

## **Editor's Note**

As we are posting the March 2016 issue of Terrorism: An Electronic Journal & Knowledge Base, I wish to remind our readers that this academic effort was initially developed in 1998 as an on-line follow-up to Terrorism: An International Journal, published in 1977 by Crane, Russak in New York and subsequently by Taylor and Francis in the U.K. As director of the State University of New York (SUNY) Institute for Studies in International Terrorism, it was my honor to be the founder and Editor-in-Chief of these two publications.

In its current form, Terrorism: An Electronic Journal & Knowledge Base was launched again in August 2012 in order to provide continuity to earlier studies on the "Age of Terrorism" and to close research gaps in the growing literature on the manifold aspects of the emerging disciplinary subject. Our primary objective is to focus on identifying warning signals on conventional and unconventional terrorism in the post 9/11 era and recommend national, regional, and global strategies to confront potential security challenges to all societies.

The current issue consists of selected presentations by invited speakers from both the public and private sectors as well as several regional reports published in 2016. Topics covered in this issue include "Jerusalem: Outlook for War or Peace?"; "The Sunni-Shiite Divide: 2016 Outlook and Beyond"; "International Cooperation in Combating Terrorism: Review of 2015 and Outlook for 2016"; "The Refugee Crisis: Humanitarian and Security Implications"; and "Combating Terrorism: Lessons from the Middle East, North Africa, the Sahel, and Beyond". These seminars were held during the period December 2015-March 2016. More updated electronic and printed versions will be published subsequently.

Items incorporated in this issue include special reports published in hard copy on "NATO: Confronting Regional and Global Challenges"; "Russia's Strategic Puzzle: Past Lessons, Current Assessment, and Future Outlook"; and "Terrorism in North Africa and the Sahel in 2015".

Daily chronologies of terrorism-related events based on national and international media reports are also incorporated. This section was prepared by a team of researchers and interns that included Matthew Brenner (University of Maryland), Brandon Cordero (State University of New York at Albany), Jacob T. Fuller (The University of Oklahoma), Matthew Leger (State University of New York at Albany), Nicholas Norberg (Georgetown University), Faith Pollard (University of Mary Washington), and Joel Wickwire (University of Oregon School of Law).

I would like to thank my colleagues on the International Advisory Board and the editorial staff for their continuing support of our publication. Thanks are due to Sharon Layani (University of Michigan) for her exceptional coordination of the editorial staff of this issue. As always, we encourage other academics and professionals globally to contribute to our research activities in the coming months and years.

Yonah Alexander  
Editor-in-Chief  
March 31, 2016