



COI Analysis

Country of Origin Information & Assessment Writing



, TO
6/16/21 (b)(6)

Author: Newark Asylum Office Training Team



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Date of last revision: 6/16/2021

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The Plan



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

- I. Intro**
- II. Assessment Tour**
- III. Analysis**
- IV. COI Best Practices**
- V. Element Tour w/ Writing Practice**
- VI. Resources**

I. Intro

Why is COI important?



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Change is Constant

We live in a dynamic world.



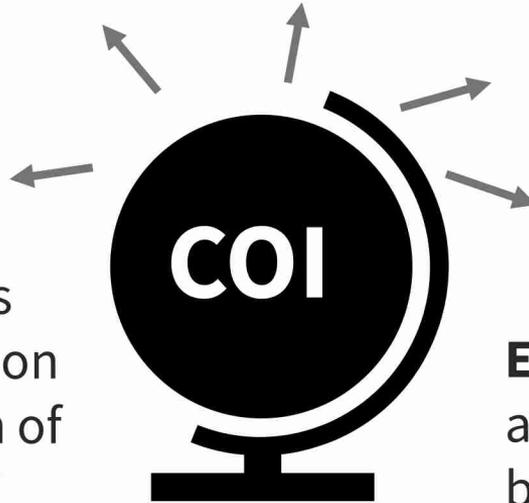
Objective Evidence

to consider in eligibility analysis and weigh against other evidence in record



Part of our job

8 C.F.R. §208.1(b) mandates consideration of “information concerning the persecution of persons in other countries”



Consistency
in adjudications



Eliciting Testimony

and assessing credibility are better informed with COI

II. Assessment Tour

ASSESSMENT TO GRANT/REFER ASYLUM



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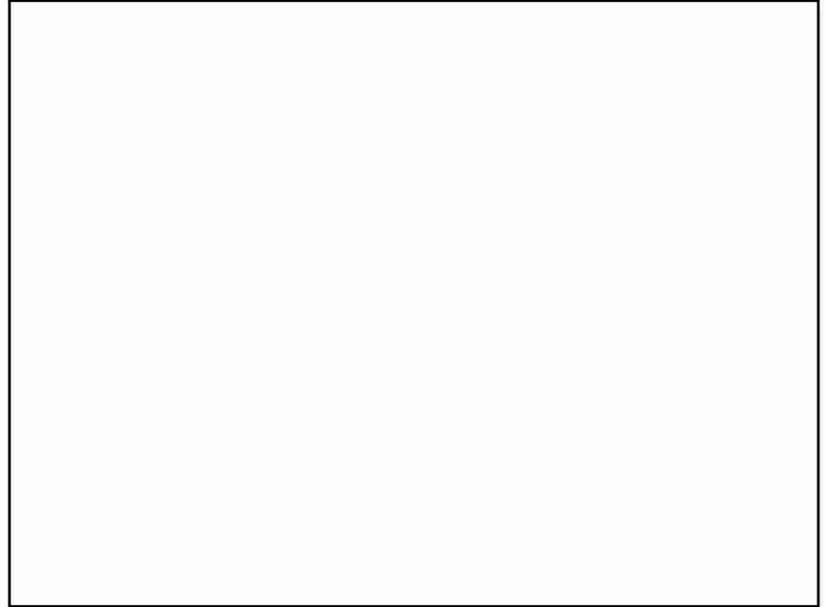
- I. Biographic/Entry
- II. Basis of Claim
- III. Prohibitions Against Filing
- IV. Summary of Testimony
- V. Credibility
- VI. Focused Legal Analysis
- VII. Mandatory Bars

ASSESSMENT TO GRANT/REFER ASYLUM



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- I. Biographic/Entry ✕
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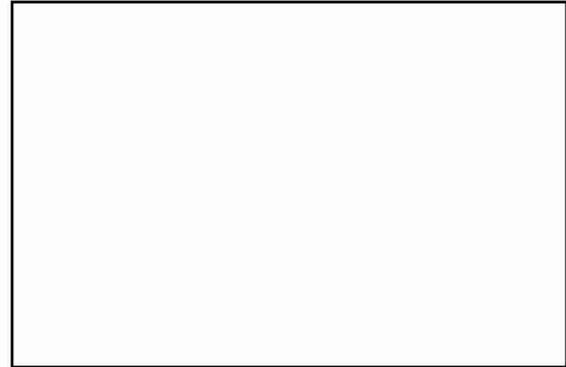
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ASSESSMENT TO GRANT/REFER ASYLUM



U.S. Citizenship
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Services

- I. Biographic/Entry ✕
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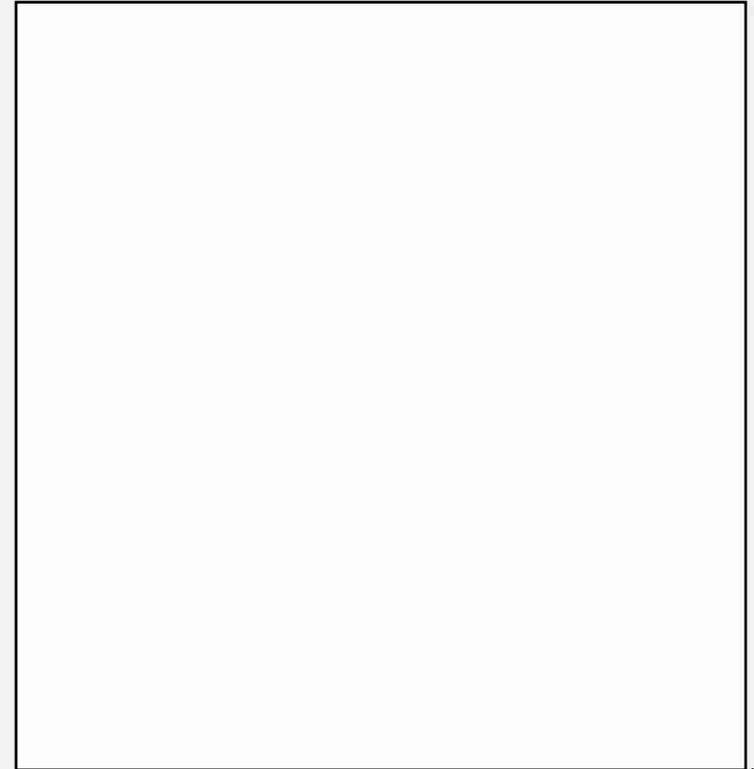
ASSESSMENT TO GRANT/REFER ASYLUM



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

- I. Biographic/Entry ✗
- II. Basis of Claim ✗
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ASSESSMENT TO GRANT/REFER ASYLUM



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

- I. Biographic/Entry ✗
- II. Basis of Claim ✗
- III. Prohibitions Against Filing ✓
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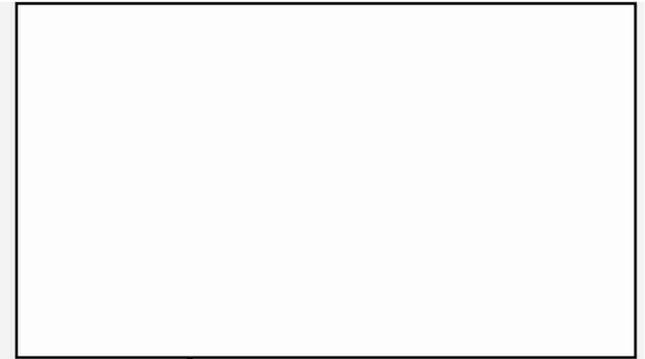
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ASSESSMENT TO GRANT/REFER ASYLUM



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- I. Biographic/Entry ✗
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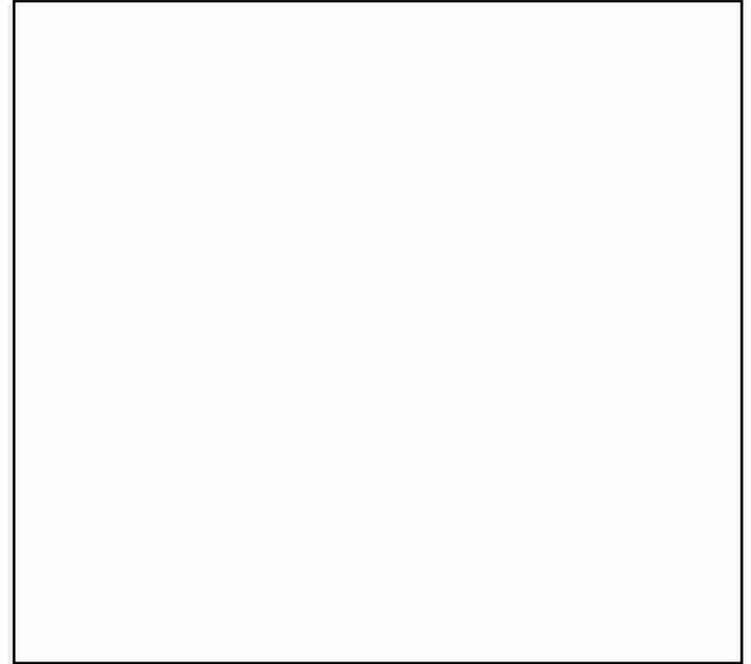
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ASSESSMENT TO GRANT/REFER ASYLUM



U.S. Citizenship
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Services

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ASSESSMENT TO GRANT/REFER ASYLUM



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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VI. Focused Legal Analysis



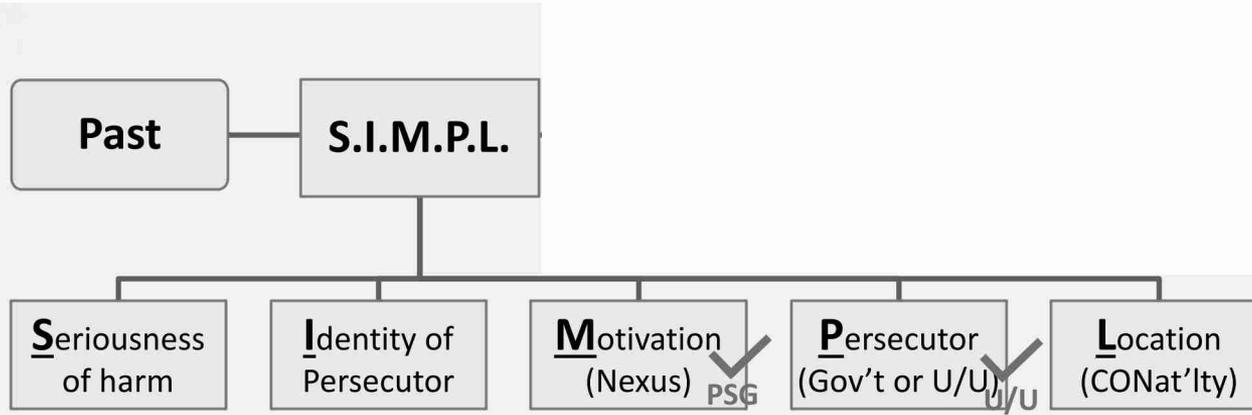
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Past

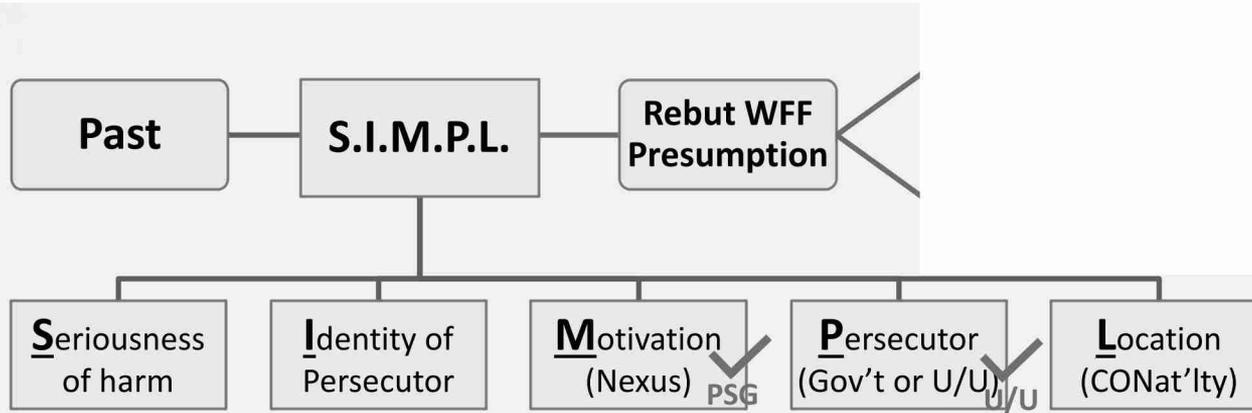
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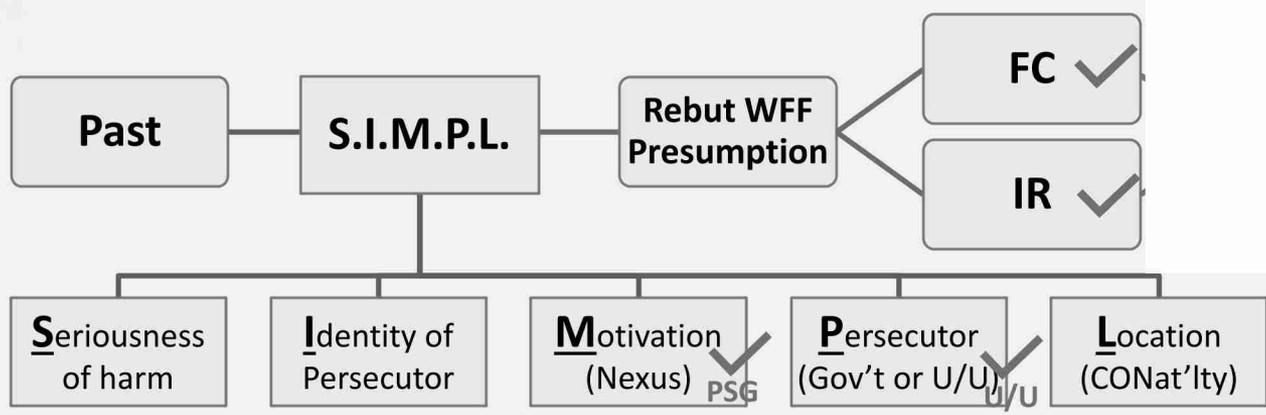
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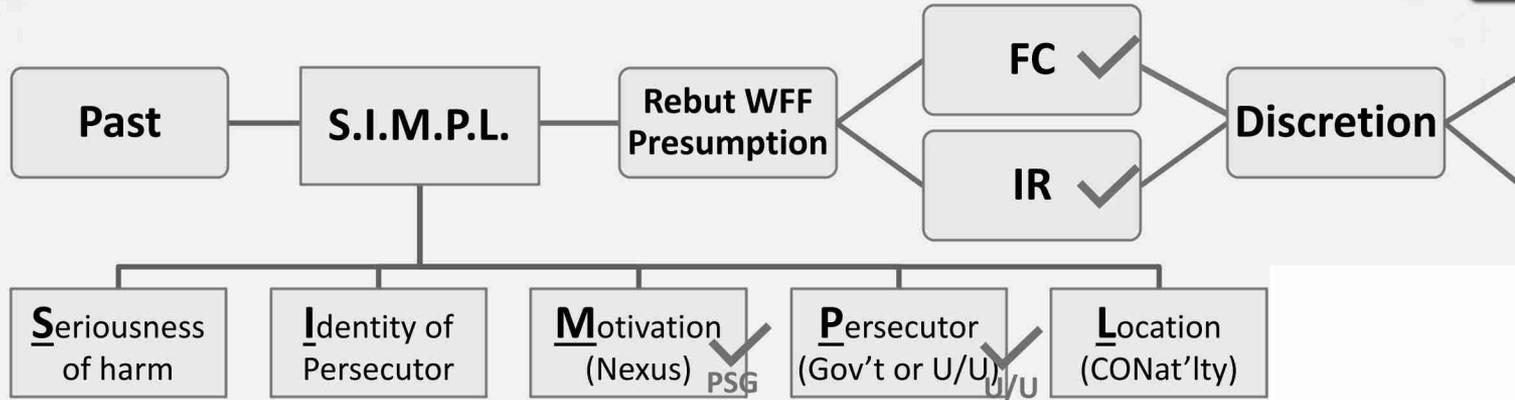
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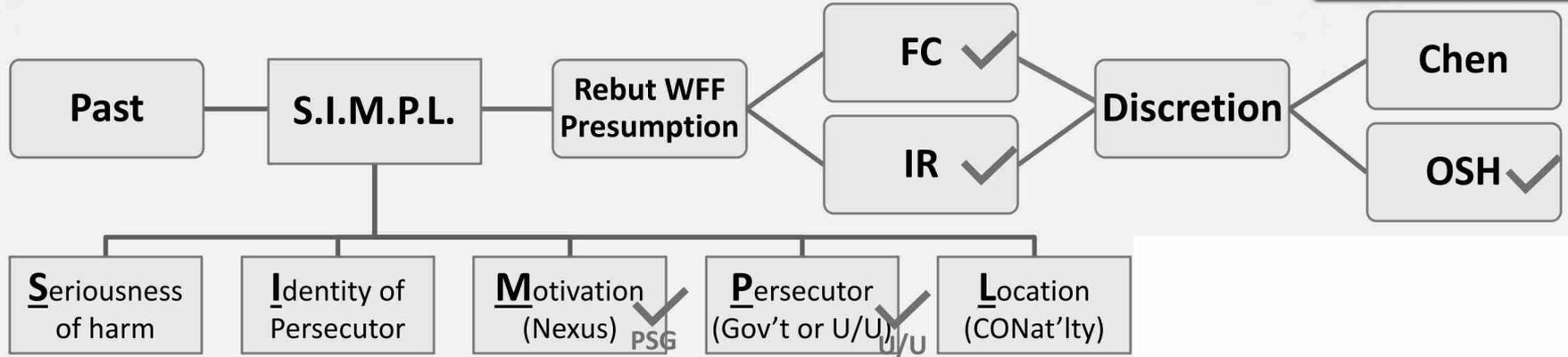
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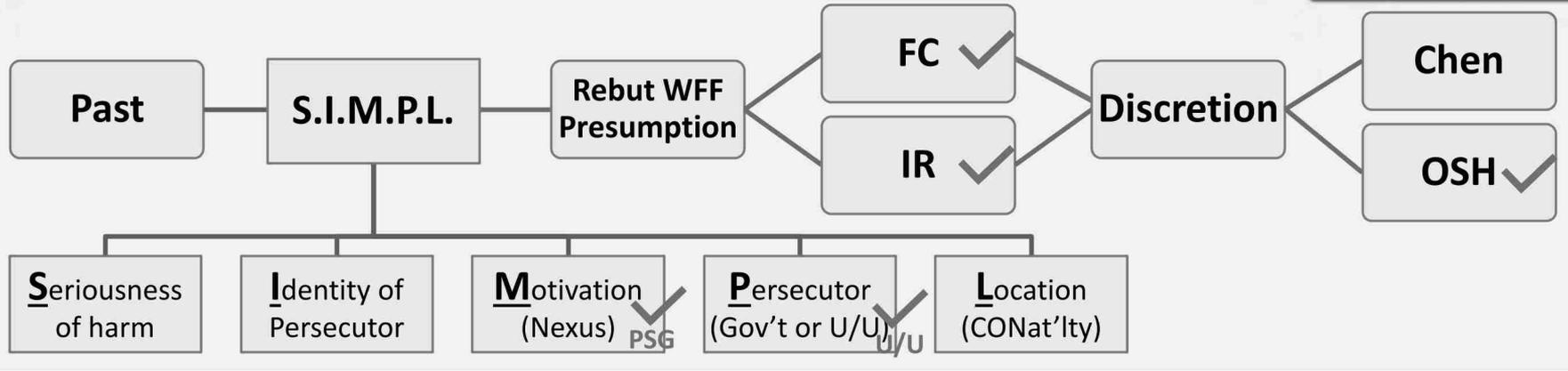
VI. Focused Legal Analysis



VI. Focused Legal Analysis

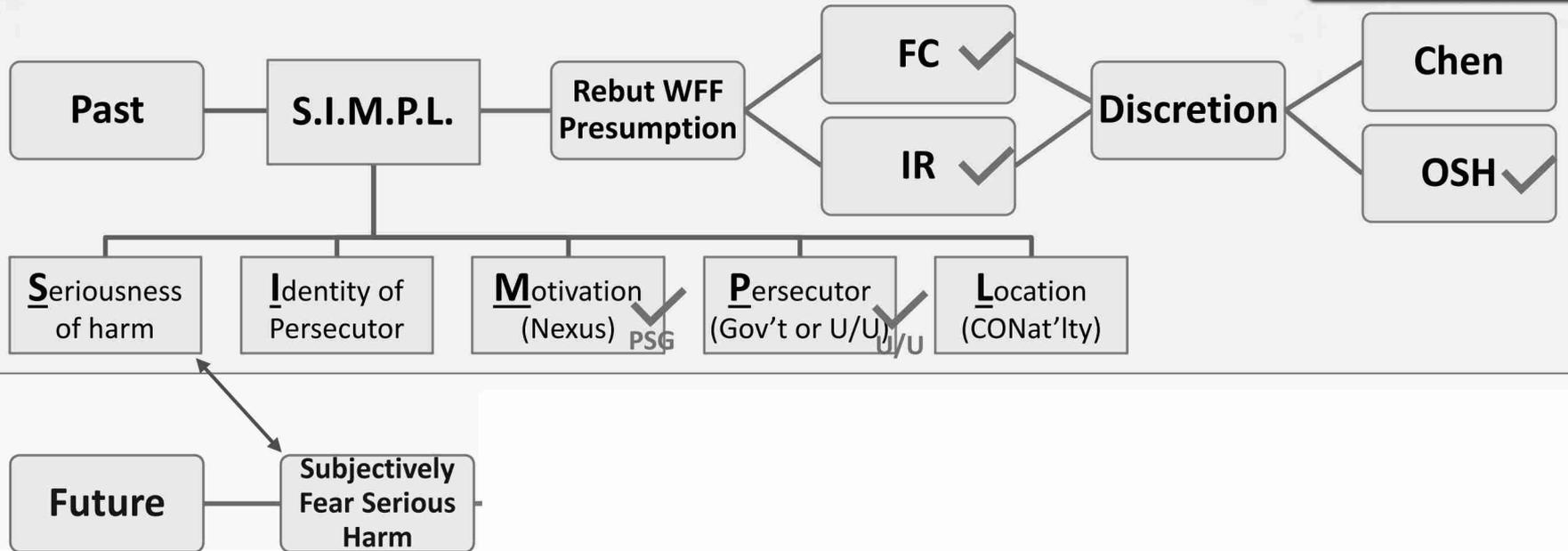


VI. Focused Legal Analysis

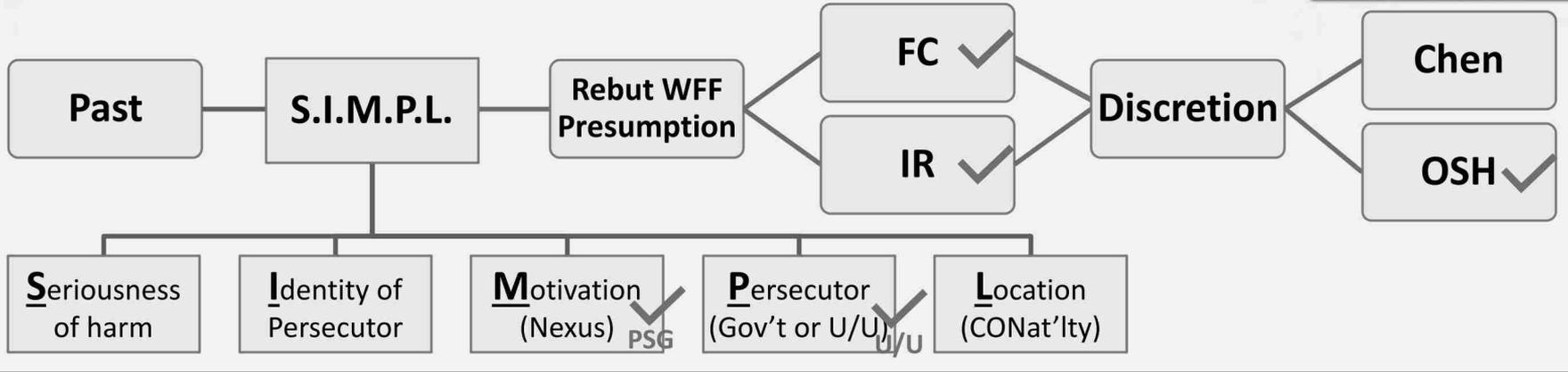


Future

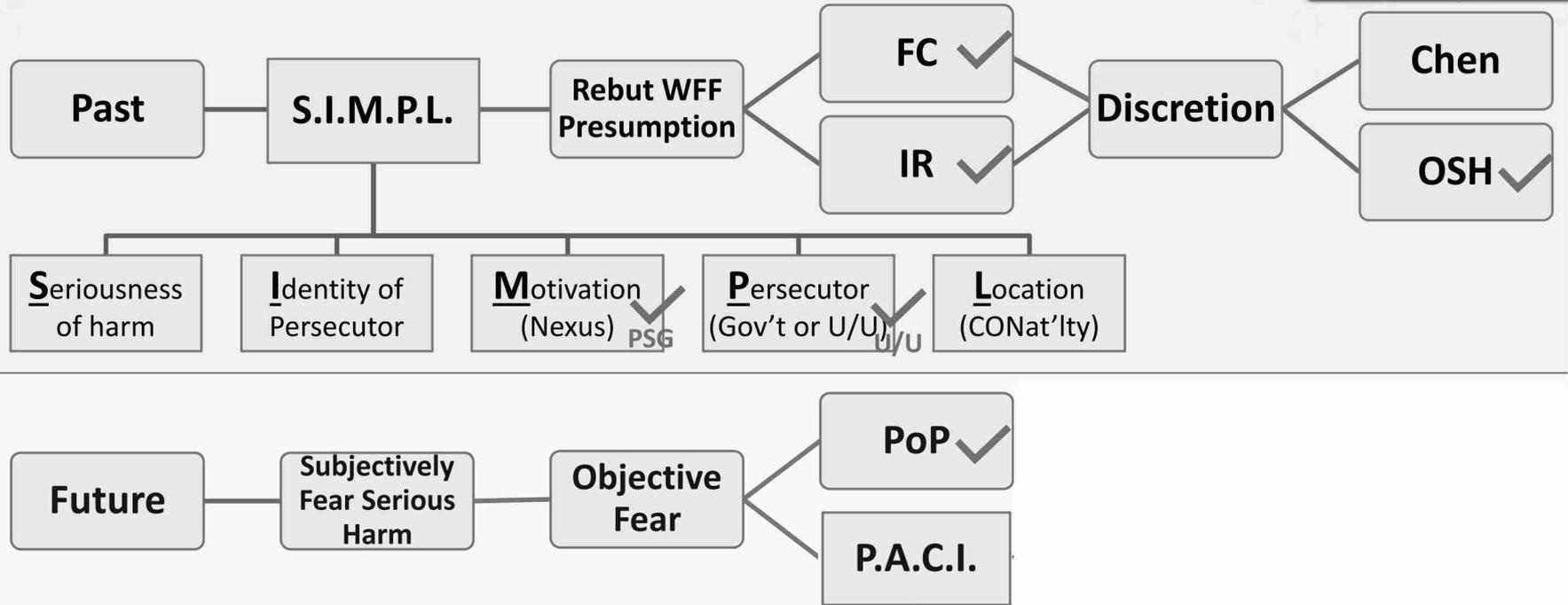
VI. Focused Legal Analysis



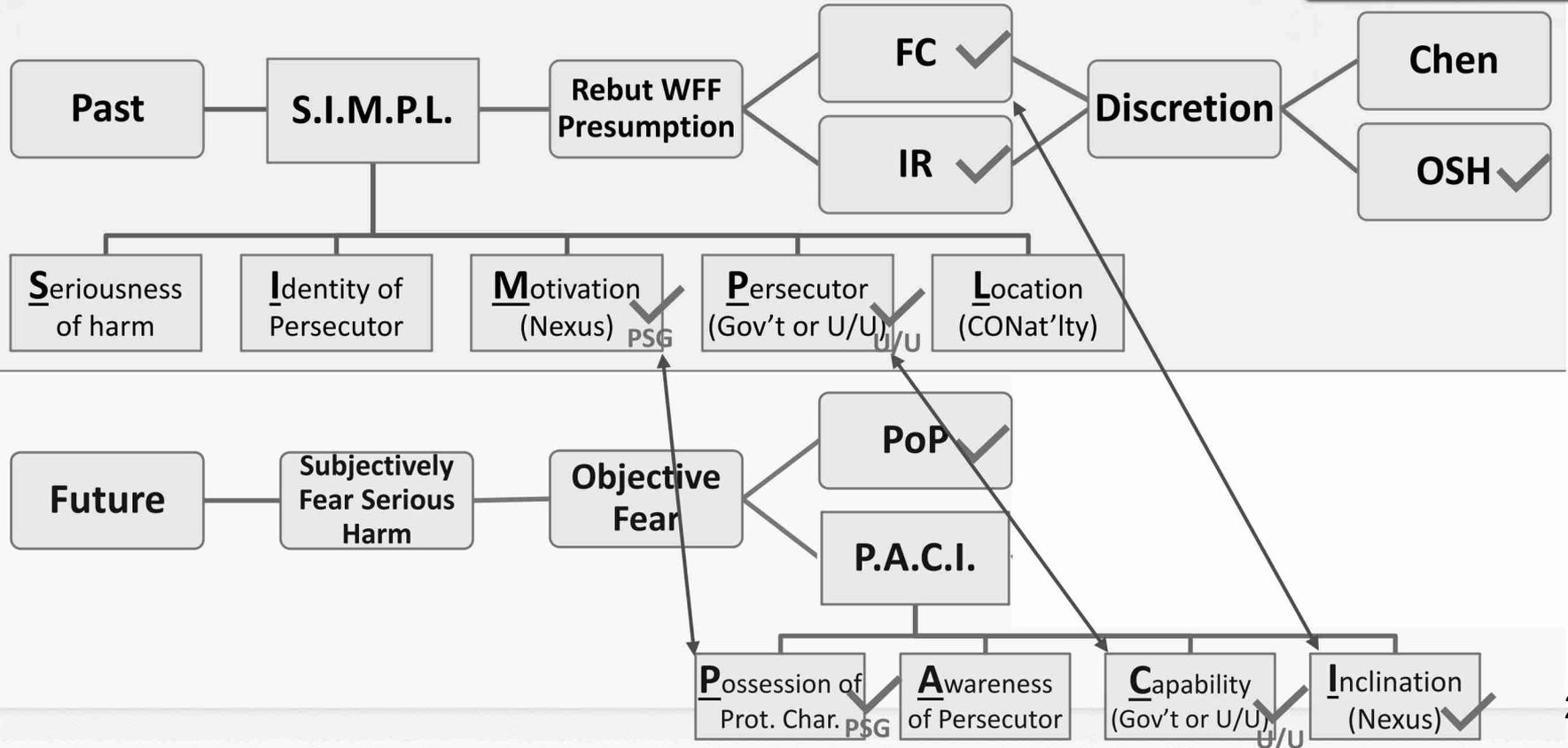
VI. Focused Legal Analysis



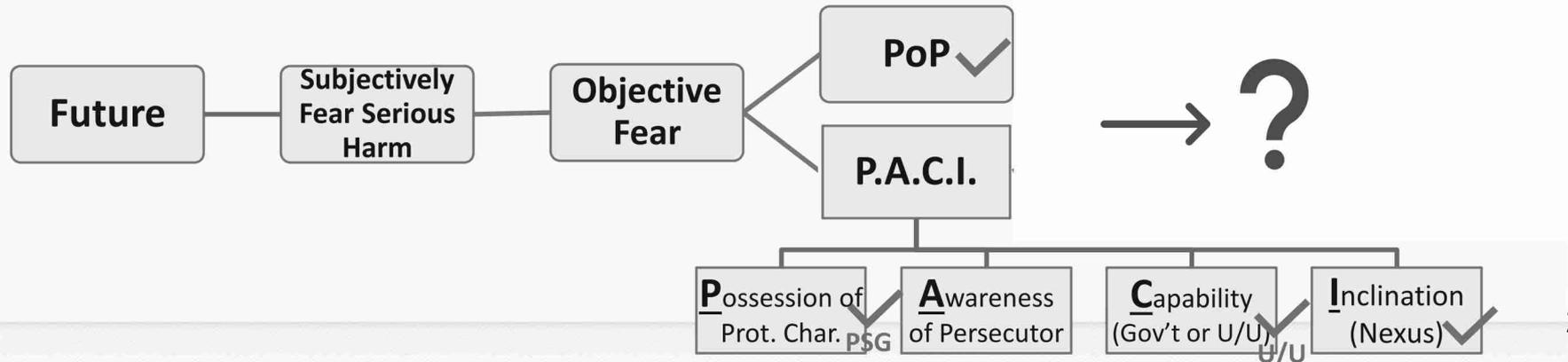
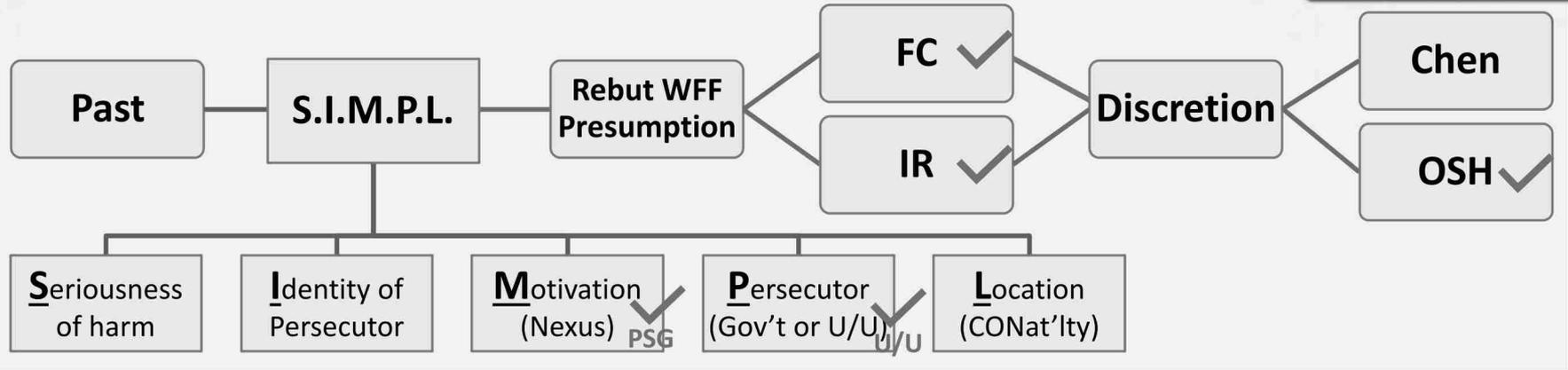
VI. Focused Legal Analysis



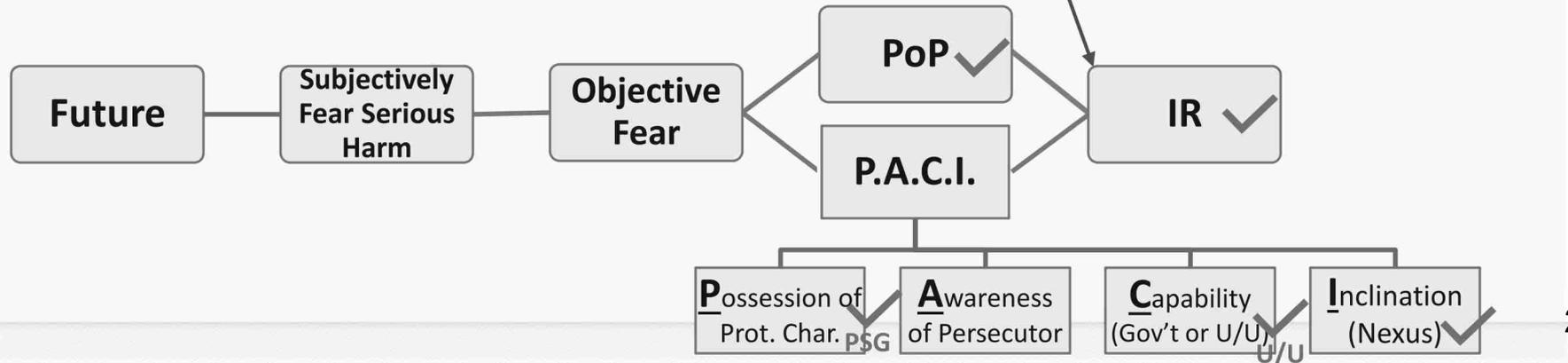
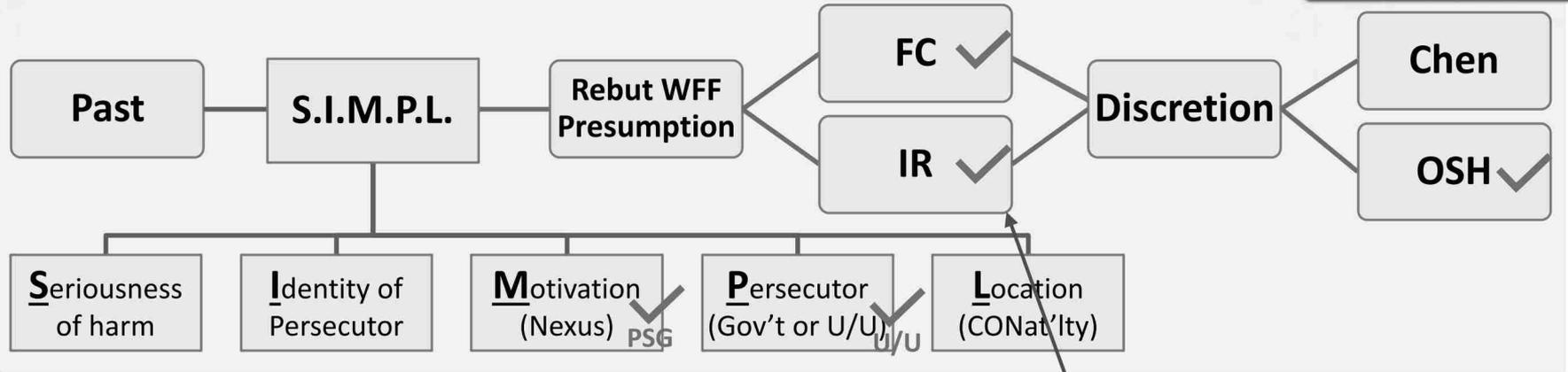
VI. Focused Legal Analysis



VI. Focused Legal Analysis



VI. Focused Legal Analysis



I. BIO

II. BOC

III. OYFD ✓

IV. SOT

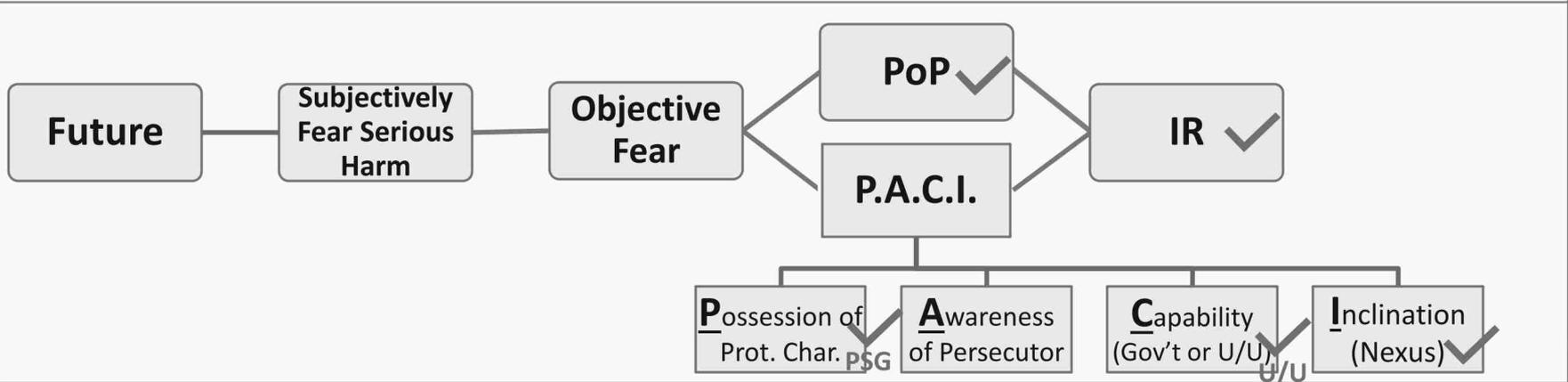
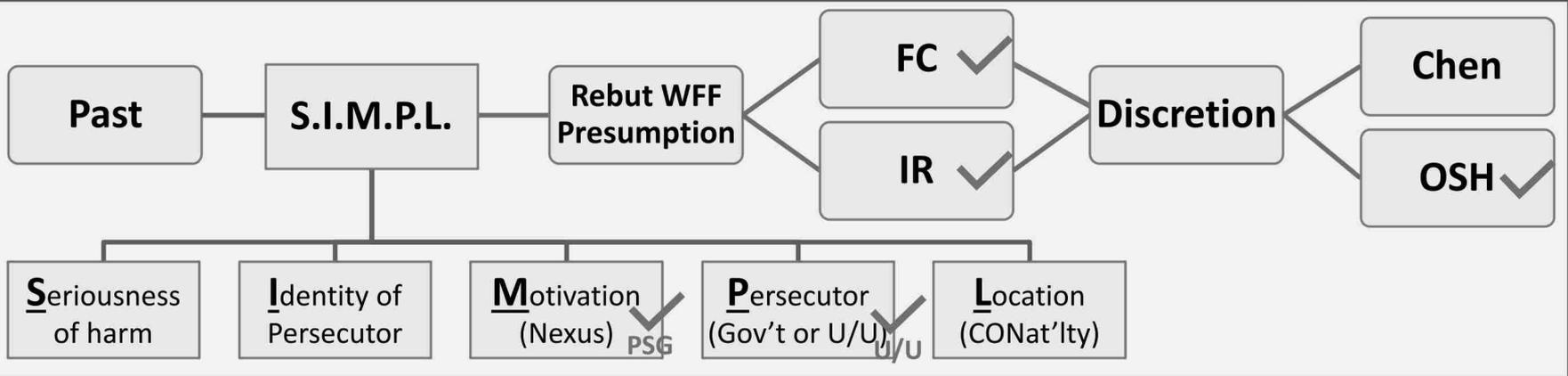
V. CRED ✓

VI. FLA ✓

VII. BARS ✓



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services



III. Analysis

COI Analysis can make your brain feel



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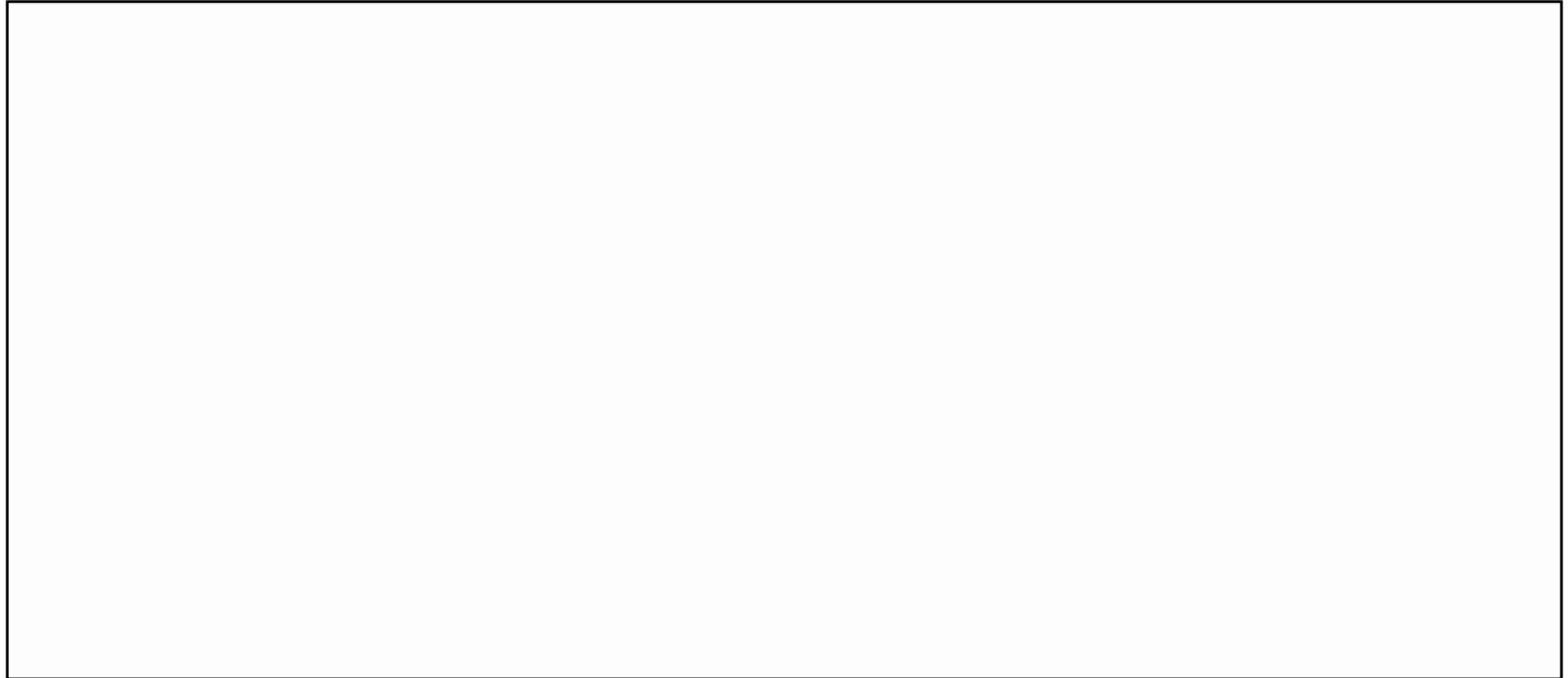


CONGESTED!

What's wrong with this write-up?



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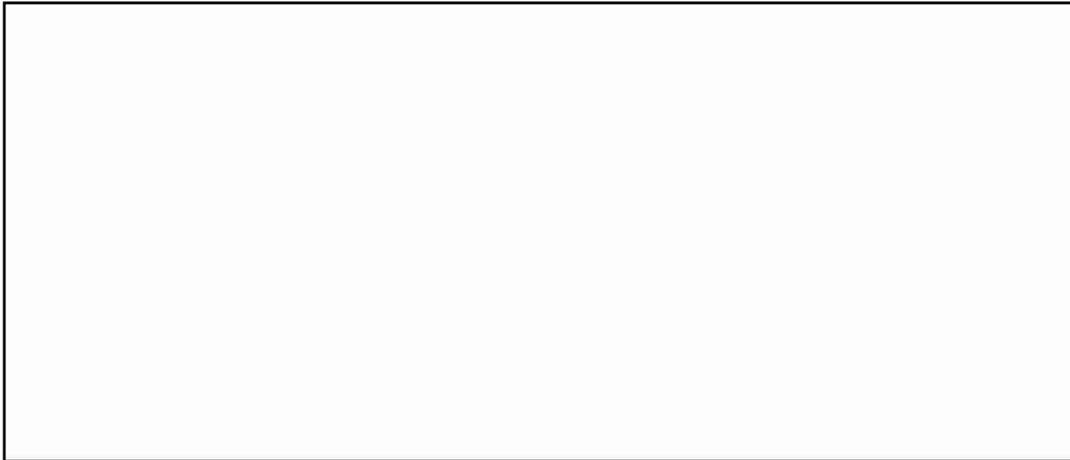
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Well, we have ...

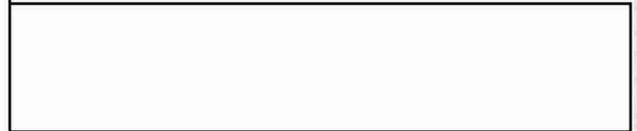


Some facts:

-
-
-
-



And a
conclusion:



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But we're missing ...



Some facts:

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

SIS
RS
G FACTS
NCLUSION

And a

conclusion:

[Redacted]

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So how do we do analysis?



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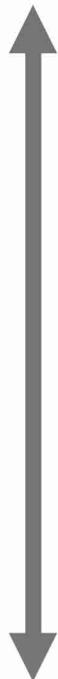
1. Determine the **material facts** of the case.
2. Determine the **factors** of whatever you're trying to make a conclusion about (e.g., city).
3. **Match up** the facts & factors.

Factors are categories that Facts fall in

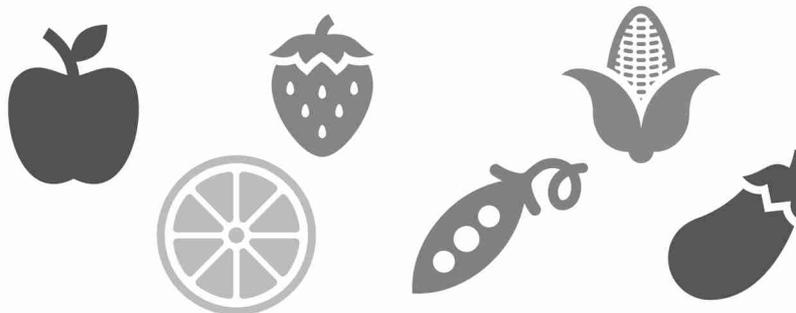


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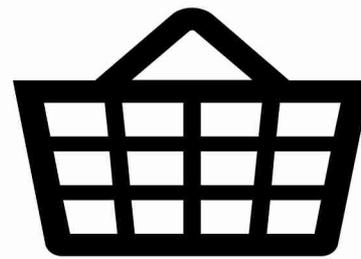
More
specific



More
abstract



FRUIT

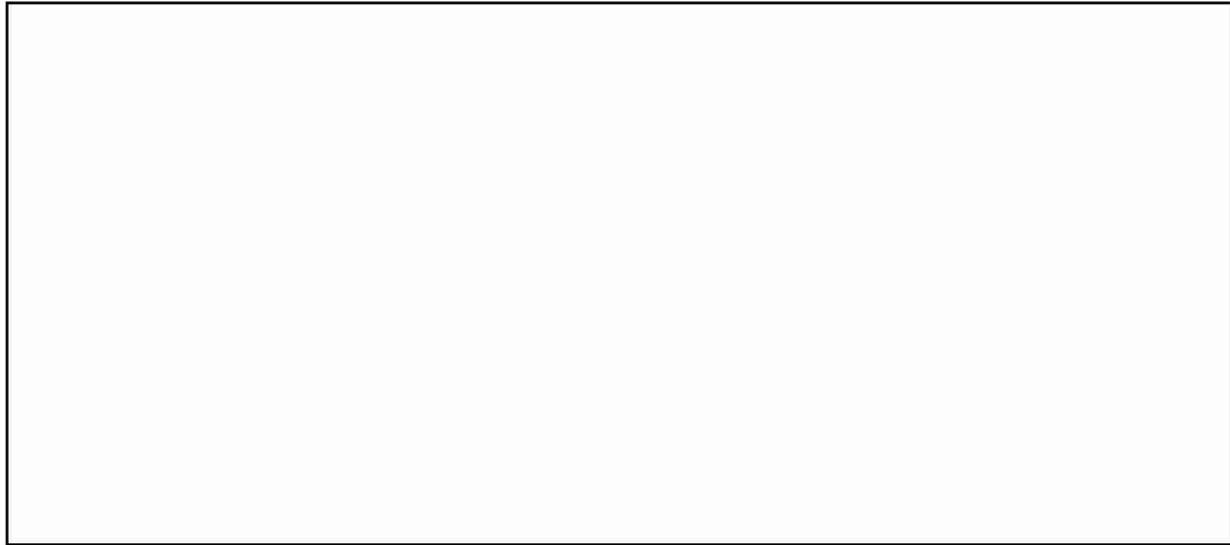


VEGETABLES

Factors of a “city”



-
-
-
-



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How does Newark match up?



Factors:

-
-
-
-

Facts:

-
-
-
-

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Let's do the analysis!



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Try (this admittedly run-on) sentence:

**“The fact that [fact],
indicates that [conclusion],
given that [factor].”**

Try writing up this analysis!



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Factors:

-
-
-
-

Facts:

-
-
-
-

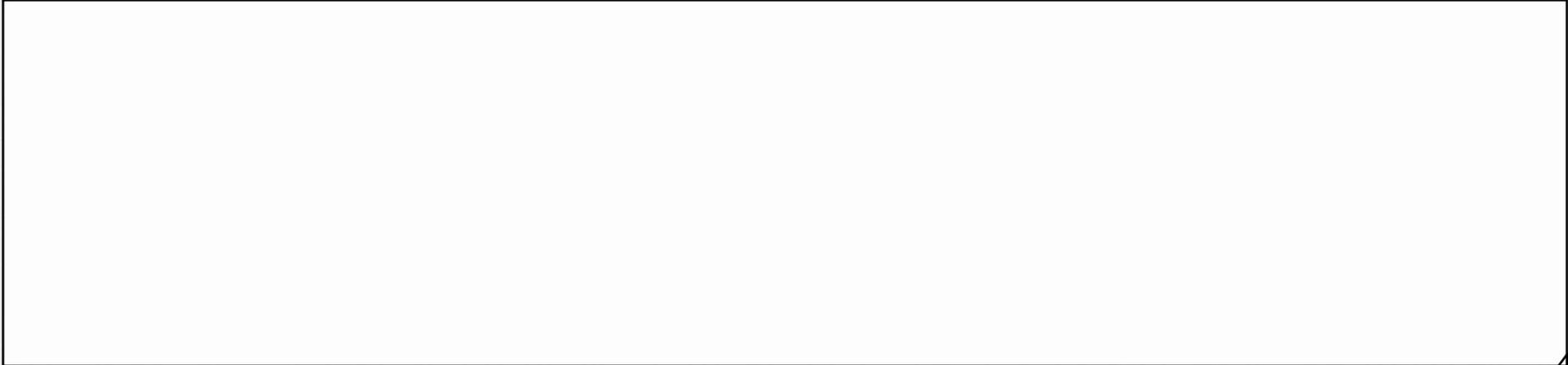
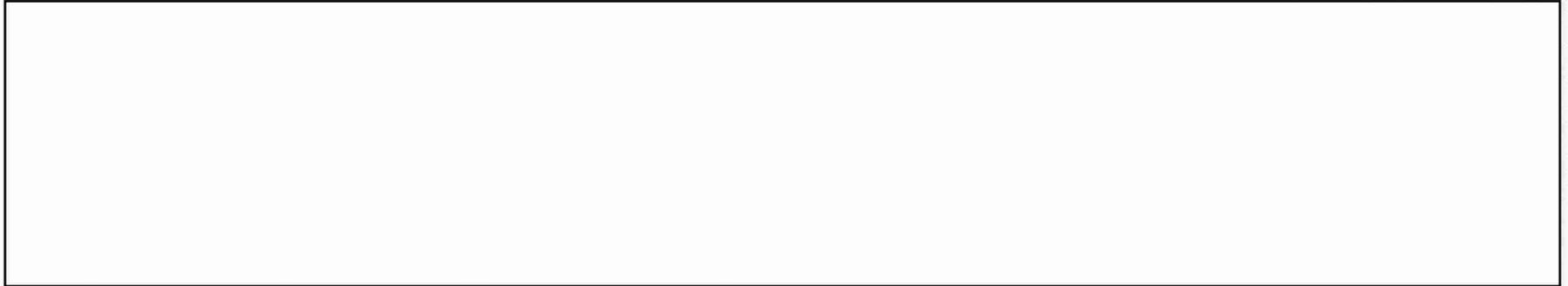
The **fact** that [fact], **indicates** that [conclusion], **given** that [factor].

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40

Let's do the analysis!



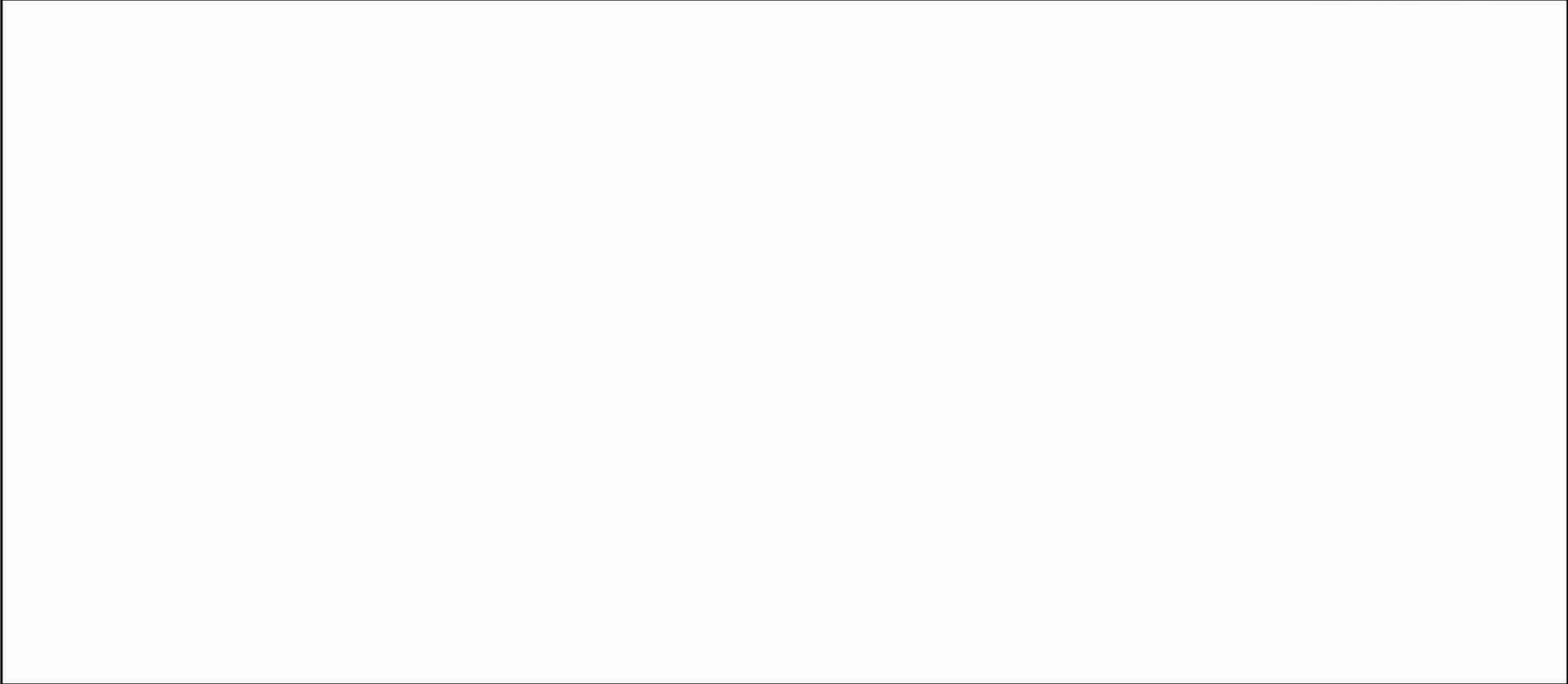
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Or less of a run-on ...



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Definition of “Analysis”



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Breaking down a complex whole into separate parts for study.

Choose your metaphor:



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Build a Bridge
between fact & conclusion

Choose your metaphor:



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Anchor

the conclusion in the facts

Choose your metaphor:



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Tie Back

the conclusion to the facts

The point is that to get from ...



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FACTS

to

CONCLUSION

You need to draw out ...



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FACTORS

meaning: individually
match up facts with the
elements of the conclusion.

FACTS

CONCLUSION

In the Asylum Context ...



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The facts are:

testimony, documents, COI, gov't databases

The conclusions are:

the various prongs of the refugee definition

Applicant met the **OYFD**. | Applicant is **credible**. | Applicant established **PP/FP**. | Applicant is not subject to a **mandatory bar**.

The factors are:

in the lesson plans, case law, and **your brilliant brain!**

Why is legal analysis important?



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?

Why is legal analysis important?



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- **Integrity** of the asylum process
- **Objectivity**, not bias or ideology
- **Case-by-case** consideration
- Focus on **critical elements**

IV. COI Best Practices

Research in advance



Do your research during interview prep. It will help you conduct your interview, and you'll likely need the COI to write your assessment later.

Use correct timeframe



past persecution

future persecution

present

ELEMENT

COI FROM

--

ELEMENT

COI FROM

--

ELEMENT

COI FROM

--

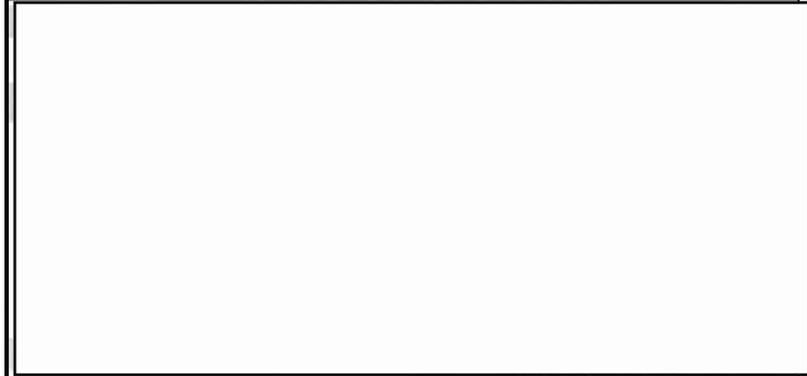
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Start with RAIO RU



-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Resource Guide: Venezuela



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Paste from RU Queries



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- **Don't cite** to them, as they are not publicly available.
- But feel free to **copy and paste** directly from them, as they contain summaries, citations, and block quotes.



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Refugee, Asylum and
Int'l Operations
Research Unit

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Vary your sources



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- **DOS HR Report**



- **Human rights organization or other governmental/NGO reports.** (b)(7)(E)



ecoi.net

Jane's

Weigh source objectivity



- Research the **source** that produced the report.

- -
 -

- Consider the potential type of **bias**:

- -
 -

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- The less biased, better sourced, more academic – the better!

Cite correctly



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**Author, *Title*, Publication, Date of Publication,
URL [access date].**

Note: ecoi.net gives you perfect citations!

Make a sandwich



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SUMMARY: introduce the substance of the COI.

“Country condition reports discuss [COI facts]:”

COI BLOCK QUOTE

& CITATION

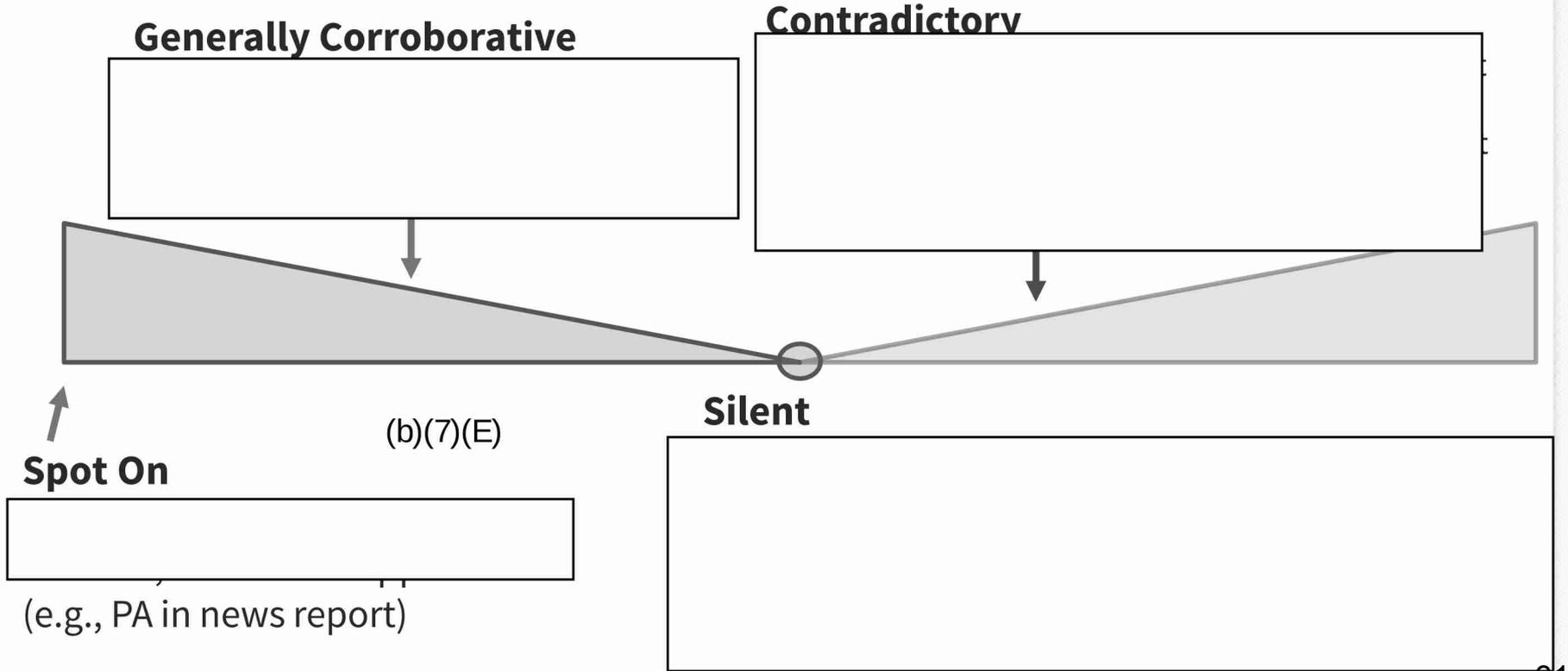
ANALYSIS: link the COI back to the applicant.

“These reports indicate [conclusion], given that [analysis].”

Weigh relevance to claim

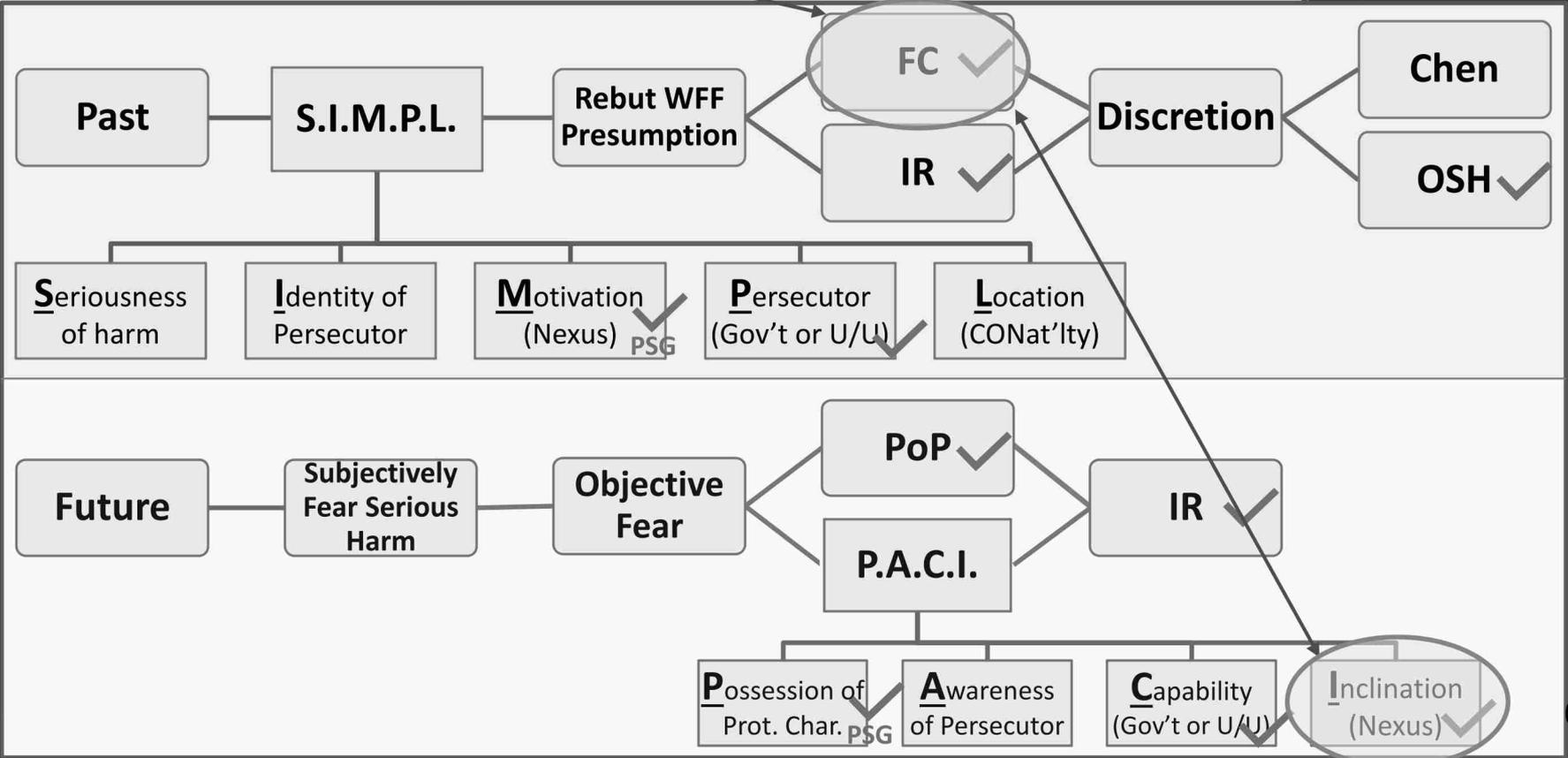
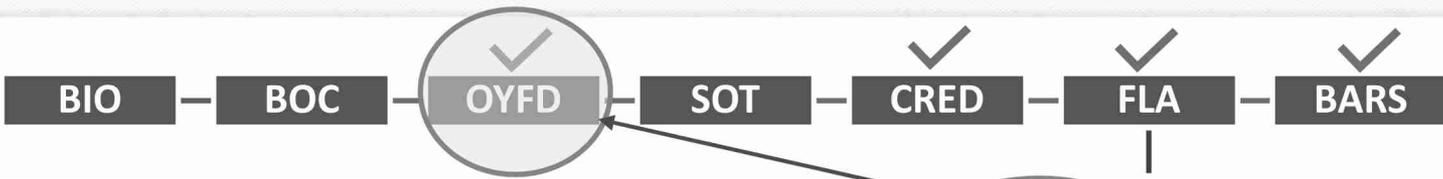


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V. Element Tour

Change in Treatment of Group



OYFD Changed Circs

Fund'l Change in Circs

Inclination

PART OF ANALYSIS

LEGAL STANDARD

TIMEFRAME FOR COI

FACTOR(S)

EXAMPLE

NOTE

Writing: OYFD



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Hypo 1: OYFD



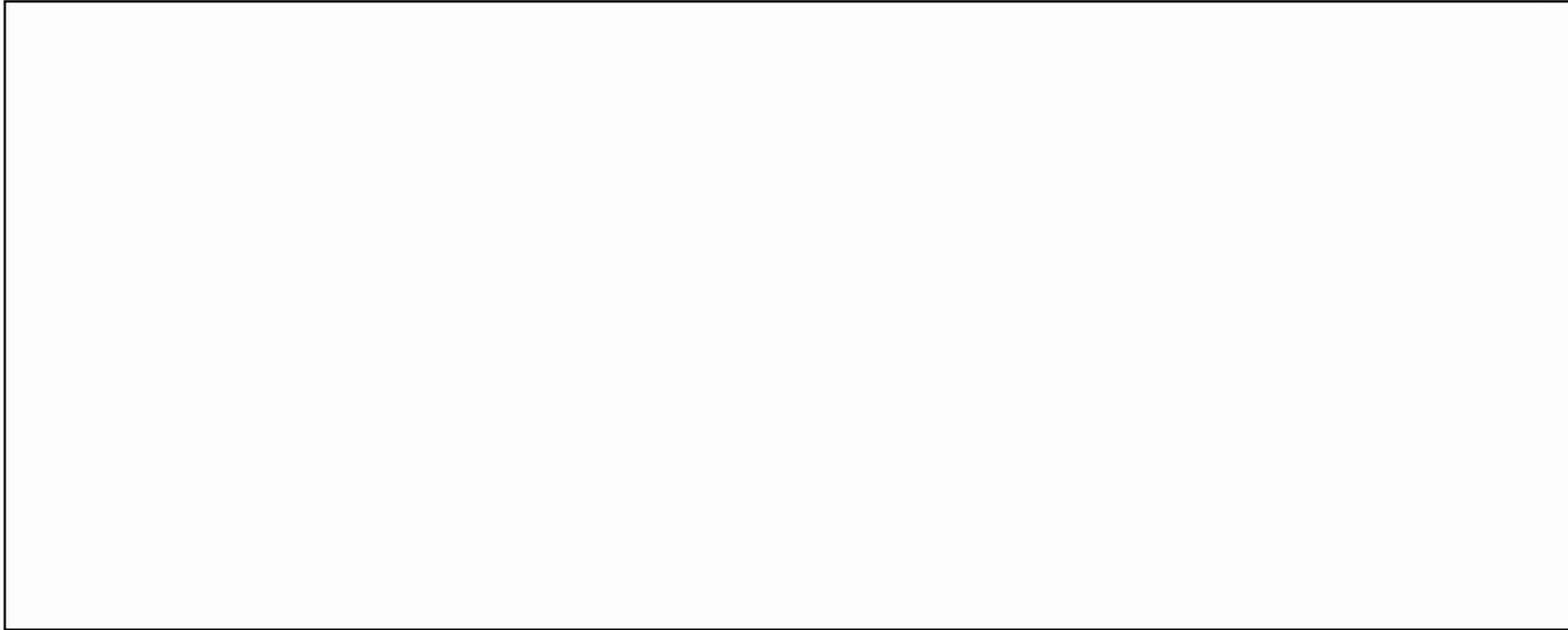
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Possible Write-Up



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Hypo 2: OYFD

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Writing: Fund'l Change

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Hypo 3: Fund'l Change

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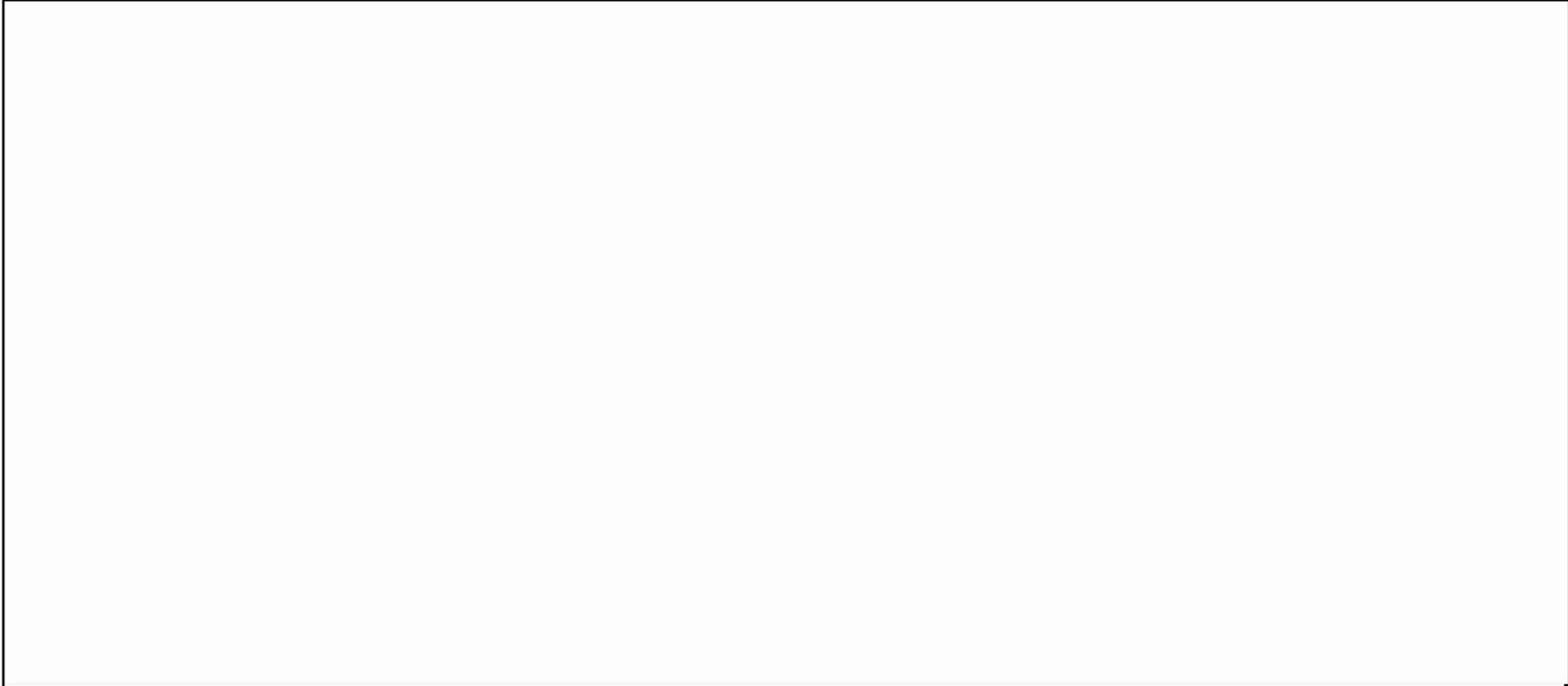


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Hypo 4: Fund'l Change



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Writing: Inclination



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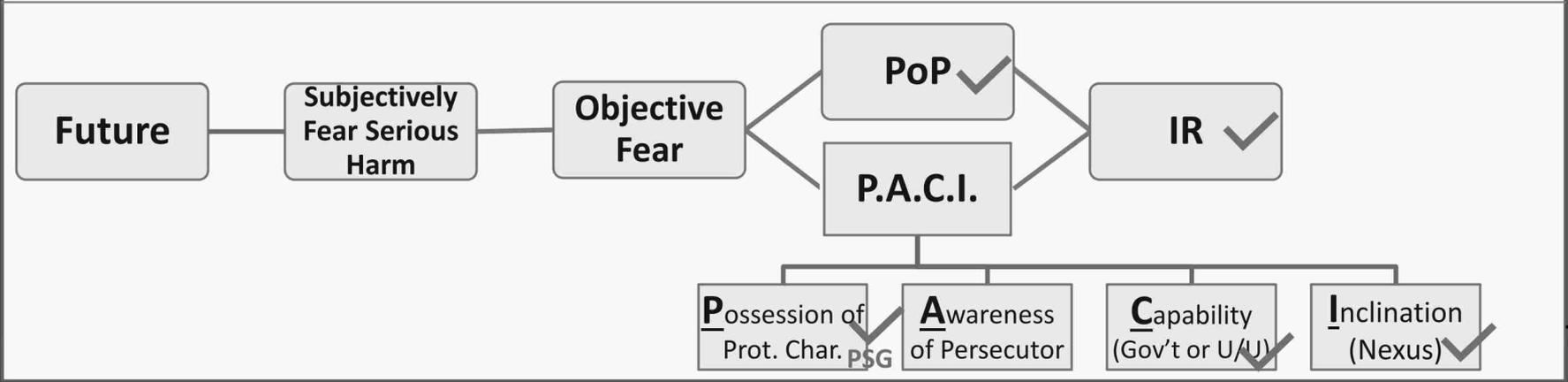
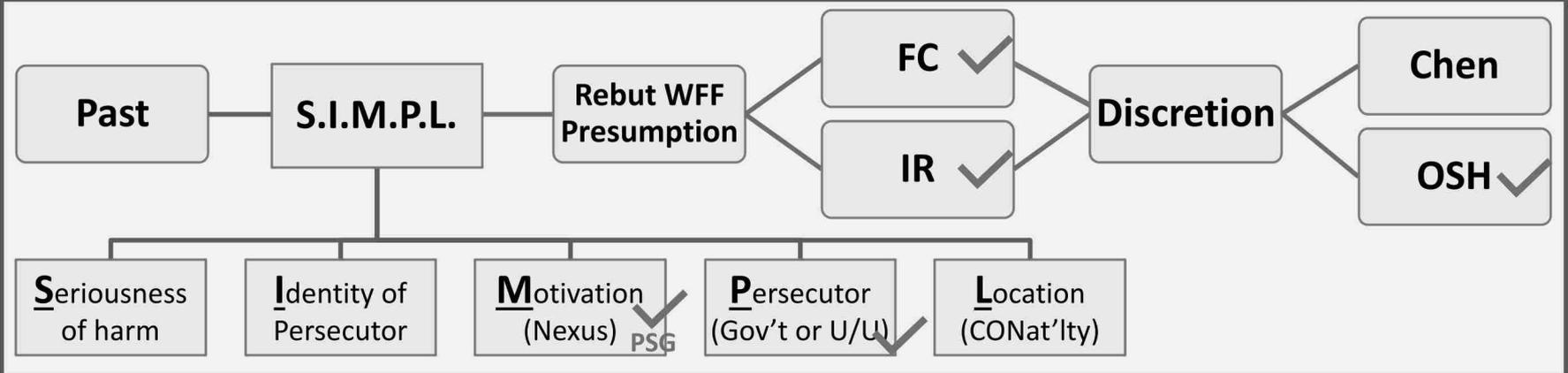
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Hypo 5: Inclination



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Credibility



Credibility



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PART OF ANALYSIS

LEGAL STANDARD

**TIMEFRAME FOR
COI**

FACTOR(S)

EXAMPLE

NOTE

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Review



Text

- Bullet
- Bullet

COI

Text

- Bullet
- Bullet



Writing

Text

- Bullet
- Bullet



Practice



Text

- Bullet
- Bullet

PSG Social Distinction

BIO

BOC

OYFD ✓

SOT

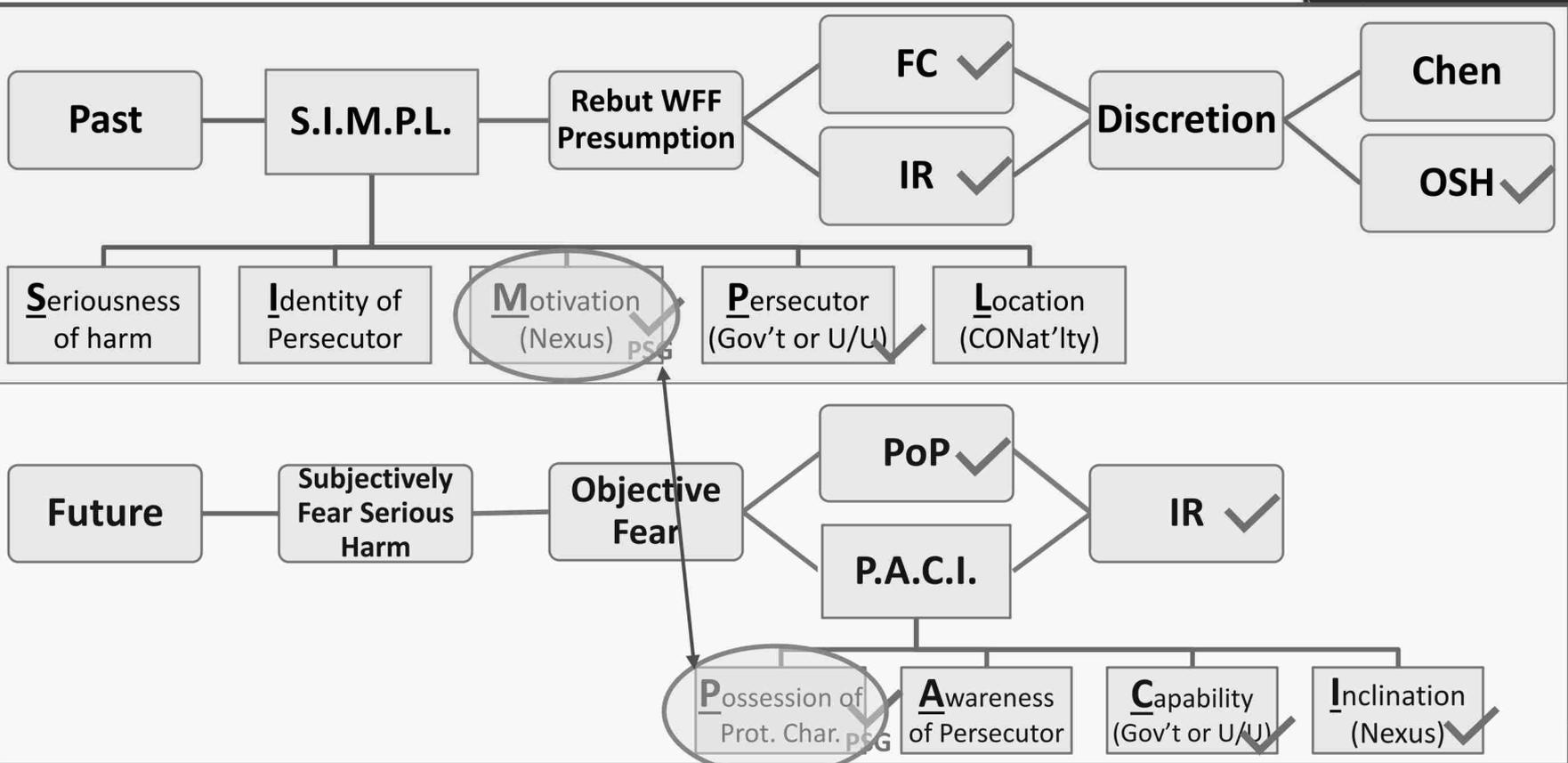
CRED ✓

FLA ✓

BARS ✓



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Unable or Unwilling

BIO

BOC

OYFD ✓

SOT

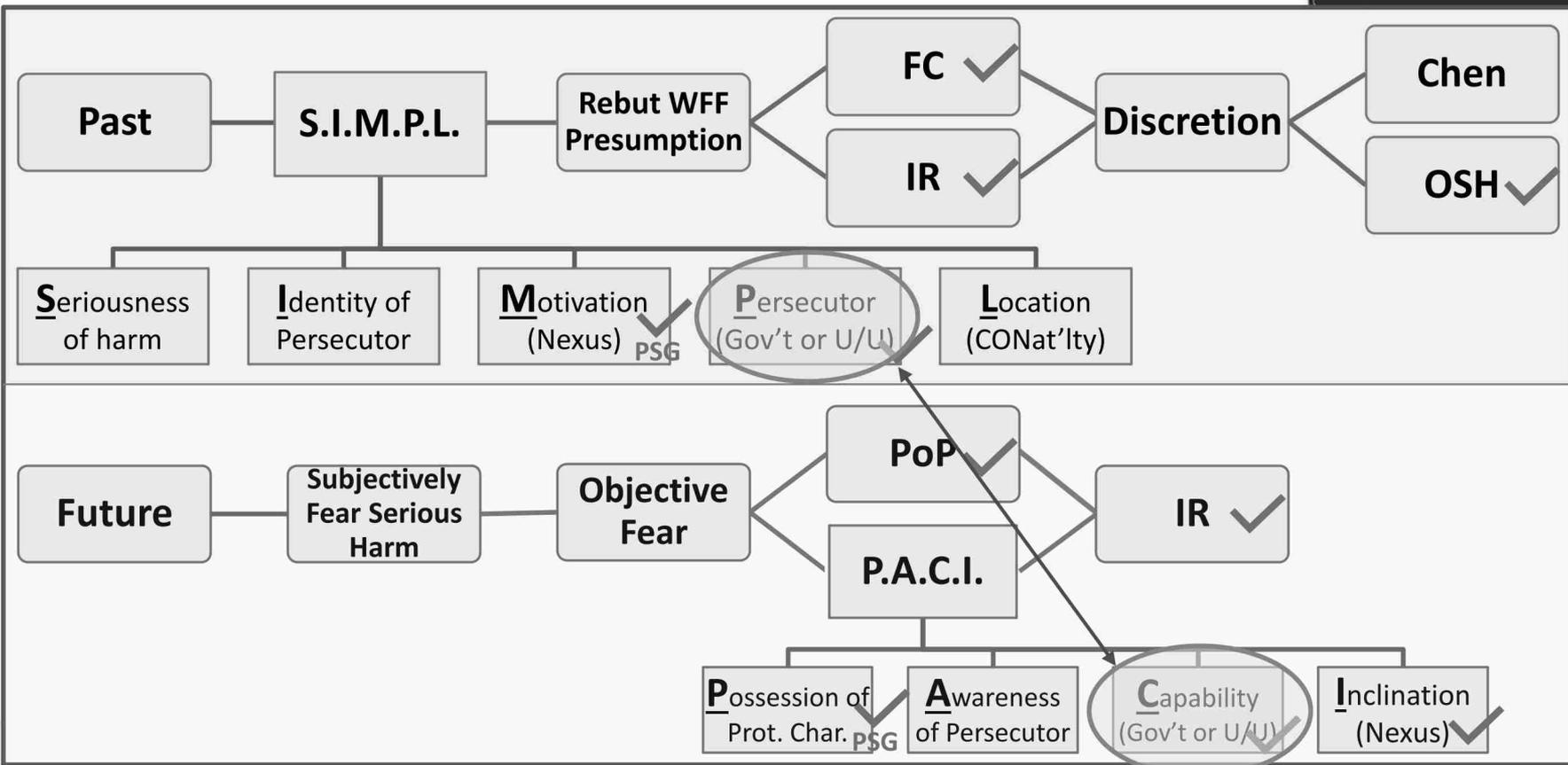
CRED ✓

FLA ✓

BARS ✓



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Internal Relocation

BIO

BOC

OYFD ✓

SOT

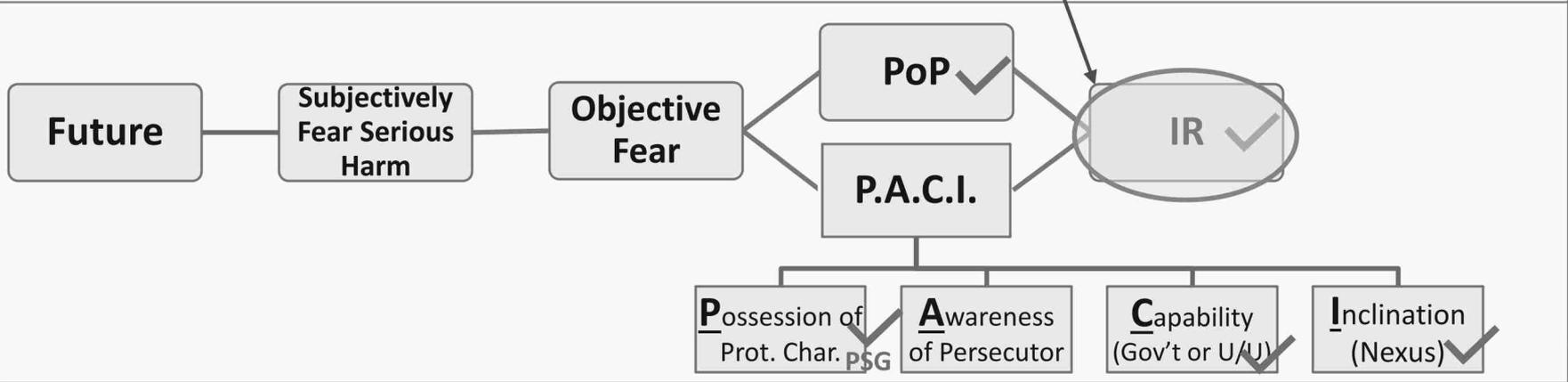
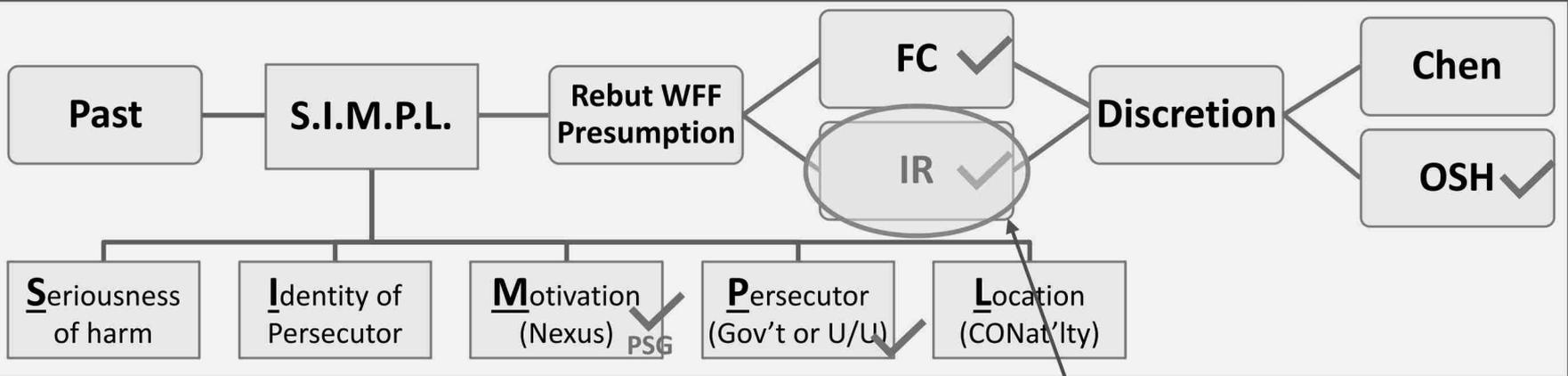
CRED ✓

FLA ✓

BARS ✓



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Other Serious Harm (OSH)

BIO

BOC

OYFD ✓

SOT

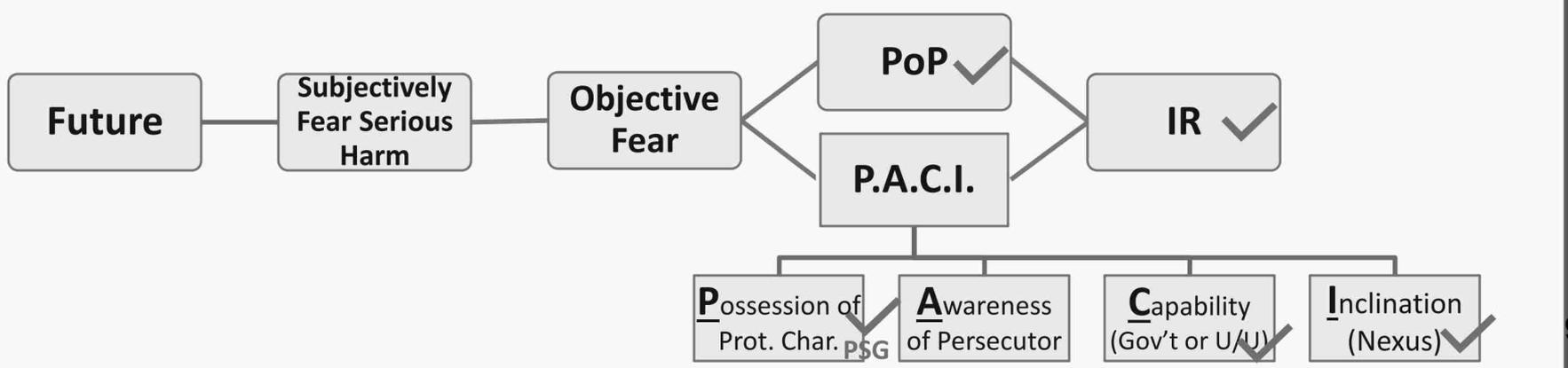
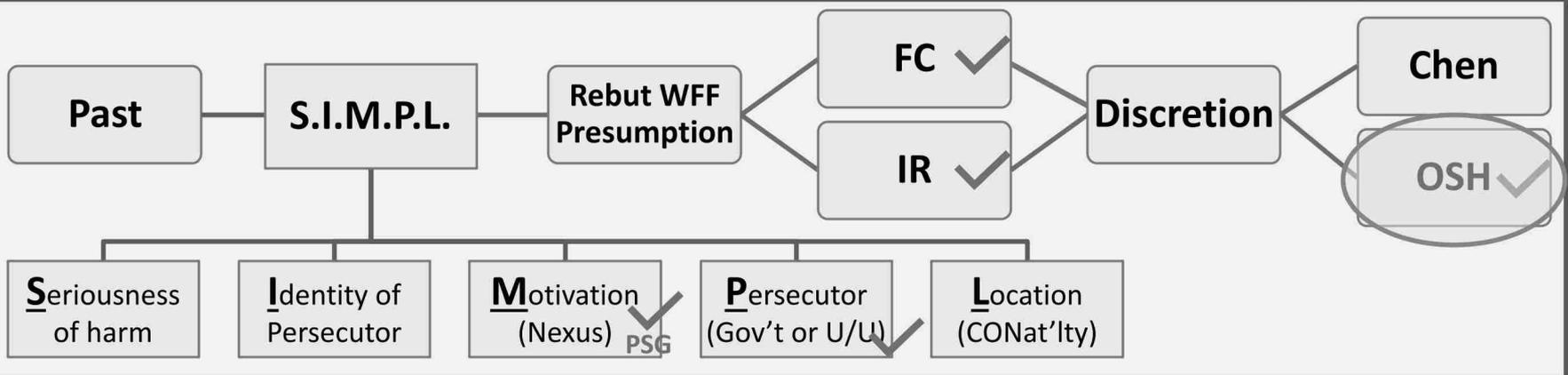
CRED ✓

FLA ✓

BARS ✓



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Pattern or Practice (PoP)

BIO

BOC

OYFD ✓

SOT

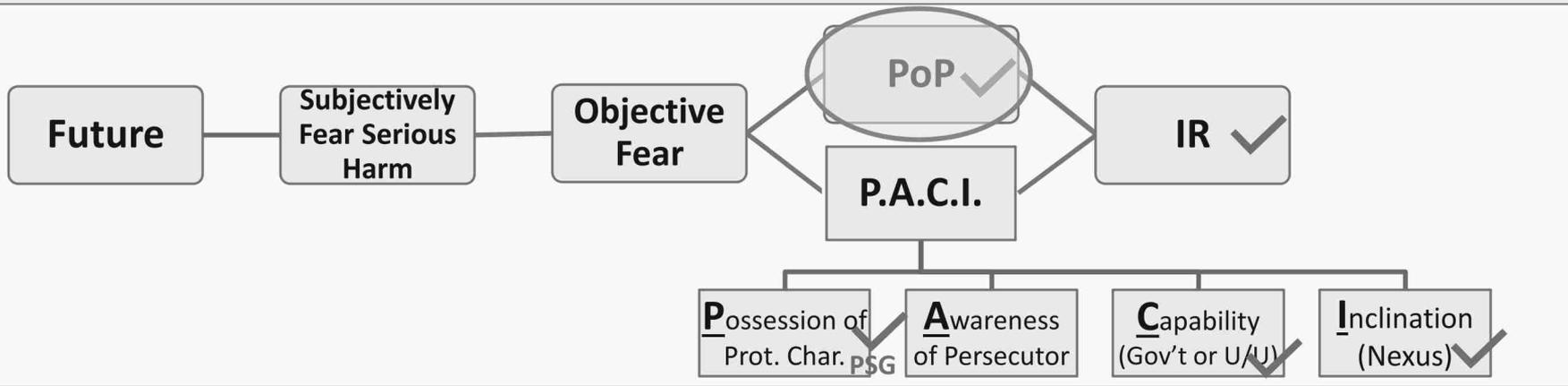
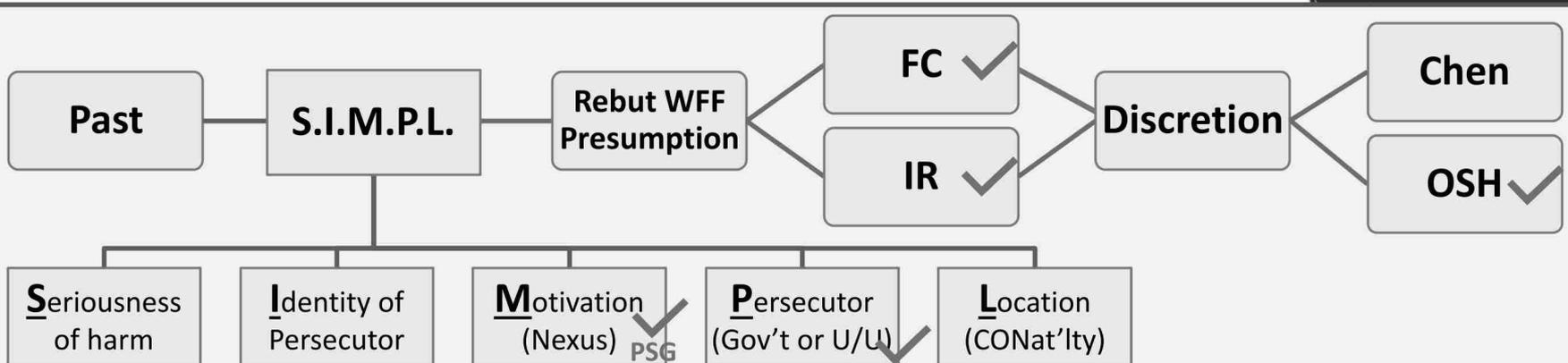
CRED ✓

FLA ✓

BARS ✓



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services



Persecutor Bar

BIO

BOC

OYFD ✓

SOT

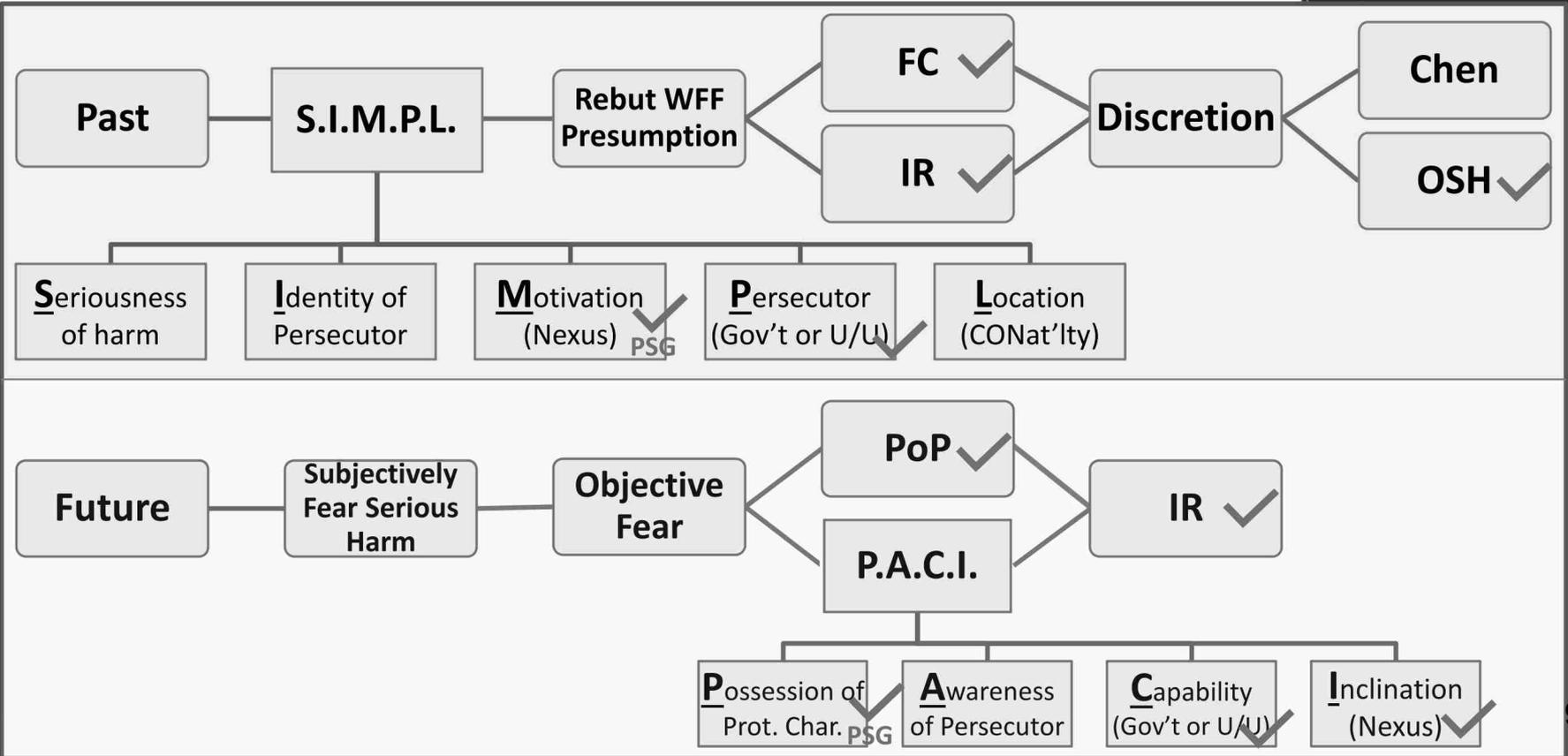
CRED ✓

FLA ✓

BARS ✓



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services



TRIG

BIO

BOC

OYFD ✓

SOT

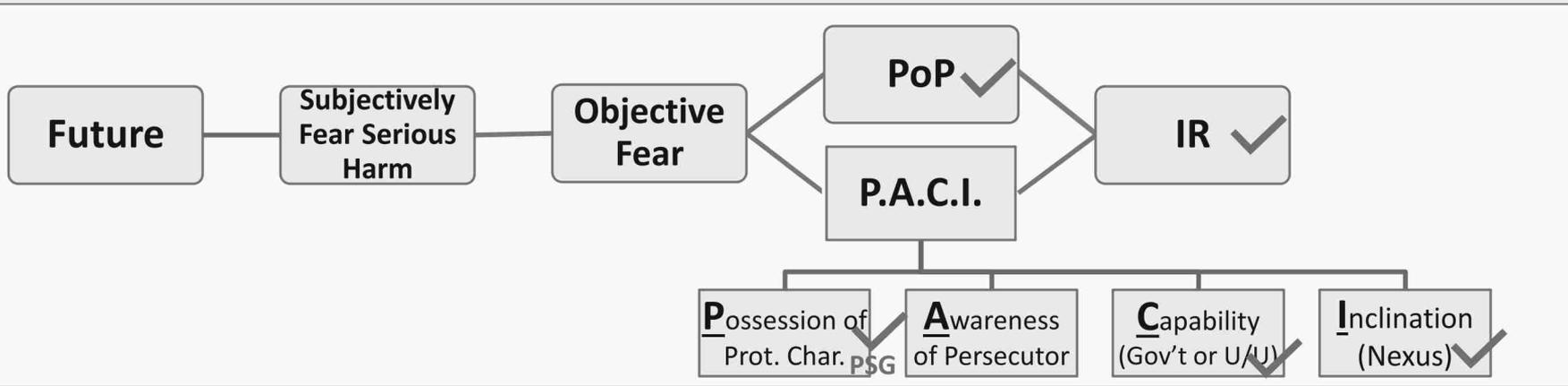
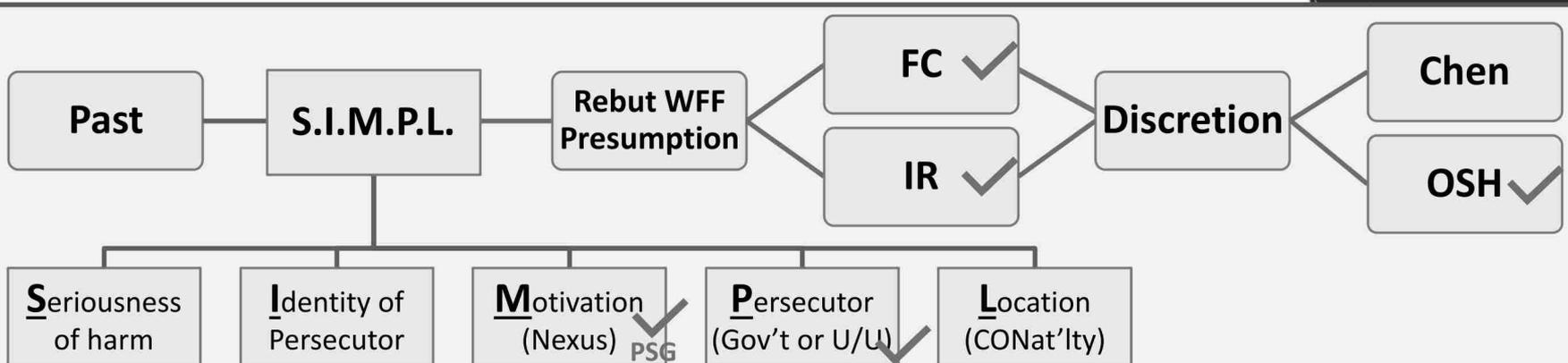
CRED ✓

FLA ✓

BARS ✓



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services



Firm Resettlement

BIO

BOC

OYFD ✓

SOT

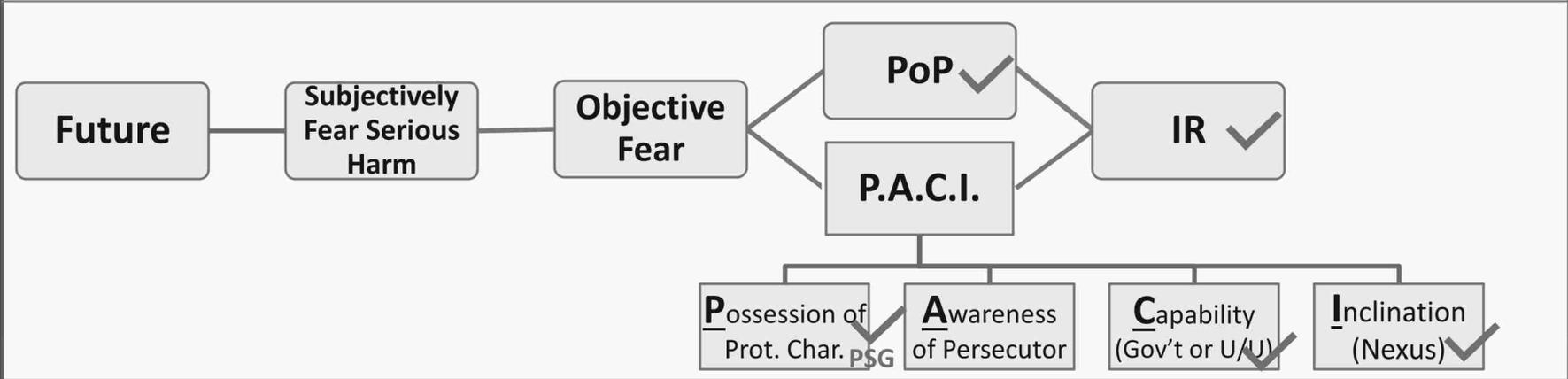
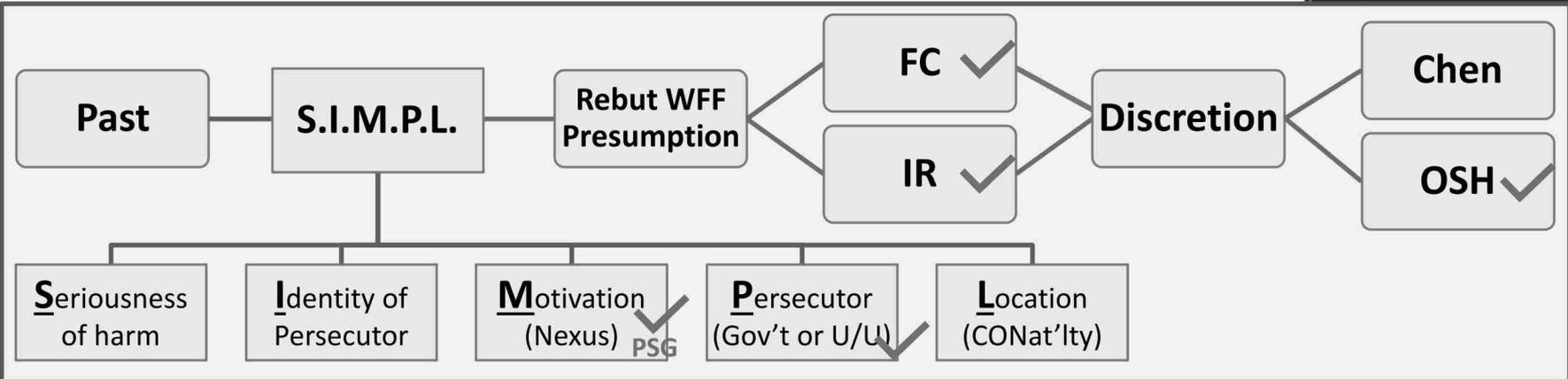
CRED ✓

FLA ✓

BARS ✓



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services



V. Resources

Resources

- Link to resource
- Link to resource
- Link to resource



Questions?



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



RAIO RU COI Bank

Teams Page

I. The Teams page is a public page.

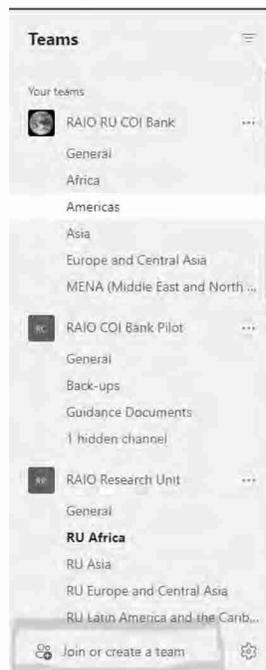
This means individuals within the organization can either find the team on their own or be added to the team.



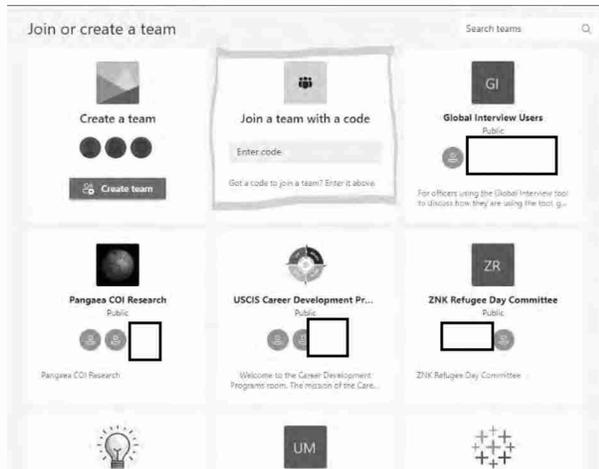
- a. The Team code is: (b)(7)(E)
- b. The Team link is [here](#).

II. To add a Team with the Team code:

- a. Click on “Join or create a team” at the bottom of the “Teams” table.



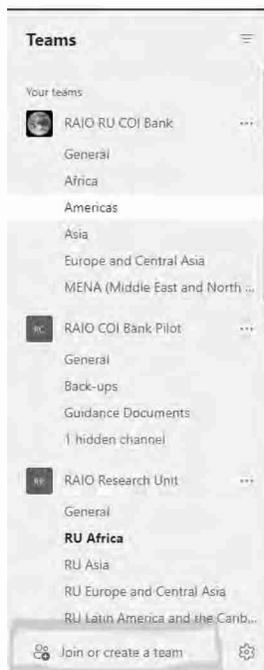
- b. Enter the code in the provided box



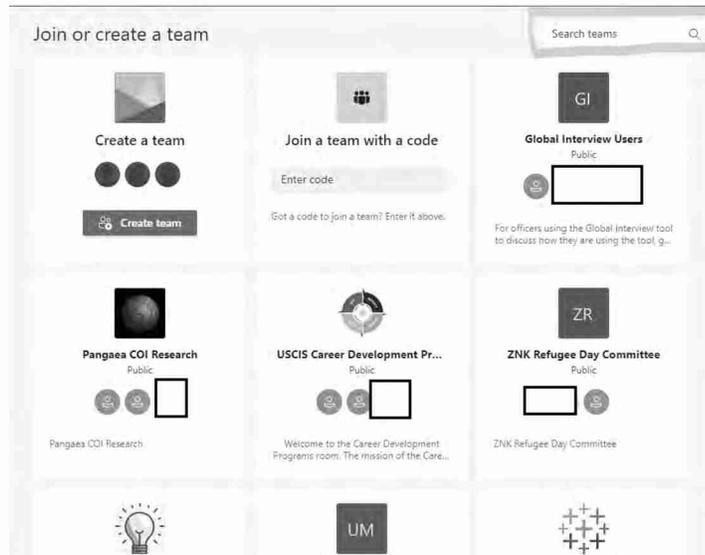
(b)(6)

III. To add a Team by searching:

- a. Click on “Join or create a team” at the bottom of the “Teams” table



- b. Enter your search terms in the “Search teams” box.



IV. There are six Channels on the COI Bank Team:

- a. General
 - i. Intro in Posts
 - ii. RU ECN homepage and TRIG ECN (general) posted
- b. Africa
 - i. For the Africa docs and discussion about the docs in Posts
 - ii. RU Africa ECN and TRIG ECN (general) posted
- c. Americas
 - i. For the Americas docs and discussion about the docs in Posts
 - ii. RU Americas ECN and TRIG ECN (general) posted
- d. Asia
 - i. For the Asia docs and discussion about the docs in Posts
 - ii. RU Asia ECN and TRIG ECN (general) posted
- e. Europe and Central Asia
 - i. For the Europe and Central Asia docs and discussion about the docs in Posts
 - ii. RU Europe and Central Asia ECN and TRIG ECN (general) posted
- f. MENA
 - i. For the MENA docs and discussion about the docs in Posts
 - ii. RU Europe and Central Asia ECN and TRIG ECN (general) posted

COI Documents

I. Contents

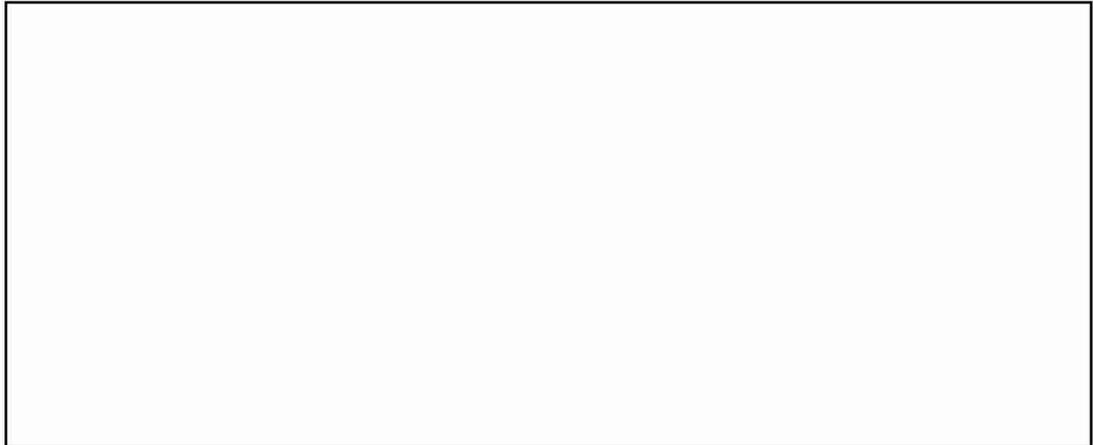
- a. By holding the “Control” button and clicking on an itemized title, the TOC of any document will bring you to the start of the selected topic.

(b)(7)(E)

b.

c.

d.



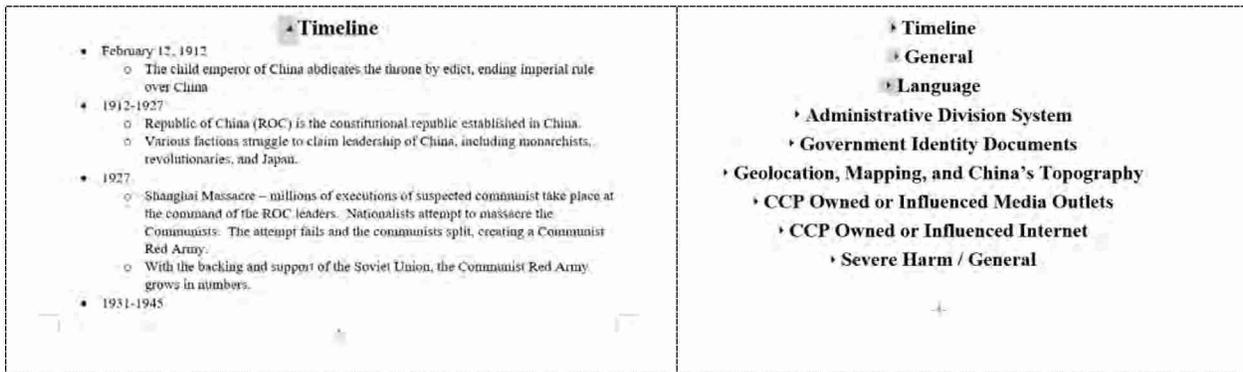
II. Navigation Pane

- a. The Navigation Pane is accessed by using the “Control” and “F” hot key. The search of the document is one of three functions of the Navigation Pane
- b. “Results” provides “Control F” keyword search results.
- c. “Pages” provides a thumbnail image of each page. Jumping directly to that page is done by a single click on that thumbnail image of the page.
- d. “Headings” is an interactive outline, like the TOC but fixed to the Navigation Pane.
 - i. By clicking on the carrot to the left of each category with subcategories, the outline can be expanded or contracted.



III. Contracting/Expanding Sections

- a. Like the Headings outline, the headings in the document can be contracted or expanded as needed.



IV. Administrative Additions

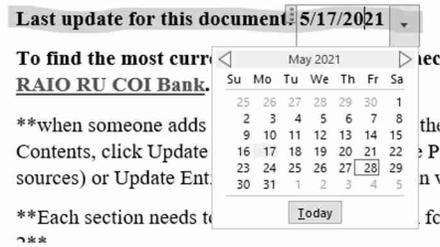
- a. The administrative additions help adjudicators know how current their document is and where to look for updates.

i.



(b)(7)(E)

- b. “Last update for this document” keeps track of that particular document’s last update. There is a dropdown calendar to select a date.



- c. There are hyperlinks to the ECN, RU COI Bank Teams page, and the specific channel the document is publicly housed.

with RAIO adjudication guidance. For additional information or questions about this or other COI resources, please visit the [RAIO Research Unit ECN page](#) or contact the [RAIO Research Unit](#).

Last update for this document: 5/17/2021

To find the most current document, please check the [Asia Channel](#) on the Research Unit's [RAIO RU COI Bank](#).

V. Hyperlinks within the Document

- a. To navigate within the contents of the document, certain words are linked back with the Headings outline.

- i. E.g.

(b)(7)(E)

- October 1, 1949
 - People's Republic of China (PRC) is founded by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).
 - Kuomintang (KMT) Islamic insurgency retreats to strongholds in Western Mainland:
 - Gansu
 - Qinghai
 - Ningxia
 - Xinjiang
 - Yunnan
 - KMT Han Nationalists retreat to Taiwan in the East.
- 1950
 - PRC's People's Liberation Army (PLA) captures the island of Hainan from ROC.
 - PRC incorporates Tibet.
 - KMT Islamic insurgency continues to attack PRC strongholds from the West.
- 1951