Tehran/Israel/Washington 19 April

Iranian authorities reported that air defence systems in Esfahan had downed “suspicious objects”, without causing casualties or damage, while unnamed Israel officials confirmed an Israeli strike against a military air base in response to Iran’s 13 April attack on Israel. Reports citing unnamed U.S. officials indicated that Israel had fired “three missiles… targeting an air defence radar site near Esfahan that’s part of the protection of the Natanz nuclear facility”; the official was cited as indicating that the operation “was intended to send a signal to Iran that Israel has these capabilities, but was not looking to escalate the situation”. The IAEA confirmed “no damage to Iran’s nuclear sites”, urging “extreme restraint from everybody… nuclear facilities should never be a target in military conflicts”.

Israel/Golan 19 April

The Syrian defence ministry reported that Israel had “carried out an attack using missiles… targeting our air defence sites in the southern region”.

Tehran 18 April

An IRGC general warned that if Israel “decides to take action against our nuclear facilities and centres, it will definitely face our reaction… For a tit-for-tat retaliation, the regime’s nuclear facilities will be attacked with advanced weapons”. He further asserted that should Israel “use the threat of attacking our country’s nuclear centres as a tool to put pressure on Iran, it is possible and conceivable to revise the nuclear doctrine and policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran and deviate from the previously declared considerations”.

Washington 18 April

In response to Iran’s 13 April retaliatory strikes against Israel, the U.S., in coordination with the UK, sanctioned “sixteen individuals and two entities enabling Iran’s UAV production… five companies in multiple jurisdictions providing component materials for steel production… and three subsidiaries of Iranian automaker Bahman Group”; according to the Treasury Department, the “new industries targeted generate billions of dollars in annual revenue”. The Department of Commerce in parallel approved “new controls to restrict Iran’s access to technologies such as basic commercial grade microelectronics”.