

## **Editor's Note**

As we are posting the June 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 selected presentations by invited speakers from both the public and private sectors that were delivered at several seminars held in 2017. Topics covered in this issue include "Security Challenges in Africa: Review of 2016 and Outlook for 2017"; "Terrorism and the Media: Dilemmas for Government, Journalists, and the Public;" "Is a New Middle East Strategic Order Emerging?"; "European and U.S. Counter-Terrorism Strategies: Quo Vadis?"; and "The Role of Diplomacy in Combating Terrorism." Updated electronic and printed versions of these topics will be published subsequently.

Items incorporated in this issue also include special reports published in hard copy "Latin America's Strategic Outlook: Populist Politics, Health Concerns, and Other Security Challenges" (April 2017) and "Biological Terrorism: Past Lessons and Future Outlook" (June 2017). In addition, special commentary was provided by MEP Antanas Guoga (Lithuania) on "'Why Party Democracy is Overhauled.'" Lastly, a review of Dr. Tevi Troy's book on *Shall We Wake the President? Two Centuries of Disaster Management from the Oval Office* is provided.

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 Slavina "Sally" Ancheva (a Bulgarian student at Stetson University), Zachary Fesen (Wichita State University), Jillian Goldberg (University of Michigan), Alexandra Hain (University of Virginia), Nicole Heitsenrether (Georgetown University), Michael Keen (Emory University), Elizabeth Morgan (University of Maryland), Nicholas Pagel (Harvard University), Isaac Shorser (American University), and Chelsea Thorpe (University of Georgia).

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. We also welcome Lisa Winton to serve as Managing Editor of our publication and Adam Mouchtar as a Special Editorial Advisor on European Affairs. 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  
June 30, 2017