

Editor's Note

As we are posting the December 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 "Combating Biological Terrorism: Roadmaps for Global Strategies," "Al-Qa'ida: Sixteen Years After 9/11 and Beyond," "Can the State-System and Separatism Co-Exist?" and "Czech Republic-U.S. Strategic Partnership." 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 "Preventing WMD Terrorism: Ten Perspectives" (August 2017), "Terrorism and the Rule of Law: Selected Perspectives" (September 2017), and "The Role of Diplomacy in Combating Terrorism: Selected U.S. Perspectives" (November 2017) as well as the Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense report on "Defense of Animal Agriculture" (October 2017). In addition, special commentary on "Understanding Russia: What's Around the Corner?" was provided by MEP Antanas Guoga (Lithuania).

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 Angel Chaverri (University of California Santa Barbara), Trev Hadachek (American University), Emily Kennedy (University of Maryland), Renae Lee (University of Maryland), Charles Murphy (American University), and Isaac Shorser (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. We also express our appreciation to Lisa Winton, Managing Editor of our publication, and Adam Mouchtar, 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.

Best wishes for the holidays and for a peaceful and productive 2018,

Yonah Alexander
Editor-in-Chief
December 21, 2017