

Editor's Note

As we are posting the March 2017 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 serve as 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 a peer review article on “Al-Shabaab: Domestic Terrorist Recruitment and Finance Networks” by Dr. Peter Forster and Thomas Hader as well as selected presentations by invited speakers from both the public and private sectors that were delivered at seminars held in the end of 2016 and beginning of 2017. Topics covered in this issue include “Latin America's Security Outlook: Challenges and Opportunities in the Post-Castro Era” and “International Cooperation in Combating Terrorism: Review of 2016 and Outlook for 2017.”

Items incorporated in this issue also include special reports published in hard copy on “NATO’s Strategy: Continuity or Change?” (January 2017), “The Lone Wolf Terrorist: Past Lessons, Future Outlook, and Response Strategies” (February 2017), and “Terrorism in North Africa and the Sahel in 2016” (March 2017). In addition, special commentary was provided by MEP Tomáš Zdechovský (Christian and Democratic Union-Czechoslovak People's Party) on “Refused asylum seekers must be returned!”

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 Allison Davis (University of California, Davis), Ryan Dunbar (University of California, Los Angeles), Connor Garvey (The Catholic University of America), Soomin Jung (State University of New York at Albany), Ghislain Lunven (Sciences Po, Paris), Isaac Shorser (American University), and Benton Waterous (American University).

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 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, 2017