

Editor's Note

As we are posting the March 2018 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.

First, it is with deep sadness that we report that our friend and colleague General Guillermo Velarde (President of the Instituto de Fusión Nuclear) passed away. Professor Natividad Carpintero-Santamaría (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid) prepared an In Memoriam on General Velarde's unique contributions to the security concerns of Spain and the international community

Second, this issue consists of selected presentations by invited speakers from both the public and private sectors that were delivered at several seminars held at the end of 2017 and beginning of 2018. Topics covered include security challenges in the Balkans as well as an Israeli perspective on counterterrorism. Updated electronic and printed versions of these topics will be published subsequently.

Third, items incorporated in this issue also include a special report published in hard copy "Combating Biological Terrorism: Roadmaps for Global Strategies" as well as special commentary on "We need to ban terrorist from our sacred halls" provided by MEP Tomas Zdechovsky (Christian and Democratic Union-Czechoslovak People's Party).

Fourth, 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 Lilli Abraham (George Washington University), Julieta Barbiero (American University), Gabriella Garrett (Wichita State University), Gabrielle Labitt (University of Massachusetts Lowell), Hunter McWilliams (Skidmore College), Samuel Ridge (University of California Berkeley), and Abdulrahman Sane (University of California Davis).

Lastly, 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 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.

Yonah Alexander
Editor-in-Chief
March 30, 2018