

Middle East Tech Frontiers: AI Dominance, Quantum Leaps, and Cybersecurity

Technology · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Which Middle Eastern country has mandated quantum-resistant algorithms for its government agencies and critical sectors, a move that came into force in 2024 under the Cryptography Executive Regulation?

- A) Saudi Arabia
- B) Qatar
- C) United Arab Emirates**
- D) Bahrain

2. According to Gartner's April 2025 forecast, what is the projected total spending on information security by Middle East and North Africa (MENA) enterprises in 2025, representing a significant increase from 2024?

- A) \$2.5 billion
- B) \$3.3 billion**
- C) \$4.1 billion
- D) \$5.0 billion

3. Saudi Arabia's National Strategy for Data and Artificial Intelligence aims to achieve several key objectives by 2030. Which of the following is NOT one of its stated objectives?

- A) Train 20,000 specialists and experts in AI and data
- B) Support the launch of at least 300 active AI startups
- C) Attract \$20 billion in local and foreign investment
- D) Achieve a 50% reduction in carbon emissions from the energy sector**

4. The UAE's National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence 2031 aims to generate a significant economic value. What is the projected economic value expected to be generated by AI by 2031?

- A) \$35 billion
- B) \$60 billion
- C) \$96 billion**
- D) \$150 billion

5. In the context of space technology advancements in the Middle East, which company was formally established in 2024 through the merger of Bayanat and Yahsat, with a focus on AI-enabled space analytics and satellite services?

- A) Orbitworks
- B) Space42**
- C) Marlan Space
- D) Loft Orbital

6. Bahrain has proposed a draft Artificial Intelligence Regulation Law that, if enacted, would be the first AI-specific law in the region. What is a key component of this proposed law?

- A) Establishment of an AI regulatory sandbox
- B) Licensing for AI systems and liability rules**
- C) Mandatory AI ethics training for all citizens
- D) Creation of a regional AI data-sharing consortium

7. Which Middle Eastern city has introduced the "Dubai AI Seal," a verification system designed to accelerate the growth of its AI industry and strengthen business credibility?

- A) Abu Dhabi
- B) Riyadh
- C) Doha
- D) Dubai**

8. According to a PwC report, AI is projected to contribute a substantial amount to the Saudi economy by 2030, positioning the Kingdom as a major beneficiary in the Middle East. What is this projected contribution?

- A) \$75 billion
- B) \$100 billion
- C) \$135 billion**
- D) \$180 billion

9. In the realm of quantum computing, which Middle Eastern country is noted for its significant progress, including the development of cryptography estimators for Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) schemes by the Technology Innovation Institute in September 2023?

- A) Israel
- B) Qatar
- C) United Arab Emirates**
- D) Saudi Arabia

10. Qatar's National Digital Agenda 2030, published in April 2024, aims to contribute significantly to the non-hydrocarbon GDP of Qatar and create additional jobs in the ICT sector by 2030. What is the estimated contribution to non-hydrocarbon GDP?

- A) \$5 billion
- B) \$11 billion**
- C) \$20 billion
- D) \$35 billion

11. The UAE's Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Technology Council (AIATC) was established in Abu Dhabi under which law enacted in 2024?

- A) Law No. 1 of 2024
- B) Law No. 2 of 2024
- C) Law No. 3 of 2024**
- D) Law No. 4 of 2024

12. Which Middle Eastern nation is projected to become the first to deploy AI to draft new legislation and amend existing laws, an initiative led by its newly created Regulatory Intelligence Office, with potential for AI to author regulations itself?

- A) Saudi Arabia
- B) Bahrain
- C) Qatar
- D) United Arab Emirates**