there's no, there's very little internet connection. And so days matter. And so I wouldn't delay anything, based on any negotiations with this regime and that it, and that it's up to Trump. To figure out the best way to proceed. Is it military strikes? Is it, you know, cyber attacks beyond what people could imagine, [00:32:00] perhaps held by other countries that do these kind of offensive cyber operations to try to bust up the ability of the government to operate, bust up its jamming of things. So, you know, again, I don't know all the options, but I think Trump has had, really does need to act and, and try to, work to disrupt this, I think.

Yeah. I, I think Europe, Iranian diplomats should be kicked out of Europe. I mean, I'm in Germany. The European Parliament said Iranians can't come there, but you have these odd cases. The British government will not classify the IRGC as a terrorist organization. Mm-hmm. They act like even the Times of London came out with an editorial yesterday that it's bizarre and irresponsible that they don't do that. I would close the embassies in, in Europe to close. I mean, why should these, this kind of government be allowed to run amuck in a sense, through Europe with its [00:33:00] agents and its propaganda to, to, given what's going on. So I think it, it, I think a lot of actions can be taken to send a signal and then they should be taken rapidly.

You know, what does it take to shut down an embassy telling people just to get the hell out days? Not even that, give 'em 72 hours. So I think it, it's incumbent on countries to lend concrete support to the Iranian protestors and, and oppose what this regime's going. Yeah.

And, and, and first things first. You know, if, if Trump is truly serious about providing, some sort of military assistance, He can send a signal by moving military assets to the Middle East. There's no aircraft carriers in the Middle East right now. and you know, we have to be very clear that a regime like this is very dangerous. When their back is against the wall, they're gonna lash out because that's all they really can do.

They're not just gonna sit there and die. and so the, the risks to the region are huge. You can [00:34:00] imagine all sorts of scenarios. They can start attacking Israel again. They can start attacking US allies again. They can start

attacking international shipping related to oil. They can try to block a, the straight of hormones it, who knows how successful.

All of these operations will be by Iran. But the, but what Trump can do is he can move military assets and it'll really show that yeah, we're, we're serious about doing this. they're gonna need air defense systems, they're gonna need aircraft carriers there, even submarines. but, you know, the, the, the risks here are huge.

And, the quicker, as, as David said, to act is the better.

Yeah. No, thank you. Thanks Spencer. Thanks David. they're important points. You make very good, timely recommendations, and I hope a lot of Europeans are listening. Yeah. And, and if I can add one more thing, you know what we can do here at the institute and, and what we've been doing is [00:35:00] we monitor and provide technical expertise on what's happening almost monthly or, or as soon as possible about a Iran's nuclear program. We have the capability to look at satellite imagery to see what is happening at nuclear sites. do they open the doors at a certain facility that to ground, you know, we, we can provide assessments of this, of, and, you know, based on what's happening at, at nuclear system, for example, we look at one site called Taleghan two.

We've seen a lot of activity there. and, and that was a former mod plan nuclear site. David wants to elaborate more on that, but you know, that's something that we can do to help inform the public about what this regime's capability is. and it can lend a lot of light until their plans and what they may be wanting to do.

And, and we, and also I think Twitter space to think of concrete offers, but, but the reason we worked with the ANC in the early [00:36:00] nineties was, to help their people be better trained in how to do nuclear nonproliferation policy making and, and think through, their own nuclear program and what to do.

And, we're not involved with any Iranian, any Iranian protest group or democracy group or alternative. Governmental group, but it, I think it, it's something that we can start to think about is, is how do you, how do you prepare for a transition to a denuclearized Iran, where, again, it's not nuclear power, but it's these things that only serve to isolate Iran from the international community.

Yeah, no, we, we'll stand ready to assist in, in those very important ways, as Spencer mentioned. In the meantime, we'll be monitoring very closely so that the regime doesn't get any extra leverage, [00:37:00] that they don't actually

have, or, you know, can't make any false claims about the perceived strength that they, want to portray.

I don't see any questions in this moment. Spencer, David, do you have any last words of wisdom you want to share? Any, anything? I pray for the Iranian people. I mean, that's all, I mean, I don't have any particular words of wisdom. I mean, it, it, you, it's just, it's a very difficult situation, is something I think about in, in these types of moments, is that society grows when people plant the seeds of trees they'll never set under.

And right now is Iran's opportunity to create a new future for themselves, for the millions born and unborn that can change their society and lead, lead better lives. Because at the end of the day, [00:38:00] that's what we're talking about here. It's people's lives. It's, their opportunities in life, to be happy, get an education, to have fun and find love.

And that can only really come through. a stable society, you know, the, the ability to have freedom and, this is an opportunity that, you know, the pain that the Iranian people are suffering right now in their protests could bear amazing fruit for generations to come. Yeah, no. Well said. we are standing with Iranian people.

And we'll keep monitoring the situation. And in the meantime, thank you everybody for joining today. Yeah, thank you everyone. And we'll be back. Yeah. Thank you. Good luck. Yeah.