Lebanon/Israel 16 August

The U.S. sanctioned a Lebanon-based entity that it said had “provided support to and cover for Hezbollah’s operations in southern Lebanon along the ‘Blue Line’ between Lebanon and Israel over the last decade while publicly operating under the guise of environmental activism”. The organisation's leader was also blacklisted.

Washington 15 August

Secretary of State Antony Blinken asserted that “nothing about our overall approach to Iran has changed. We continue to pursue a strategy of deterrence, of pressure and diplomacy... We’ve been clear that Iran must de-escalate to create space for future diplomacy. This development - that is, the move of our detainees out of prison and to home detention - is not linked to any other aspect of our Iran policy”. He went on to assert that “we would welcome any steps that Iran takes to actually de-escalate the growing nuclear threat... There is no agreement between us on nuclear matters”.