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NATO SPS Programme Advanced Research Workshop

Countering violent extremism among youth to prevent terrorism

Milan, 10-13 June 2014

Aseri - Via S. Vittore, 18 - 20123 Milan (Italy)

PARTICIPANT PACKAGE

Detailed participants list

Abstracts



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Mayor Pete Airey
NATO Centre of Excellence | Defence Against Terrorism
coursedir@coedat.nato.int
coedat.uk@gmail.com

Major Pete Airey is a British Army officer. He is currently the Senior National Representative, and Activity Director, at the NATO Centre of Excellence for Defence Against Terrorism, in Ankara, Turkey. He has served three operational tours in combat roles in Helmand Province, Afghanistan (2006, 2008 and 2010). Subsequently, he served as a team leader in a UK Military Counter Terrorism Capacity Building Unit on various assignments abroad. He has a Master's degree in International Security, and is also a graduate of the UK Joint Services Command and Staff College.

Mr. Cristian Barna
National Intelligence Academy
cristibarna@yahoo.com

Cristian Barna is Associate Professor at the "Mihai Viteazul" National Intelligence Academy (Bucharest, Romania), the Head of the Political Science and International Relations Department and former practitioner in the field of intelligence. He is also visiting professor at Bucharest University, The Faculty of Sociology. He holds a PhD in Sociology and his area of expertise are applied sociology, intelligence and security studies, geopolitics, security organizations, organized crime and terrorism.

Mrs. Vivienne Chin
Associate
International Centre for Criminal Law Reform
and Criminal Justice Policy, Vancouver, Canada
viviennechin@shaw.ca

Vivienne is a criminal justice professional with more than 25 years of experience in the security and justice sectors, having worked in a government service (Singapore), an inter-governmental agency (Commonwealth Secretariat, London), a non-governmental professional organization (Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association, London) and currently a United Nations affiliated research institute (International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, Vancouver).

She has focused on the promotion of the rule of law and good governance, human rights, peace-building, criminal justice reform and policy development, and institution building in post-conflict societies. This includes programmes to assist the effective implementation of international standards and norms and international treaties in particular those relating to counter-terrorism, transnational organized crime, human trafficking and smuggling, women's rights and violence against women, corruption, juvenile justice, youth at risk, crime prevention, prison reform and the social reintegration of young and adult offenders.



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Prof. Yvon Dandurand
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of the Fraser Valley,
Abbotsford, BC and International Centre for criminal Law Reform and Criminal
Justice Policy, Vancouver, Canada

Yvon.Dandurand@ufv.ca

Yvon Dandurand is a member of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of the Fraser Valley and a Senior Associate of the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, a United Nations affiliated research institute. He specializes in comparative criminal law and criminal justice research. He has been involved in numerous criminal justice reform and capacity building projects in Canada and abroad, including several projects and studies in the areas of terrorism, organized crime, human trafficking, witness protection, corruption, and crime prevention. He conducted research on counter-terrorism measures and on international cooperation in the fight against terrorism. He co-authored a study, on behalf of the Terrorism Prevention Branch, UNODC, on the link between organized crime and terrorism. He conducted international consultations in Africa and prepared a draft "Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Financing Policy" for the African Development Bank - Tunis. He drafted a Handbook on Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism, published by the UNODC, focusing on the measures required to build the capacity of criminal justice systems and strengthen the rule of law while facing the many challenges associated with implementing the global conventions and protocols relating to terrorism.

Mr. Valerio de Divitiis
Italian Team for Security, Terroristic Issues & Managing Emergencies (ITSTIME)
Catholic University of Sacred Heart
dedivitiis@gmail.com

Mr. Valerio de Divitiis joined the Italian Team for Security Terroristic Issues & Managing Emergencies (ITSTIME) Research Centre at Università Cattolica in 2014. After completing his studies in International Relations and Geopolitics (2007) focusing on terrorism and transnational organised crime topics, since 2008 Valerio has been working at international/multilateral level through serving the Action against Terrorism Unit of the OSCE, the Rule of Law Unit of the UNODC in Iran (2009-2011), the Mission to Montenegro of the IOM (2010), the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (2012) as well as the UNODC Regional Section for Europe and Central/West Asia (2013). In the same year Valerio consulted for the EU Parliament-Grand National Assembly of Turkey Exchange and Dialogue Project to sustain convergence of understanding on Terrorism matters. Currently, as independent expert, Valerio assists the EC in the field of Justice, Freedom and Security with particular regard to counter terrorism/violent extremism, he is researcher at the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISISC) as well as he is acting advisor for the NATO Center of Excellence-Defence Against Terrorism. Since 2007 Valerio has been contributing to the NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme to support cooperation among the NATO and its Partner Countries to address common security threats



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Assoc. Prof. Siddik Ekici
Acting Security Counsellor - Turkish Embassy
ekicisd@hotmail.com

Currently works as the Acting Security Counsellor at the Turkish Embassy in Vienna-Austria and holds the rank of Chief Superintendent, 3rd Grade in the Turkish National Police.

Within the Turkish National Police, he served in various departments and as the Chief of Police of several important districts in Turkey.

He obtained his Masters Degree in Criminal Justice and his PhD Degree in Public Administration from the University of North Texas in the USA. His doctoral dissertation focuses on the reasons why individuals join terror groups and his continuing studies are merely about terrorism, radicalization, juvenile delinquency, public administration, security policies and emergency management.

Dr. Sajjan Gohel
London School of Economics
S.M.Gohel@lse.ac.uk

Dr. Sajjan Gohel's research interests include Islamist Ideology and doctrine; trans-national political violence; the role of New Media for strategic communications and protest movements; comparative Middle East, South Asia and East Asia politics, Dr. Gohel is International Security Director for the Asia-Pacific Foundation (APF) think-tank which provides analysis on a variety of global security and geo-political issues and is frequently consulted by governmental and military bodies.

In addition, Dr. Gohel has written Op-Ed pieces for print media as well as serving as a guest commentator for television and radio news networks including for the BBC, ITN, Sky News, CNN, ABC (United States), CBS, NBC, MSNBC, CTV, CBC, ABC (Australia), Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiya. Dr. Gohel is also a regular speaker at international conferences on terrorism and security issues. Dr. Gohel is currently on the editorial review board for the Naval Postgraduate School's journal 'Combating Terrorism Exchange' (CTX).

Dr. Gohel has written testimony and provided oral evidence for the United Kingdom's House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee on topics including 'Global Security: Afghanistan' (2009) and 'The UK's Foreign Policy Towards Afghanistan And Pakistan' (2010). In 2005, Dr. Gohel was asked by the United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHCR) to produce an assessment on the killing of prominent Lebanese politician Rafik Hariri and the political and security challenges that would arise from his death.

In 2005, Dr. Gohel formed part of a high-level working group that analysed the terrorist-related challenges and threats in Europe and produced a working paper for the then European Union counter-terrorism co-ordinator, Gijs De Vries.

Dr. Gohel serves as a visiting lecturer and teacher to the NATO School in Oberammergau (Germany), NATO Centre of Excellence Defence Against Terrorism in Ankara (Turkey) and the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies. He is also part of the 'Partnership for Peace Consortium: Combating Terrorism Working Group' organised by the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, the OSCE and NATO. Dr. Gohel received his BA (Hons) in Politics from Queen Mary, University of London. Dr. Gohel also obtained an MSc in Comparative Politics from the LSE and a PhD at the LSE entitled, 'Insurrection Of The Ideologues: The Evolution of Egyptian Radical Ideological Thought from Hasan al-Banna to Ayman al-Zawahiri.



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Mr. Abdi Ashur Hassan
Serendi and Hiil-Walaal Youth Rehabilitation centers
aah2@pc.dk

Academic career : MSc. in Electrical Engineering from University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST), UK.

Trained in Conflict Resolution, Austrian Study Center for Conflict Resolution (ASPR), Austria and University of Pisa, Italy.

Professional career :

Since 2012- Operations Manager, Serendi Rehabilitation Centre, Mogadishu, Somalia
Serendi is a rehabilitation centre for formal Al-Shabaab fighters.

1999 - 2012 Environmental manager, DONG Energy, Denmark. (DONG Energy is one of the Northern Europe's leading energy groups. www.dongenergy.com)

1995-1996 UNV sub-regional programme in Eastern Africa, UNDP, Programme Development Officer, Kenya

1994 - 1995 United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM), National Officer for Policy Research Analysis, Somalia.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rovshan Ibrahimov
Head of Foreign Policy Analysis Department Center for Strategic Analysis under the President of the Azerbaijan Republic
rovshanibrahimov@gmail.com

Born in Baku, Azerbaijan in 1975. Dr. Ibrahimov received bachelor degree on International Relations at Ankara University in 1998. Defended own master degree at the same University in 2001 (Thesis topic: the EU TACIS Program and Azerbaijan). In 2008 received Phd on political sciences from Ankara University (Thesis topic: The relations between the EU and the Southern Caucasus Republics).

Dr. Ibrahimov has worked at Qafqaz University since 1999. He has taken positions of Director for Center of Energy Studies, Head of Region Studies Department, and Vice-Rector on External Affairs. Since 2003 till today take a position of Head of International Relations, founder of this department.

Since 2011 Dr. Ibrahimov has taken position of Head of Foreign Policy Analysis at Center for Strategic Studies under the President of Azerbaijan Republic. Dr. Ibrahimov is the expert in the number of strategic centers in Turkey, Russia, and Great Britain.

2010-2012 Co-producer `Gundem` TV program on foreign policy. Research interest: Energy policy and security, Azerbaijan Foreign Policy, International Politics, Theories of International Relations, Conflict Studies. He has delivered lectures in Wroslaw University in Poland, Siegen University (Germany), SDU (Kazakhstan) and Oil Academy and Odlar Yurdu (Azerbaijan).

Author on more than hundred articles and comments.

Dr. Alexander Iskandaryan
Director of Caucasus Institute
iskand@c-i.am

Alexander Iskandaryan is a political scientist, the Director of the Yerevan-based Caucasus Institute. His areas of study are ethnopolitical conflicts, post-Communist transformations and nation building in the former USSR in general and in the Caucasus in particular. He has published, taught and spoken on the emergence of post-Soviet institutions, elites and identities; he has also conducted and supervised research on conflicts, migrations, discourses, media development and cross-border integration.



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Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal
Director and Associate Professor
School of Politics and International Relations
Quaid-I-Azam University

jaspal_99@hotmail.com / znjaspal@qau.edu.pk

Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal is Director and Associate Professor at the School of Politics and International Relations, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan, where he teaches various aspects of Strategic Studies; International Security; Nuclear/Missile Proliferation; Terrorism including CBNR Terrorism and Countermeasures; Arms Control/Disarmament; Domestic and Foreign Policies of the country. His is also a Lead Researcher/Convener of the Program in Domestic and International Security Communication (DISC) at the School.

He is advisor on Non-Proliferation to the South Asian Strategic Stability Institute, Islamabad/London and a Course Coordinator at the Foreign Services Academy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad. Prior to joining the University (in August 2002), Dr. Jaspal had been a Research Fellow at the Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad and Islamabad Policy Research Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan.

Dr. Jaspal, as a Guest Speaker/Visiting Lecturer, had delivered and still continues to deliver lectures at many professional and training institutions including distinguished NATO School, Oberammergau, Germany; Center of Excellence: Defence against Terrorism, Ankara, Turkey; National Security & War Courses of Pakistan's National Defence University; Intelligence Bureau Academy, Command and Staff College Quetta; Air War College, Karachi, and Foreign Service Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan.

He holds PhD and M. Phil in International Relations and M.A. in Political Science. His PhD dissertation title was: "South Asian Nuclearization: Implications for Regional Security and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime." He did advance Post Graduate Certificate courses in Peace and Conflict Studies, from European Peace University Stadtschlaining, Austria; Peace Research, International Relations and Foreign Policy Analysis from Oslo University, Norway. He also did CMC Training Course/ Cooperative Monitoring from Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States

Dr. Jaspal research interests include Proliferation of nuclear weapons and missiles systems, particularly in South Asia and Middle East; Arms Control/Disarmament and Nuclear Nonproliferation regime; Pakistan's internal and external security puzzles; Trends in the global and domestic politics of Pakistan; Terrorism, particularly CBRN Terrorism; and Bio-security.

Dr Jaspal is a widely published scholar with over 90 (50+ in HEC recognized Journals) academic research papers, monographs and chapters in edited volumes published in Pakistan and overseas. He participated as a speaker in more than 150 National and International Seminars/ Conferences/Workshops/Group meetings etc. He had regularly (Oct 2005-Sept 2013) wrote a weekly Column for Weekly Pulse Pakistan's leading English weekly. He also provides frequent expert commentary to international and local electronic media, i.e. BBC, PTV, ATV, Dawn, Pakistan Radio, Al Jazeera, Al Arabia, Press TV, Waqat TV, etc.



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Mr. Mehdi Knani
OSCE

Mehdi.Knani@osce.org

Mehdi Knani is Programme Manager on Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism (VERLT) in the Transnational Threats Department/Action against Terrorism unit of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the largest regional security arrangement under Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter. Mehdi is responsible for the design and implementation of capacity-building activities for requesting OSCE participating States, as well as broader co-ordination of the Organization's activities in the field of countering VERLT following a multi-dimensional approach, which upholds human rights and the rule of law and draws on multi-stakeholder collaboration. He recently co-authored a policy guidebook on "Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism: A Community-Policing Approach" and is leading on a joint initiative of the OSCE and the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) on women and countering violent extremism. Mehdi joined the Unit in 2007 and previously managed activities in the fields of public-private partnerships in countering terrorism; container and supply chain security; and non-nuclear critical infrastructure protection. Mehdi is a graduate of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques of Strasbourg, France, and the Vienna Diplomatic Academy, Austria.

Dr. Daniel Köhler
Institute for the Study of Radical Movements (ISRM)

daniel_koehler@freenet.de

Daniel Köhler obtained a degree in Magister Artium at Princeton University/Free University Berlin and he graduated as best of class 2010/2011 in the Master of Peace and Security Studies (University of Hamburg). He is currently Director of Research 'Institute for the Study of Radical Movements (ISRM)', Research Lead Hayat Counselling Program and Analyst and Scientific Advisor EXIT-Germany. His fields of study are Religious Studies; Political Science; Economics, International Relations, Peace and Security Studies.

Mr. Yani Kozaliev
Officer, National Intelligence Agency

yaniko30@gmail.com

2003-2014 : SANS SOFIA, National security, Religious extremism and terrorism

1999-2003 : Bachelor degree- Academy of ministry of interior

2003-2009 : Mater in Law faculty

Prof. Alexandre Kukhianidze
Professor of the Department of Political Science at Tbilisi State University)
Director of the Caucasus Office of Transnational Crime and Corruption Center
(TraCCC)

alex_kukhianidze@yahoo.com

Alexandre Kukhianidze is Professor of Political Science at Tbilisi State University (Georgia) and Director of the Caucasus Office of Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC). In 2013 he was visiting researcher of the Swedish Institute at



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Malmö University, in 2010-2011 – visiting researcher at the Monterey Institute of International Studies (USA), in 2000-2001 - Deputy Chief of Party of the USAID Local Government Reform Initiative (LGRI), and in 1998-2000 - Fulbright scholar at Mount Holyoke College and Johns Hopkins University (USA). He is member of the Political Science Association of Georgia. His research interests and publications are focused on issues of post-soviet organized crime, smuggling, corruption, civil security and conflicts in the Caucasus

Prof. Marco Lombardi
Catholic University of Sacred Heart
marco.lombardi@unicatt.it

Graduated with first class honours (110/110 Magna cum laude) in Humanities with a specialization in Social Communication Marco Lombardi is an Associated Professor at Faculty of Humanities, Catholic University in Milan. From 1994 to 2002 Marco used to be Researcher at the same university. In 2009 – 2011 he was responsible for the European risk analysis and security project L4S - Learning 4 Security (FP7). In 2008 he worked at Assessing Success and Failure in Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism, joint project with St. Andrews College (UK), financed by START, US Dpt. HS, University of Maryland. In 2006-2007, Perception of danger of female suicide terrorists in civil aviation, Research conducted by ITSTIME. In 2006, Le rotte utilizzate dagli jihadisti e il fenomeno del reducismo dei guerriglieri islamici, research financed by CEMISS Italian Military Center for Strategic Studies.

In 2012 Marco researched on the security and political situation in Libya, for the Italian Ministry of Foreign. From 2011 he is scientific director of the EU project System of Maps Assessing Risk of Terrorism against Critical Infrastructures in Big Events Rallies - Smart Ciber (CIPS 2010, EU Programme "Prevention, Preparedness and Consequence Management of Terrorism and other Security related risks" - EU) as well as for Università Cattolica Unit of the EU – FP7 Project IRISS - Increasing Resilience in Surveillance Societies. From 2007 Marco is scientific director of the project Terrorism in the virtual world: second life and jihad. In 2003 he founded ITSTIME – Italian Team for Security, Terroristic Issues & Managing Emergencies, Research Centre at Università Cattolica.

Prof. Farhad Mehdiyev
Qafqaz University of Baku
Chair of Department of International Law
f.mehdiyev@gmail.com

Prof. Peter Neumann
King's College London
peter.neumann@kcl.ac.uk

Prof. Reuven Paz
Director, The Project for the Research of Islamist Movements (PRISM)
The Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya
reupaz@netvision.net.il

Reuven Paz obtained a degree in history of the Middle East and Islam. From 2001 he is Senior research fellow in The International Policy Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT), the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya, Israel and from 2002 the Founder and



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Director of The Project for the Research of Islamist Movements (PRISM), the GLORIA Center, The Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya, Israel.

His fields of expertise are Palestinian society and politics, Arab minority in Israel together with Islam, Islamic movements in the Arab and Muslim world and Islamic Fundamentalism, Islamist international terrorist networks, and global Jihadi and Salafi ideology and culture, communism and Communist parties in the Arab world.

Ms. Eman Ragab
Al Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies (ACPSS)

eman82s@yahoo.com

Ms. Eman Ragab, is currently a senior researcher at the security and strategic studies unit, al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies ACPSS -Egypt. She is the managing editor of al-Malaf al-Masry , a monthly brief issued by ACPSS on developments in Egypt, and the editor of Badael , a quarterly periodical issued by ACPSS since 2011.

She cooperates with the Regional Center for Strategic Studies in Cairo, in many research projects focusing on regional relations in the Middle East (2011-now). She works also as a principle researcher in many research projects covering security developments in the Middle East.

Since 2011, she become a fellow in the Strategic Studies Network SSN organized by NESAS –National Defense University in the United States. In June 2009, she accomplished a Conflict Analysis Course organized by the United States Institute of Peace.

Eman served as a an analyst at al-Ahram Gate (news portal of alAhram newspaper) responsible for providing weekly analysis of developments in Egypt and the Middle East (June 2012-March 2014).She also served as a political analyst –Political issues unit, the Information and Decision Support Center IDSC –Egyptian Cabinet during July 2009 –Dec 2010. She also acted as the editor of Theoretical Trends in International Relations (a periodical supplement to the Journal of International Politics al-Siyassa al-Dawliya) (2011-2012).

Eman worked as an analyst of regional issues in the Middle East for al-Meethaq newspaper, Bahrain (July 2004- Feb. 2005); Research Assistant in Regional Security issues in the Gulf region, al-Meethaq newspaper, Bahrain, (Sep. 2004-Aug. 2005), and as a moderator of the Articles Section, Political Horizons website, (April 2004-2008).

Eman got her B.Sc. degree from the Faculty of Economics and Political Science - Cairo University (May 2004).She is a holder of M.A in political science, Faculty of Economics and Political Science - Cairo University (Jan.2009). She is also a Ph.D. Researcher, International Relations Course, Faculty of Economics and Political Science - Cairo University (Sep. 2009-Now).

Ms. Ragab participated in many national, regional, and international conferences and workshops, that discuss Gulf affairs, Iranian foreign policy, Egypt's foreign policy after the revolution, regional relations after the Arab Spring, conflict resolution, non state actors in the middle east, and security sector reform.

Eman published both in Arabic and English essays, articles, and research papers in International relations, security studies, societal and identity security issues, conflict resolution in the Middle East(intrastate , interstate, and regional conflicts), non- state actors in the Middle East and Arabian Gulf studies.

She published also 2 books on regional developments in the Middle East: the repercussions of Iraq war 2003 on the regional Arab System, non-traditional security threats in the Arab regions. She also acted as a contributing author to many books analyzing the regional developments in the Middle East.



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Prof. Ana Salinas De Frias
Public International Law, EU Law and International Relations
Malaga University
asalinas@uma.es

Professor Ana Salinas de Frías is Professor of Public International Law, EU Law and International Relations at Málaga University, Spain. She has been engaged in a number of multidisciplinary and multinational collaborative research projects involving universities, governments, and international organizations addressing a number of international law issues. Additionally, she has served as a Legal Adviser to the Directorate General of Legal Advice and Public International Law, Counter-Terrorism Task Force, at the Council of Europe, Strasbourg. Professor Salinas de Frías has been a visiting professor to a number of overseas universities and has published extensively on a range of issues, including human rights, the European Union, integration and immigration challenges, discrimination, judicial and police cooperation, and international terrorism.

Dr. Simon Saradzhyan
Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs
Simon_Saradzhyan@hks.harvard.edu

Simon Saradzhyan is assistant director of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism at Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. He has also been associate of Harvard's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies since 2012 and writes a regular column on international security issues for Russia's largest news organization – RIA Novosti. His research interests include international security, counter-terrorism, arms control as well as political affairs in post-Soviet states and their relations with major outside powers. Prior to joining the Belfer Center in 2008 Saradzhyan had worked as deputy editor of the Moscow Times and a consultant for the United Nations and World Bank. Saradzhyan has presented his research at conferences in Eurasia, Europe and North America. He is also a frequent contributor to media outlets and academic publications in these regions. Saradzhyan holds a graduate degree from the Harvard University.

Dr. Alex Schmid
Director, Terrorism Research Initiative
apschmid@gmail.com

Fellow-in-Residence, Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIAS), Wassenaar, The Hague. (2010-11) and Director of the Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence, Chair in International Relations – University of St. Andrews, Scotland (2006-2009).
Senior Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, UN Office on Drugs and Crime & Officer-in-Charge, Terrorism Prevention Branch, 1999 – 2005.
Alex Schmid is now a Visiting Research Fellow at International Centre for Counter-Terrorism; Director, Terrorism Research Initiative and the Editor-in-Chief of 'Perspectives on Terrorism'.



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Prof. Mark Sedgwick
Department of Culture and Society, University of Aarhus
MJS@teo.au.dk

Mark Sedgwick is professor of Arab and Islamic Studies at Aarhus University, Denmark. He works on terrorism and its history, and also on Sufism and on Islamic modernism. He previously taught for many years at the American University in Cairo, and was educated at the universities of Oxford and Bergen

Dr. Louise Shelley
University Professor, School of Public Policy,
Director, Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center
George Mason University
lshelley@gmu.edu

Dr. Louise Shelley is a University Professor at George Mason University. She is in the School of Public Policy and directs the Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC) that she founded. She is a leading expert on the relationship among terrorism, organized crime and corruption as well as human trafficking, transnational crime and terrorism with a particular focus on the former Soviet Union. She also specializes in illicit financial flows and money laundering.

Dr. Shelley received her undergraduate degree cum laude from Cornell University in Penology and Russian literature. She holds an M.A. in Criminology from the University of Pennsylvania. She studied at the Law Faculty of Moscow State University on IREX and Fulbright Fellowships and holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. She held a Fulbright and researched and taught on crime issues in Mexico. She has also taught on transnational crime in Italy. She is the recipient of the Guggenheim, NEH, IREX, Kennan Institute, and Fulbright Fellowships and received a MacArthur Grant to establish the Russian Organized Crime Study Centers. In 1992, she received the Scholar-Teacher prize of American University, the top academic award of the university.

Her most recent book: *Dirty Entanglements: Corruption, Crime and Terrorism* will be published by Cambridge University Press later this year. She is the author of *Human Trafficking: A Global Perspective* (Cambridge 2010), *Policing Soviet Society* (Routledge, 1996), *Lawyers in Soviet Worklife and Crime and Modernization*, as well as numerous articles and book chapters on all aspects of transnational crime and corruption.

From 1995-2014, Dr. Shelley ran programs in Russia, Ukraine and Georgia with leading specialists on the problems of organized crime and corruption. She has also been the principal investigator of large-scale projects on money laundering from Russia, Ukraine and Georgia and of training of law enforcement persons on the issue of trafficking in persons. She has testified before the House Committee on International Relations Committee, the Helsinki Commission, the House Banking Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on transnational crime, human trafficking and the links between transnational crime, financial crime and terrorism.



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PhD, Mehmet Alper Sozer
Associate Professor
Turkish National Police Academy
International Center for Terrorism and Transnational Crime (UTSAM)
masozer@yahoo.com

Mehmet Alper Sozer has graduated from Turkish National Police Academy in 1998. He recently serves as an Associate Professor at the Turkish National Police Academy. He earned his MS degree from Roger Williams University in 2005, and his PhD in 2008 from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. His research interests include radicalization, terrorism, crime prevention, community policing in countering-terrorism, and criminological theory. Dr. Sozer has been associated with the Turkish National Police Academy since 2008. He is currently teaching Psycho-Social Approach to Terrorism at the graduate school, and he is teaching Criminology at the undergraduate school of Turkish National Police Academy. He is simultaneously working as a Researcher at the International Center for Terrorism and Transnational Crime (UTSAM). He is author and co-author of several publications. His most recent international co-authored publication is presented in the journal of Studies in Conflict and Terrorism with the title of "Whom do they recruit? Profiling and recruitment in the PKK/KCK".

Dr. Hannah Stuart
Henry Jackson Society (HJS)

hannah.stuart@henryjacksonsociety.org

Hannah Stuart is a Research Fellow at HJS and has authored reports on extremism, terrorism and jihadist ideology as well as religious law and the role of religion in the public sphere. Hannah has a strong research record and her work has informed UK government policy. She gave testimony to the UK Home Affairs Select Committee on radicalisation. She has written analysis for the Wall Street Journal, The Times, Foreign Policy, Current Trends in Islamist Ideology, and the Guardian, among others. Hannah has a MA in International Studies and Diplomacy (with Distinction) from the School of Oriental and African Studies, and a BA in English Literature from the University of Bristol.

Dr. Michael Switkes
Science for Peace and Security Programme NATO Emerging Securities
Challenges Division

switkes.michael@hq.nato.int

Michael Switkes is the Science Advisor in the Counter Terrorism Section of the Emerging Securities Challenges Division at NATO Headquarters. His primary responsibility is the development of practical counter-terrorism programs within NATO. He also helps to manage the NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme, developing and administering international events and cooperative research projects. Prior to joining NATO, Michael worked at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, a US-government affiliated research laboratory where he developed technology solutions for national security applications including, among other things, semiconductor lithography and sensing technologies. He holds a Ph.D. in physics from Stanford University.



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Mr. Ivo Veenkamp
Chief Operating Officer at Hedayah
ivo.veenkamp@hedayah.ae

Mr. Ivo Veenkamp is the Chief Operating Officer at Hedayah, the International Center of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism, based in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Hedayah is an independent international organization initiated through the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF). Prior to this, Mr. Veenkamp was the Director for Policy and Strategy of the National Coordinator for Counter-Terrorism and Security of The Netherlands for more than five years. In this capacity he was responsible for counterterrorism and CVE policy, the first national CT strategy and international cooperation. He contributed to many international meetings as a chairman and speaker on CT and CVE issues and was actively involved in the GCTF from its inception. Before this, Mr. Veenkamp was the Director for Modernizing Civic Integration Policy at the Ministry of Security and Justice and the Head of Urban Policy at the Ministry of the Interior. He started his career as a Management Consultant at the Government and Non-Profit group KPMG Consulting. He was selected for the leadership development program of the Dutch senior civil service and joined the senior civil service shortly after. Mr. Veenkamp has master degrees in both Political Science and Psychology (cum laude) from the University of Amsterdam.

Prof. Emilio C. Viano
President, Scientific Commission International Society for Criminology
emilio.viano@gmail.com

Emilio C. Viano has earned several law degrees in the U.K. and U.S. and a Ph.D. ("summa cum laude") at New York University.

He has been Professor at American University, the Washington College of Law and other universities worldwide, including the Inter-American Defense College. He is President of the Scientific Commission of the International Society for Criminology and General Reporter on Cybercrime for the International Association of Penal Law. He is also President of the international group, Bellagio Forum for Security and Development.

In 2012 he received the "Hans Von Hentig" Prize, the highest recognition of the World Society of Victimology awarded every 4 years. Presently, he is also the Program Chair for the 17th World Congress of Criminology to be held in Mexico, 10-14 August 2014.

Dr. Viano has published extensively. He is a recognized political analyst interviewed on CNN, Voice of America, Russian TV, CCTV, UNIVISION, NTN24, Telesur, and several others.

Dr. Kamil Yılmaz
International Center for Terrorism and Transnational Crime (UTSAM)
ky2151@columbia.edu

Kamil Yılmaz has a PhD in applied (political) anthropology from Columbia University (2012) and works for the Turkish Ministry of Interior since 1998. He is currently based at the International Center for Terrorism and Transnational Crime (UTSAM) in Ankara where he works as a researcher and a lecturer. Before his PhD, he obtained a Master degree in Criminal Justice from John Jay College of CRJ in New York and three Master degrees from Columbia University in the fields of international affairs, political anthropology and applied anthropology. He worked at various international institutions including the United Nations (New York/Beirut) and the Southeast European Law



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Enforcement Center (SELEC) in Bucharest, Romania. His research interests include political violence, radicalization and deradicalization processes related to terrorism, identity politics, elite formation and circulation, as well as international security and relations. His publications include 'Disengaging from Terrorism: Lessons from the Turkish Penitents (upcoming, 2014, by Routledge), 'Whom Do They Recruit?: Profiling and Recruitment in the PKK/KCK (2014), 'Politics of Repentance in Turkey (2012)', 'The Emergence and Rise of Conservative Elite in Turkey (2009)', 'Iran as a Nuclear Power: A Precarious Dilemma for Turkey (2009),' 'The Rise of Radical Islam in Post-Soviet Space: Fiction or Reality? (2007),' 'US Preemption on Iran? An Estimative Analysis in Light of the Neo-Realist Theory (2006).'

Mr. Munir Zamir
Fida Management

munirzamir@gmail.com

Munir Zamir created Fida Management in order to help with addressing the pressing issues facing the counter- terrorism world. With over a decades worth of personal and professional experience in working at grassroots level with local and central government, Munir is passionate about presenting a balanced and considered response to the need of the counter-terrorism community and the communities that are affected by terrorism/extremism.

Coming from a minority background and being a disabled person, gives Munir a unique ability to express issues, grievances and factors from a diverse range of subject areas including faith, identity and research, Munir has combined the rigor of academia with the real word experiences of extremism, discrimination and marginalization to create an organisation that produces cutting edge work.

Mr Zamir has been working to this effect within communities to engage young people in positive and also trained over two thousand law enforcement and public sector staff from across the U.K and abroad on better understanding the processes of radicalisation and the narratives that underpin them.

From International Governments to youth conferences, Munir is a presenter able to take the audience on a journey as well as inform them.

He has recently completed his MSc in Terrorism Studies from the University of East London, receiving a distinction for his dissertation thesis entitled "Concepts of Radicalisation and de-radicalisation as applied to Al-Qaeda ideology in the UK Prevent Strategy Context".

Bringin personal, practitioner and academic understanding to counter-terrorism issues, Munir's appraoch and insight is unique but also grounded in "real-wolrld" experience

Participants

Mr. Alessandro Burato

Italian Team for Security, Terroristic Issues & Managing Emergencies (ITSTIME)

alessandro.burato@itstime.it

Mr. Alessandro Burato is a member of the Italian Team for Security, Terroristic Issues & Managing Emergencies (ITSTIME) Research Centre at Università Cattolica since 2013. He obtained a degree in philosophy (2012) and then a Msc in Risk Analysis at the King's College London (2013). Throughout all his studies he has been keen on communication issues approached from different points of view. He wrote a dissertation about the role of communication in emergency situations such as the Twin



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Towers attack and the London bombings event in 2005. During the Master he focused on crisis management and the analysis and communication of different risks, varying from natural to man-made. Moreover, he had the chance to broaden his experience attending political risk analysis and critical geography of terrorism courses.

For ITSTIME he was a speaker during a two-days seminary about the use of social media during major disasters.

Dr. Giovanni Pasqua
Istituto Superiore Internazionale di Scienze Criminali (ISISC)

Dr. Giovanni Pasqua is the current Scientific Advisor to the President of the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISISC). He is responsible for the resource mobilization and fund raising activities, for liaising with the national and international donors and partners and for the selection of international experts for the Institute's technical assistance programs.

Prior to this, he was a Long Term Expert on Criminal Justice in the framework of the project EURALIUS III - Consolidation of the Justice System in Albania, an EU-funded Project (IPA 2009). He was responsible of technical assistance programs on criminal justice matters in favour of the Albanian Ministry of Justice and General Prosecutor's Office, aiming mainly at bringing the Albanian criminal justice system in accordance with the EU acquis, reducing the length of criminal proceedings, implementing their legislation in international cooperation in criminal matters.

For 10 years, between 2001 and 2011, Dr. Pasqua has been the Scientific Director of the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISISC), being in charge of the scientific direction and supervision of all the Institute's programs in the field of international criminal law; project management; public relations; fund rising; design and implementation of training programs; monitoring and evaluating operational activities at the headquarters and in the field, with particular reference to Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, and Macedonia.



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PAPER ABSTRACTS

Mr. Cristian Barna

**The road to Jihad in Syria.
Using SOCMINT in countering the radicalization of Muslim youth from Romania**

A shadow war appears to be taking place in Syria, with al-Qaida-aligned groups (or not so much aligned!) playing an important part in the fight against the forces loyal to Bashar al Assad's regime. Syrian rebels would be poorly organized if they would not be supported by al-Qaida or by the influx of jihadists which enforce discipline amongst rebels by religious fervor and by the combat experience they have acquired in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Egypt.

Most jihadists operating in Syria come from Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq, North Africa but there is also another category consisting of young Muslims who live in Europe and have gone to Syria to take part in the civil war. Therefore, Western countries could be faced with a dangerous situation when those who survive the conflict in Syria come back to their home countries with an enriched jihadist experience.

That is why NATO must make sure that al-Qaida will not be able to hijack the Syrian uprising and turn Syria into a "sanctuary for jihadists", a preeminent location for al-Qaida-aligned groups to recruit and to train jihadists, some of whom might be used to conduct attacks outside the country.

In this respect, NATO must develop a viable strategy on immigration control, mainly for its Members States which have a Muslim population in their midst. The threat comes from al-Qaida-aligned groups which try to infiltrate in Western states by encouraging the radicalization of young Muslims living in Europe during an unpredictable process, at the end of a solitary and invisible journey.

Romania, as other European states, has a Muslim community coming from Syria and its neighbouring states. Unfortunately, some of these Muslims are known to be sympathizers of al-Qaida-aligned groups acting in Syria, who continue to conduct activities on their behalf after their move to Romania. For instance, in December 2013, an al-Qaida site announced the death of Abu Mohammad al Rumani (from Romania) on the battlefield in Syria.

Given the aforementioned, the aim of this study is to analyze the way in which the sympathizers of al-Qaida-aligned groups acting in Syria are trying to find new adepts within the Romanian Muslim community using the new media, mainly forums, blogs and social networks. Based on this analysis and with the help of SOCMINT we will then try to identify, several possible strategies for countering the radicalization of young Muslims from Romania, which might prove viable in other NATO member states as well.

Mrs. Vivienne Chin

The Radicalisation of Youth: Collateral damage of counter terrorism measures or the inevitable consequence of the social exclusion and marginalisation of vulnerable groups?"

Marginalization, alienation and the resulting sense of injustice and victimization can not only justify and help rationalize extremist beliefs, but they can also render whole communities vulnerable to exploitation by radical elements. Efforts to explain the

radicalization of youth rarely do more than casually acknowledge that many of the youth at risk are vulnerable to indoctrination and recruitment by radical or criminal elements essentially because they belong to disempowered, marginalized and vulnerable minority groups. Many factors render these groups more vulnerable to the pressures exercised by terrorist and criminal groups and less able to defend themselves. Among those factors, one finds the differential social and psychological impact of various counter-terrorism measures on the marginalized groups. Too little attention has been paid to the unintended impact on these vulnerable groups of the various measures taken to combat organized crime and terrorism. We have typically failed to look carefully at how several counter-terrorism and counter-radicalization measures have enhanced the isolation, stigmatization, and vulnerability of some diasporas, immigrants and other minority groups. Another factor is the fear and intimidation generated by these groups. Some communities are basically held hostage by criminal or radical groups, living under a climate of fear, as victims of violence and intimidation. The presentation will consider available research evidence on effective strategies, including broad inclusion programmes, to protect and support vulnerable groups whose youth is at risk and counter their growing exclusion and marginalization.

Prof. Yvon Dandurand

Social inclusion programmes and their contribution to the prevention of violent extremism

The unresolved difficulty in defining radicalization and radicalism is well documented. The most recent research suggests that radicalization, and more specifically, involvement in terrorism, is probably best understood as a set of diverse processes. However, the processes and drivers of individual and collective mobilisation and disengagement are still poorly understood. If, as most of us suspect, effective approaches to counter violent extremism require an understanding of the pathways into and out of violent extremism, a question well worth asking is: “are the pathways that bring youths to fill the ranks of militaries, militias, gangs, and terrorist groups so different from each other?” However, the ways in which individuals move from simply being frustrated or angry to an acceptance of violence as a mode of political struggle are far from well understood, but it is certainly not clear that the process in question is very different for a would-be terrorist than for a would-be gang member. In reality, it may not be that helpful to focus, as most researchers have, on the role of ideology and extremist beliefs in order to understand these pathways. Fanatically embracing an ideology is not a necessary precursor to terrorism or, for that matter, to a violent criminal career as a member of a gang. The paper examines the possible application of evidence-based gang recruitment prevention, gang desistance, and youth inclusion programmes as a basis for more realistic interventions to prevent violent extremism and to break the pathways to crime and violence.

Assoc. Prof. Siddik Ekici

Countering Violent Extremism: The Turkish Case

Terrorism organizations depend on human factor just like any other organization. Anybody capable of serving the organization and possibly to be recruited are automatically within the interest of terror organizations. One approach of countering terrorism could also be through developing measures to intervene the process that turns youth into violent extremists. Therefore, ideas or projects that discourage membership of youth to terror groups could be essential in such an endeavor.

This article does an in depth literature study in which it reviews the terrorism history that has been going on for the last 35 years and has taken around 35 thousand lives in Turkey. It introduces actually applied counter terror measures developed within the country that aimed to make both youth and elderly return to their homes or keep them away from the harms of terror organization. The applications in this regard in Turkey can be viewed as unique supportive counter measures that support traditional militaristic operations on a continuing base. Although, subject projects effectiveness have not been measured academically so far the author, who also served in Diyarbakir region as a District Police Chief where the PKK terrorist organization has been very active, shares his personal experiences and marks his own evaluations in regard to their effectiveness based on the results they acquired from these efforts.

Hence, the article argues that the long lasting traditional militaristic measures were effective for specific time periods. But aftermath the operations the terror threat reappeared in the region. In other words, they lacked the aspect to turn the short term positive results into long lasting ones because traditional militaristic approaches ignored the multifaceted side of the problem. Once the supportive non-militaristic counter terror approaches were commenced, the terror organization[s] (mainly PKK) lost hundreds and even several thousand men power due to abandonments from the terror organizations. Hence, the study suggests that militaristic counter terror operations are necessary as long as there are terror groups referring to arms, but they are not sufficient enough to diminish the number of youth extremism and recruitment. Eventually, non-militaristic supportive counter terror measures and militaristic ones (when necessary) should be used together wisely in order to see effective and lasting secure communities.

Dr. Sajjan Gohel

The International and Domestic Challenges in Countering the Ideological Narrative in Britain.

Since the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, British nationals have travelled abroad to fight in battles where there has been a religious and ideological motive and compulsion. In many instances, these Britons return home to the UK after seeing combat and reintegrate back into society. However, since the mid-1990s, and especially following the September 11, 2001 attack, there have been many cases where Britons have returned home with the skills and ideological compulsions to carry out attacks against their host societies. Conflicts ranging from Bosnia, Kashmir, Chechnya, Afghanistan, Iraq and most recently Syria are an illustration of a problem and pattern that has emerged and will continue to pose a threat to British society.

Furthermore, a pertinent line of inquiry is to ascertain if recruitment is through the internet or via direct contact with ideologues or a combination of both. The ideological narrative is a fundamental component and understanding its inner logic and ability to motivate and galvanise is key in order to better comprehend the complex challenges that exist in Britain. The act of insurrection is not just an act of violence but foremost an act of communication. If we only see the violence of terrorism and not its hidden communicative goal, we miss the central point of the ideologues, namely that it is a form of psychological warfare to recruit and indoctrinate new adherents.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rovshan Ibrahimov

Degree of influence of "the Arab Spring" on the Caucasus region and possible radicalization effect because of events in Syria

Processes, which begun in the end of December, 2010, with the escalations in Tunisia, had a radical impact on neighboring Arab countries and later were called as "Arab Spring", implying an expectation rather than a real action on the issue of reforms of the public order in the region. Processes in the Arab world have made great response worldwide. It was expected that the processes occurring here may have a "domino effect" in other parts of Eurasia. Especially in those regions where Muslim population is consist majority. Based on this fact, it was expected that the events which have occurred in the North Africa and the Middle East may have an impact on regions which have similar social formation. In this sense the Caucasus region is also not become an exception. Caucasus itself politically divided into two parts: the north of which is close to Russia, and the south, consists of three independent states of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia. It is worth noting that with few exceptions, almost all the population of the North Caucasus are Muslims. In the south Azerbaijan is the only Muslim state; a sufficient number of people professing Islam live in Georgia. The objective of this study is to determine the degree of "Arab Spring" influence firstly in Azerbaijan and on Caucasus region in general and how and in what extent the events in Syria could lead to the radicalization of the region as a whole.

Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal

Prevention and Deradicalization of Youth: Imperative for Counter-terrorism

The terrorist organizations, always, target youth for recruitment because they are vulnerable or amenable for indoctrination. They employ various techniques to recruit the young boy for the sake of militancy — guerilla warfare, suicide attacks, intelligence gathering for terrorist acts, etc. The recruited youth's receptive mind is simple to be exploited for radicalization and training for suicide mission. In the Muslim societies, the Mudrassa (traditional educational institution) is used by the extremist organizations for both recruiting and radicalization. The sustainable counterterrorism strategy obliges that a realistic approach should be adopted to prevent the young members of the society from both recruitment and radicalization so that they could not be manipulated for terrorist acts.

Dr. Daniel Köhler

De-radicalization and Disengagement Programs as Counter-Terrorism and Prevention Tools. Insights From Field Experiences regarding German Right-Wing Extremism and Jihadism.

The paper will explore the theoretical background and state of the research in regard to De-radicalization and Disengagement Programs (DDPs i.e. 'Exit Programs') as counter-terrorism and prevention tools against violent radicalization leading to terrorism. Introducing the theory of a 'counter-terrorism network' working on three social scales (macro-, meso-, and micro-social) and three impact levels (prevention, repression, intervention) the paper will explore in detail how exactly de-radicalization programs can yield a high impact on radical milieus and become a cornerstone of a society's resilience. In addition the paper will give a broad introduction to de-

radicalization studies and an overview of relevant research in the field. Case studies and insights from two of the world's most successful programs will show how the theory might work in practice: EXIT-Germany (counselling highly radicalized individuals wanting to leave the German extreme right-wing scene) and HAYAT (a German family counselling program for the relatives of Jihadists and Foreign Fighters, as well as of individuals on the path of non-violent radicalization). Both programs have been running for some time (EXIT since 2000 and HAYAT since 2011) and have yielded an enormous amount of primary data on the practice of de-radicalization and the impact these programs can have on highly radical milieus. As both programs were initially designed as non-state actor counter-terrorism programs the paper will compare the practical insights derived from these two programs in light of the 'counter-terrorism network' theory. The paper will conclude with a summarizing theory of de-radicalization programs as counter-terrorism and prevention tools and how these programs can be set-up effectively in order to achieve this end.

Mr. Yani Kozaliev

Intelligence and counter violent radicalization in the Balkans. National perspectives: A case study of "Al Wakf al Islami"

Historical review of the process triggering the acts of Islamic radicalization and extreme behavior on that base – Balkans and Bulgaria in particular. War conflicts in the western part of the peninsula and the role of Islamic NGO's - propaganda and huge financing. Current aspects of violent radicalization among the young Muslims in Bulgaria. Target groups – people who lack of religious and national self identity. The court case of illegal local organization "Al Wakf al Islami". The juridical point of view and available evidence. Countering violent radicalization – low enforcement measures and moderate Islamic factors /spiritual leaders and official religious institutions/.

Prof. Alexandre Kukhianidze

Russians and 'Persons of Caucasian Nationality': Radicalism and Extremism on Social Media.

Many political writers believed that the soviet collapse will lead to a new wave of democratization in December 1991. Instead, Russia and most of the former soviet republics have been in a state of profound political, economic, social, and moral crisis. Armed conflicts, increasing radical nationalism, extremism, organized crime and corruption followed attempts to create new nation-states. Five out of six armed conflicts in the former soviet republics occurred in the Caucasus region. The article analyzes the processes of sustainable confrontation between Russian radical nationalists and the so-called 'persons of Caucasian nationality,' and how they are reflected in the social media. The author makes conclusion that this process is only a part of a growing confrontation between increasingly nationalistic forces in Russia and the West.

Prof. Farhad Mehdiyev

Young salafi fighters in Syrian opposition : al-Kaeda traces?

Syrian war changed its appearance during last 2 years: Free Syrian Army diminished and organizations like ISIS took over opposition block in war with Asad and other rebel

groups.

But the biggest difference between ISIS and FSA is that the first represents radical Islamic groups while FSA regarded as moderate sunni organization.

Important point is that international jihadists join ISIS and no other rebel group. The most of those jihadist persons under 30 years old. Considering that Asad represents the alavits and Hizbollah the shia groups, anti – Asad opposition is sunni and the ISIS is the most radical anti-Asad coalition, primarily consisted from salafits.

It is important what is the influence of Al-Kaida within ISIS and international jihadists who fight in Syrian war. Security threat in this issue is hidden under probability of participation of the jihadist in the other conflicts over the world and their possible involvement in terrorist acts in different countries over the world. So the security concerns here require tracing all jihadists during the conflict and their movements.

Ms. Eman Ragab

Challenges of Countering terrorism in the Middle East after the Arab Revolutions:

This paper argues that terrorism as a threat to national security in the Middle East since the Arab revolutions, witnessed transformations that raises many challenges of countering it regionally as well as nationally. Terrorism strategies adopted by terrorist organizations in the Middle East in post Arab revolutions era, and the type of individuals recruited by these organizations are not the same as those were active in the region during the 1990s, which triggers new wave of terrorism in the region.

In this context, this paper is examining two main challenges in countering this new wave terrorism in the Middle East. First is the absence of a shared perception of terrorism as a threat to national security between regional powers in the Middle East. The definition of terrorism is still debatable, due to the intersections between terrorism, extremism, jihadism and the violent opposition especially in countries going through complicated transitional periods like Egypt , Bahrain, Yemen and Syria. Second, militarization of countering terrorism, versus social eradication of terrorism is still dividing the countries in the regions, which make it difficult to have effective regional mechanisms to fight terrorism.

Dr. Alex Schmid

Terrorism Prevention: What Is in Our Toolbox? Insights on the Causes of Radicalisation and Avenues for Countering Violent Extremism

Prevention has been the stepchild of countering terrorism. However, our toolbox is not empty and we can borrow from crime prevention, conflict prevention and other types of social and political interventions into the activities of social movements and their more destructive splinter groups. The focus of the paper is on vulnerable young Muslims (and converts to Islamism) in Western diasporas. We can compare their often difficult and uncertain life situations with the one of successful mainstream youth. In general, young people need (i) responsible parents and intact families, (ii) affordable quality education to provide them with skills and develop their talents. Youth also needs (iii) challenging extra-curricular activities, (iv) formal and informal opportunities to engage with the opposite sex, (v) cultural exchanges to learn about other ways of life, (vi) religious guidance and, by the time they are leaving school, they need (vii) fulfilling

jobs. The extent to which governments, civil society and local communities can provide all this varies greatly in European societies and among their Muslim diasporas. Failure to provide young people with the essential elements for successful positive identity formation may result in (i) emigration to other countries where more opportunities exist, (ii) escape into the virtual world of the internet, (iii) depression and other mental health problems, (iv) drug and alcohol abuse, (v) the formation of youth gangs involved in crime, (vi) joining religious sects, or (vii) becoming part of militant extremist groups espousing terrorism at home or abroad. The paper will review the repertoire of possible interventions, especially on the community level, to prevent radicalisation and counter violent extremism.

Prof. Mark Sedgwick

Radicalisation and counter-radicalisation among Danish youth: An empirical study

The paper reports a pioneering attempt to map radicalization across the entire territory of Denmark. The conclusion of this empirical study was that there were few if any radical milieus of any significance in Denmark, but that there were radical individuals, criminal milieus, and also political, religious and even educational organizations that could not in themselves be described as radical, but were associated with radical individuals. These conclusions might have important implications for counter-radicalization policies, but have to be interpreted cautiously given the theoretical and methodological difficulties that the study encountered.

Dr. Louise Shelley

Corruption and Youth's Recruitment into Violent Extremism

Youth are vulnerable to recruitment into extremist groups which may commit terrorist acts when they inhabit environments with extremely high levels of corruption. This corruption includes both daily low-level corruption and the high level corruption that drains resources from countries and undermines the possibility of foreign direct investment. In the absence of possibilities for employment and in an environment of pervasive cynicism, youth are drawn into and can be recruited for extremist organizations. This phenomenon has been observed in many regions ranging from the Sahel, North Africa to the Middle East, Central Asia and Afghanistan and Pakistan. Terrorist groups often provide social services in an attempt to recruit youth who can subsequently be radicalized.

The centrality of corruption to the problem of youth recruitment has not received the attention it deserves nor has been it been recognized for its galvanizing force in many regions of the world. This paper will discuss its influence and the reasons it must be more central to the discussions of violent extremism.

PhD, Mehmet Alper Sozer

Groundwork against Violent Extremism in Turkey

Turkey has been fighting against all sorts of violent extremism for over 40 years. Although there have been many lessons learnt, there is still a long path to wend in

fighting against violent extremism. Turkey has recently taken a holistic approach to fight against terrorism that consists of several pillars. This paper attempts to present just one aspect of Turkey's preventive approach in fighting against violent extremism that leads to terrorism. Among several institutions, prevention efforts of Turkish National Police, one of the foremost leading agency that sparks other institutions' effort in countering terrorism, is presented in this paper. TNP has a ternary prevention strategy. Primary prevention targets the general public, secondary prevention targets risk groups, and tertiary prevention targets convicted offenders. This paper depicts each stage, and demonstrates their extent.

Mr. Ivo Veenkamp

International approaches to building youth resilience to violent extremism

The focus of international and national strategies for countering terrorism in the past decade has shifted from using hard security measures alone to combat terrorism, to a more multi-sectoral and whole-of-society approach, now referred to as countering violent extremism (CVE). For example, multilateral organizations such as the United Nations are focusing on CVE through Pillar 1 of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which addresses "conditions conducive" to the spread of terrorism. This new approach is also apparent through the formation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF) as a multilateral platform for addressing counter-terrorism issues, and the subsequent establishment of Hedayah, the International Center of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism, as the first institution to solely focus its efforts in long-term, preventive measures to foster community resilience against violent extremism and terrorism. The CVE programs and policies that are emerging both out of the UN, the GCTF, Hedayah and the broader international community are based on an established, evidence-based methodology that 1) identifies root causes or push-and-pull factors that lead to recruitment into violent extremism, and 2) designs interventions that specifically eliminating these root causes. This paper explores the international framework supporting the development and implementation of targeted interventions, specifically to minimize youth recruitment into violent extremism through three program areas: 1) CVE through formal institutions, 2) building community resilience through families and communities, and 3) CVE through sports, arts and cultural programs. This paper also describes the recent work by Hedayah and other international bodies in these three program areas, and recommends potential next steps and ways forward to make these programs more effective.

Dr. Alessandro Pepe

When the doors of the Hell are closing': dimension of the well-being and positive adjustment in a group of Palestinian children living under military and political violence.

The care systems in developing countries are subjected to worldwide standard guidelines, in which the western voice is dominant over the local one. Palestinian children living under political and military violence are often labeled as affected by post-traumatic stress syndromes and other stress related psychiatric impairments. Otherwise, data emerging from the ground and clinical experience, show as these children despite the worsening environmental conditions they are living in, continue to show positive functioning in adjusting to trauma. We carried out a qualitative research with children from West Bank, Occupied Palestinian Territories. Thematic content analysis of written materials produced by 74 school aged children has been

implemented. Our work aimed to emerge domains of wellbeing that contribute in helping children to cope with violence and insecurity. Personal, environmental, micro and macro-social factors emerged. Limitations and Implication for clinical and community work with children living under political and military threat are discussed.

Prof. Emilio C. Viano

Empowering the Community to Counter Violent Extremism: Balancing the Need for Control and the Need for Free Expression.

Programs aimed at countering violent extremism address situations leading to radicalization into violent extremism with the final objective of depriving terrorist groups of new supporters and recruits.

Which strategies and tools governments and civil society organizations can utilize to oppose violent extremism diverge, depending on different conditions and settings.

However, interwoven through these approaches and efforts is the clear need to generate solutions that mean something and make sense and appeal to the intended audience being reached.

Moreover, regardless of the burgeoning significance of the Internet, the process of radicalization into violence still occurs especially at the local level, most frequently through face-to-face contact and recruiting.

Thus, this presentation will examine the engagement of the community in opposing violent extremism and especially in developing the tools needed to build trust within the community and involve it as a partner in the process of generating and initiating programs and interventions that represent community-rooted answers to local issues.

The goal of engaging the community is to increase consciousness and awareness of the danger of violent movements and extremists; give community members the tools they need; and empower them to mobilize and intervene. A quick review of “best practices” in this field, with an international flavor, will be provided.

Community engagement and community-oriented policing initiatives should be tactfully and carefully tailored to the local conditions and cultures, as well as every State’s legal system, while also respecting international law. However, GCTF members have identified several non-binding good practices that can inform the CVE policies, approaches, and programs of GCTF members and others, as well as create a foundation for continued dialogue, collaboration and research among interested GCTF members and other interested stakeholders. GCTF members and non-members alike are encouraged to consider the following good practices, where appropriate, as they seek to strengthen existing or develop new programs or policies in this field.

These non-binding good practices were developed during and following two exchanges among CVE practitioners from GCTF members and non-members alike in Washington, DC in March 2013. They are not intended to be exhaustive. The GCTF’s CVE Working Group may choose to expand or modify this list to take into account the experience of States’ and other relevant CVE good practices in these fields.

- *Empower communities to develop a counter narrative to the violent extremist narrative and amplify the alternative message through all forms of media.* Community engagement and community-oriented policing initiatives can take many forms, including engagement through TV, radio, and the Internet. Maximizing the ways in which one engages, targeting the message, and diversifying the content ensures that the message gets out to a broader audience. Furthermore, given that violent extremists use all these tools and more to recruit individuals, CVE initiatives should also use the same tools in order to counter the appeal. When engaged in CT efforts, traditional law enforcement has tended to focus its efforts on terrorists and their active

supporters. Terrorists, however, give great attention to their audience; that is how they recruit. In order to therefore counter radicalization to violence and recruitment most effectively, practitioners should work with local communities to highlight the specific locally persuasive counter-narratives that refute or negate the narrative advocating violence as the answer to perceptions of injustice inflicted on self, family or community. Using specific statistics on the non-feasibility of violence as an effective means to an end can help introduce doubt and counter the terrorist narrative.

- *Good Practice Number 9: Engage both former violent extremists and victims of terrorism to communicate counter narratives at both the local and national level.* Using formerly radicalized violent extremists can add legitimacy to the narrative that violence is not the answer. Former violent extremists who come from certain settings have innate credibility and can relate to at-risk youth who may be in similar situations as they once were. Victims of terrorism also have innate credibility because they are a testament to the violence, trauma, and suffering that terrorism can wreak. Community engagement and community-oriented policing efforts that involve former extremists or victims of terrorism carry the resonance needed to make an impactful statement.

Dr. Kamil Yilmaz

Rethinking Radicalization within the Context of the Syrian Crisis

This article examines the issue of radicalization into terrorist groups within the context of the Syrian crisis that started in March 2011. As the crisis entered into its third year, it is doubtless that many youngsters, Muslims and non-Muslims alike, have been radicalized and ended up in Syria to join the fight for or against the Syrian regime. Accordingly, many states, Europeans in particular, have started to be concerned about these individuals whom they dubbed as "foreign fighters" and spent enormous efforts to prevent "potential" harm coming from the returnees. Comparing the measures taken by various countries vis a vis "the foreign fighters", this article argues that spending too much time and effort on a 'probable' danger will be counterproductive, because such approach will most likely be perceived as 'egotistic' and lead to the radicalization of more youngsters who are in search of a venue to address their grievances.

Mr. Munir Zamir

'Using Online Engagement to Counter-Radicalisation and Extremist Content'

This presentation will explore the findings and key learning's from the first organised and systematic specialised online counter-extremism project. Fida Management, in partnership with Google Ideas and the Institute for Strategic Dialogue and as part of the EC's Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) produced a pilot online project aimed at tackling and countering the Al-Qaeda narrative with a specific conceptual and content strategy. The project, known as 'Abdullah-X' has completed the pilot phase and key findings will be presented at this workshop. These include; Key factors in creating relevant content, targeting strategy and demographic context, reactionary content versus pre-programmed content, narrative analysis and audience engagement, user retention and reaction, data analytics and key outcomes and lessons learnt. Up until the formation of this project the counter-narrative domain was essentially a conceptual debate. The results of this pilot provide not only a proof of concept but also



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a foundation for good practice in how to use the online space effectively to counter extremism.

Mr. Alessandro Burato

Crisis management & violent extremism: the neglected role of risk communication

This paper focuses on the applicability of a crisis management model to issues such as violence, radicalization, extremism and terrorism. It is argued that, although criticized, the model would constitute a valid method to approach those topics. Nevertheless, it is fundamental to recognize the central role of risk communication as a “broadening” aspect, able to embrace different instances and thus guarantee an all-comprehensive scope of interest. However, in order to achieve such an objective, some barriers have to be demolished: in this paper the need for a common understanding of the characteristics of the phenomena in question, the role of risk perception and an higher consciousness about the potentialities of risk communication are the ones referred



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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Airey	Pete	United Kingdom
Pepe	Alessandro	Italy
Barna	Cristian	Romania
Burato	Alessandro	Italy
Chin	Vivienne	Canada
Dandurand	Yvon	Canada
De Divitis	Valerio	Italy
Ekici	Siddik	Turkey
Gohel	Sajjan	United Kingdom
Hassan	Abdi Ashur	Somalia
Ibrahimov	Rovshan	Azerbaijan
Iskandaryan	Alexander	Armenia
Jaspal	Zafar Nawaz	Pakistan
Karin	Erlan	Kazakhstan
Knani	Mehdi	OSCE
Koehler	Daniel	Germany
Kozaliev	Yani	Bulgaria
Kukhianidze	Alexandre	Georgia
Lombardi	Marco	Italy
Medyiev	Farhad	Azerbaijan
Neumann	Peter	Germany
Pasqua	Giovanni	Italy
Paz	Reuven	Israel
Ragab	Eman	Egypt
Salinas De Frias	Ana	Spain
Saradzhyan	Simon	Russia
Schmid	Alex	Netherlands
Sedgwick	Mark	Denmark
Shelley	Louise	USA
Sozer	Alper	Turkey
Stuart	Hanna	United Kingdom
Switkes	Micheal	NATO Science Advisor
Veenkamp	Ivo	Hedaya
Viano	Emilio	USA
Yilmaz	Kamil	Turkey
Zamir	Munir	United Kingdom
Fonio	Chiara	Italy
Parsi	Vittorio	Italy