



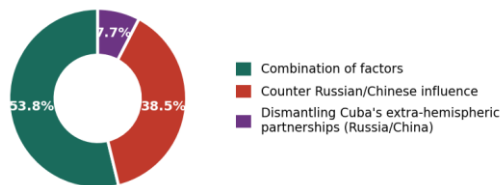
SITUATION ASSESSMENT: *Expert consensus identifies regime change as the primary U.S. objective toward Cuba (~62% of surveyed experts). The pressure campaign combines sanctions, energy blockade, and strategic isolation rooted in U.S. efforts to counter Russian and Chinese hemispheric influence. The Monroe Doctrine is being decisively reinvigorated across Latin America.*

This briefing draws on findings from a closed group expert survey by the BNU Center for Policy Research (BCPR) 27, March 2026. The participants of the survey included security analysts, foreign policy experts, and strategic affairs scholars who assessed the evolving U.S. policy toward Cuba. Participants responded to structured questions spanning U.S.

strategic objectives toward Cuba, regime change prospects, Monroe Doctrine reassertion, leadership decapitation risks, energy blockade effectiveness, and U.S. escalation timing. Aggregated responses from the panel form the empirical basis of this briefing.

PART 1 — U.S. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

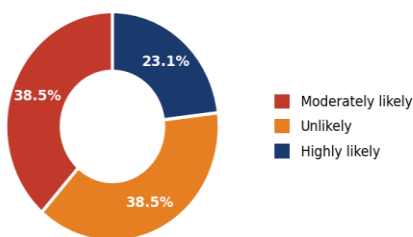
Q1. Primary Motivation Behind U.S. Pressure Campaign Against Cuba



53.8% holds that U.S. pressure reflects a combination of strategic factors, countering Russian/Chinese influence being the second-largest driver (38.5%).

Venezuela-Style Intervention (Q2)

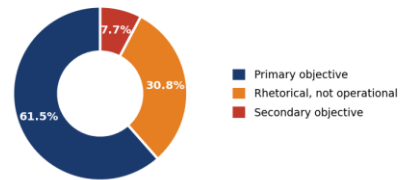
Q2. Likelihood of "Venezuela-Style" Intervention Strategy in Cuba



Key Finding: Experts are split: 38.5% consider a Venezuela-style intervention moderately likely, 38.5% unlikely, and 23.1% highly likely. The lack of consensus signals deep uncertainty over U.S. escalatory intent.

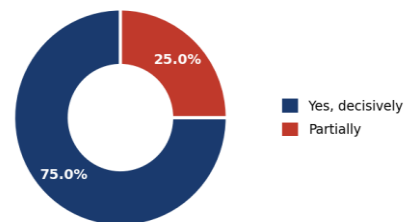
PART 2 — MONROE DOCTRINE & REGIME CHANGE

Q3. Extent to Which "Regime Change" Is the Defined End-Goal of U.S. Policy



Regime Change: 61.5% of experts say the U.S. endgame in Cuba is regime change. While 30.8% believe it's a rhetorical option, not an operational one.

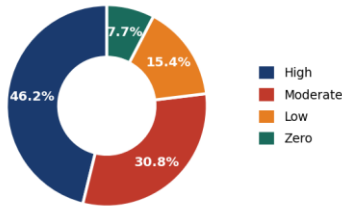
Q4. Is U.S. Approach Indicative of Reinvigorating the Monroe Doctrine?



Monroe Doctrine Reassertion: 75% of experts say the U.S. approach is decisively aimed at reasserting hemispheric dominance. Cuba serves as the test case for a broader regional strategy targeting Venezuela, Nicaragua, and beyond.

PART 3 — LEADERSHIP DECAPITATION RISK

Q5. Probability of "Leadership Decapitation" as U.S. Policy Tool (12-24 months)

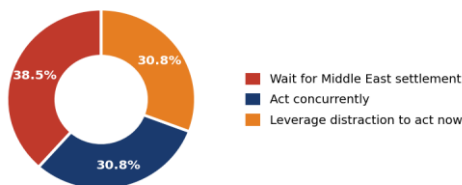


High Probability Assessed: 46.2% rate the probability of leadership decapitation as HIGH in the next 12-24 months, with a combined 77% rating it moderate-to-high - a remarkably elevated threat assessment.

Historical Precedent: U.S. history with Cuba, the Bay of Pigs, Operation Mongoose, CIA assassination plots, lends credibility to expert concerns. The post-Cold War norm against such tactics may not hold in the current geopolitical climate.

U.S. Escalation Timing (Q7)

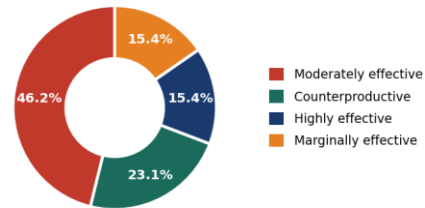
Q7. U.S. Approach to Timing of Escalatory Actions Against Cuba



Warning: 38.5% predict the U.S. will wait for Middle East resolution; 30.8% expect concurrent escalation - signaling Cuba may face acute pressure regardless of global conflict dynamics.

PART 4 — ENERGY BLOCKADE & EFFECTIVENESS

Q6. Effectiveness of U.S. "Energy Blockade" Strategy



Bottom Line: The energy blockade is judged moderately effective (46.2%), but a significant minority (23.1%) sees it as counterproductive. Combined with 15.4% finding it marginally effective, the strategy carries high uncertainty of outcome.

PART 5 — KEY POLICY DRIVERS

Regime Change as Primary Goal: 61.5% of experts classify regime change as the operational primary objective of U.S. policy.

Russia/China Entanglement: Countering Russian and Chinese influence in the hemisphere (38.5%) is the second most cited strategic driver, framing Cuba as a Cold War-era proxy battleground reactivated.

Energy Blockade: The tightening energy blockade (sanctions on oil, shipping, power generation) is rated moderately effective by 46.2%, while 23.1% see it as counterproductive - risking humanitarian blowback.

Escalation Timing: 38.5% believe the U.S. will wait for Middle East settlement before escalating against Cuba; 30.8% expect concurrent action; 30.8% anticipate leveraging current global distraction.

Regional Implications: Successful U.S. pressure on Cuba would embolden Monroe Doctrine enforcement across Latin America and deepen the bifurcation between U.S.-aligned and Russia/China-aligned states in the hemisphere

TREND SUMMARY — CRITICAL INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

U.S. Motivation	Regime Change Goal	Monroe Doctrine	Decapitation Risk
53.8% combination of factors; 38.5% counter Russia/China influence	61.5% primary objective; 30.8% rhetorical only	75% decisively yes; 25% partially yes	46.2% high; 30.8% moderate; combined 77% moderate-to-high probability