

# Critical Reasoning Practice

presented by LawMania

## ANSWERS & EXPLANATION

**Question -1) Which of the following most accurately reflects the central theme of the passage?**

- A. The potential consequences of a conventional conflict between Iran and Israel.
- B. The evolving dynamics of power competition involving the United States, China, and Russia.
- C. The strategic positions of Russia and China in West Asia.
- D. The likelihood of Iran's nuclearization and its global implications.

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The passage primarily discusses the broader power competition between the U.S. and its allies on one side, and a China-led grouping that includes Russia and Iran on the other, rather than focusing solely on the conflict between Iran and Israel or Iran's nuclearization.

**Question -2) Which of the following statements, if true, would most seriously weaken the argument that Russia and China have diverging interests in West Asia?**

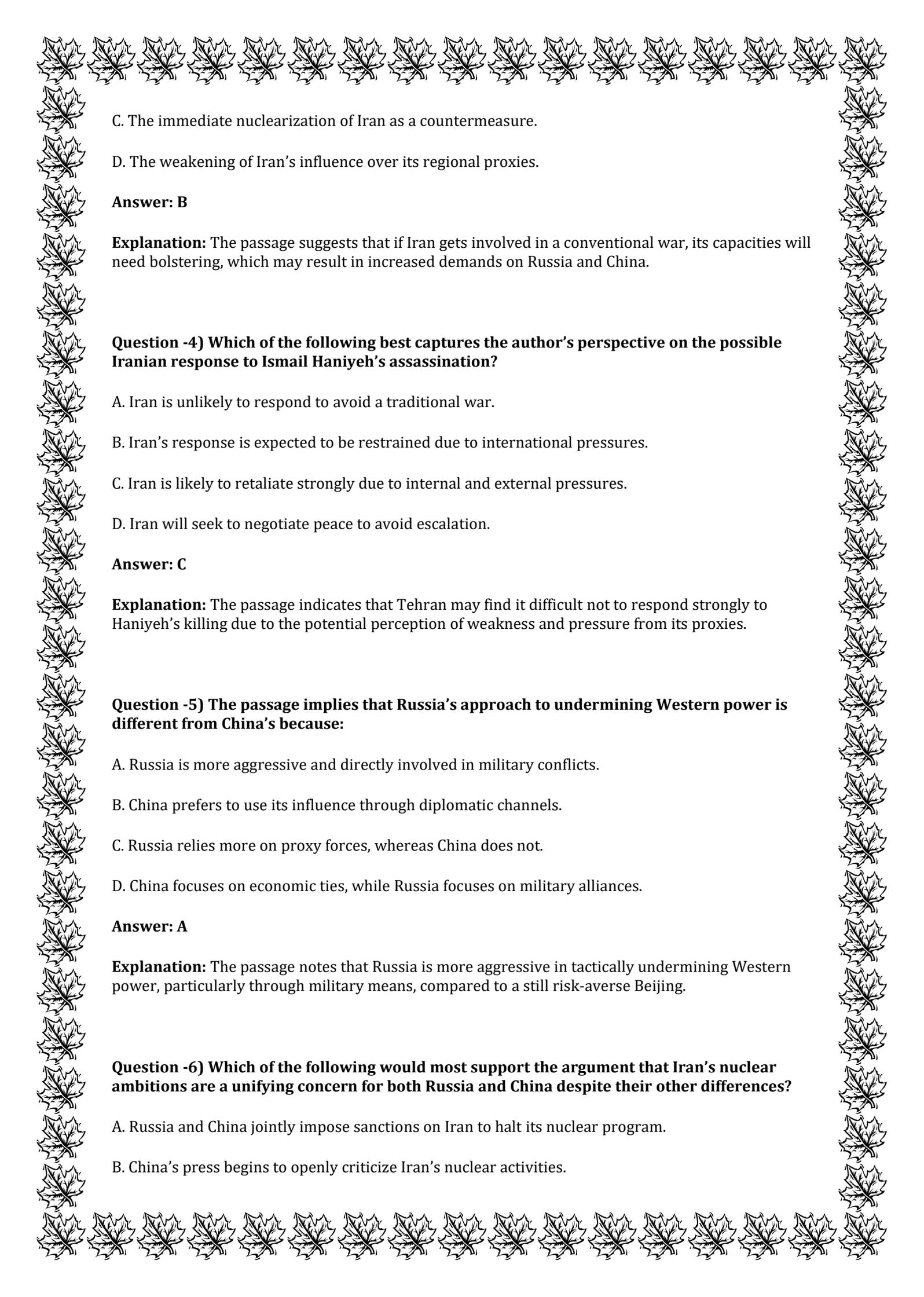
- A. Russia and China sign a new defense pact specifically for coordinating military efforts in West Asia.
- B. Iran decides to abstain from seeking military support from either Russia or China in the event of a conflict.
- C. The U.S. significantly reduces its military presence in West Asia, leading to a power vacuum.
- D. Both Russia and China increase their diplomatic efforts to mediate between Israel and Iran.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A new defense pact between Russia and China specifically for coordinating military efforts in West Asia would imply a high level of cooperation and alignment in their strategic goals, which contradicts the passage's assertion that their interests diverge.

**Question -3) If Iran were to become embroiled in a conventional war with Israel, what is the most likely consequence according to the passage?**

- A. A rapid defeat of Iran due to lack of support from its allies.
- B. An increased burden on Russia and China to bolster Iran's capacities.

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- C. The immediate nuclearization of Iran as a countermeasure.
- D. The weakening of Iran's influence over its regional proxies.

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The passage suggests that if Iran gets involved in a conventional war, its capacities will need bolstering, which may result in increased demands on Russia and China.

**Question -4) Which of the following best captures the author's perspective on the possible Iranian response to Ismail Haniyeh's assassination?**

- A. Iran is unlikely to respond to avoid a traditional war.
- B. Iran's response is expected to be restrained due to international pressures.
- C. Iran is likely to retaliate strongly due to internal and external pressures.
- D. Iran will seek to negotiate peace to avoid escalation.

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The passage indicates that Tehran may find it difficult not to respond strongly to Haniyeh's killing due to the potential perception of weakness and pressure from its proxies.

**Question -5) The passage implies that Russia's approach to undermining Western power is different from China's because:**

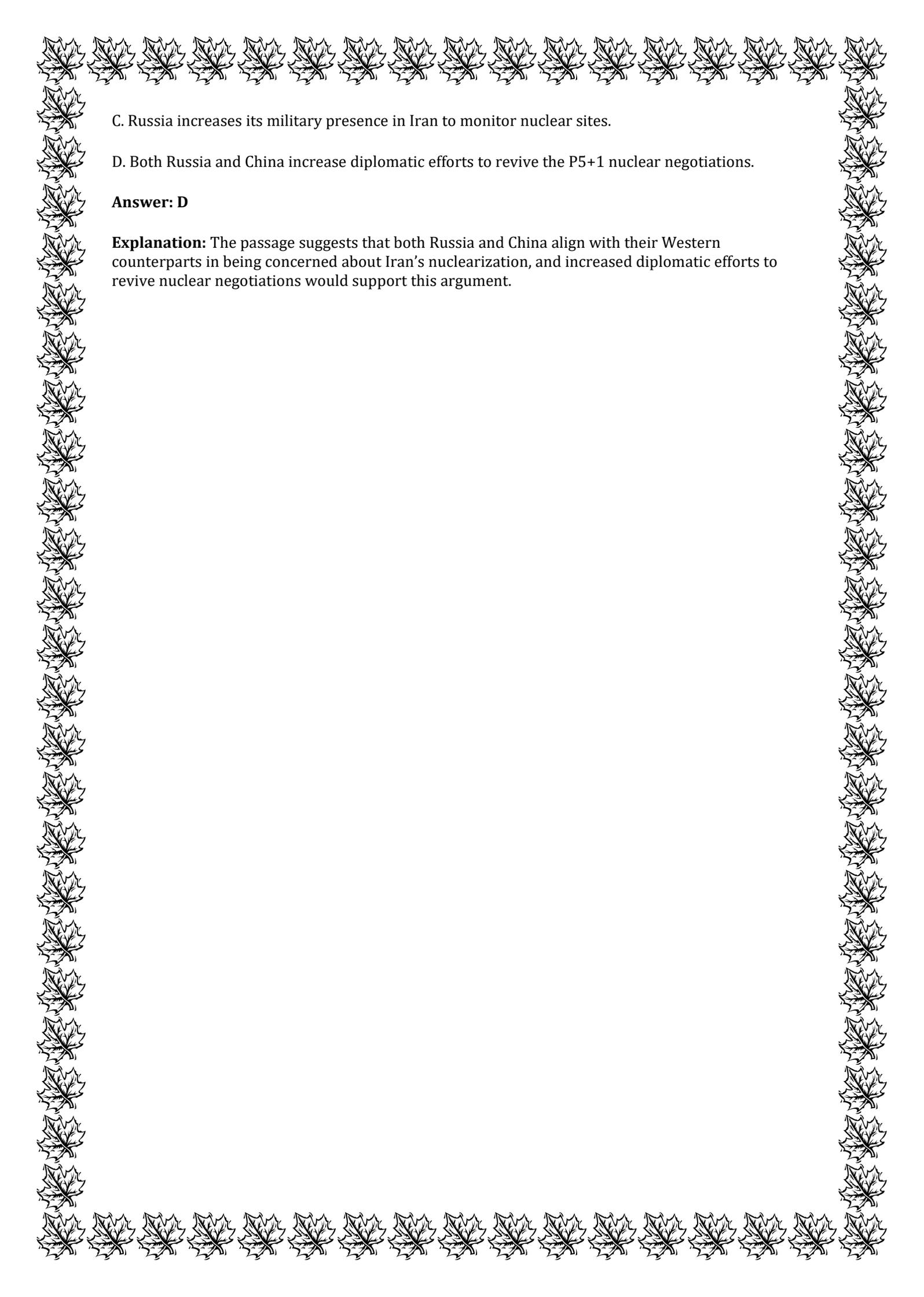
- A. Russia is more aggressive and directly involved in military conflicts.
- B. China prefers to use its influence through diplomatic channels.
- C. Russia relies more on proxy forces, whereas China does not.
- D. China focuses on economic ties, while Russia focuses on military alliances.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** The passage notes that Russia is more aggressive in tactically undermining Western power, particularly through military means, compared to a still risk-averse Beijing.

**Question -6) Which of the following would most support the argument that Iran's nuclear ambitions are a unifying concern for both Russia and China despite their other differences?**

- A. Russia and China jointly impose sanctions on Iran to halt its nuclear program.
- B. China's press begins to openly criticize Iran's nuclear activities.



C. Russia increases its military presence in Iran to monitor nuclear sites.

D. Both Russia and China increase diplomatic efforts to revive the P5+1 nuclear negotiations.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The passage suggests that both Russia and China align with their Western counterparts in being concerned about Iran's nuclearization, and increased diplomatic efforts to revive nuclear negotiations would support this argument.