ICITES

International Conference on
Interdisciplinary Terrorism
and Extremism Studies in
Europe, Asia, and Africa

International Conference on Interdisciplinary Terrorism and Extremism Studies Europe, Asia, and Africa

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Abstracts of the submitted papers

Abstracts of the Participants of ICITES

1) Isaac Olawale Albert

Exiting Terrorism: Lessons from Nigeria's Operation Safe Corridor and the Borno Model

There is an abundance of literature on the disarmament, demobilisation, deradicalisation and reintegration (DDR) of terrorist fighters. A key finding of these existing studies is that it is difficult to transform individuals involved in religious terrorism. The task is easier with resource-based terrorism. I will use this conclusion to draw some critical lessons from two emerging models of DDDR in Nigeria. The first is Operation Safe Corridors, which the Nigerian federal government launched in 2016 after realising that military operations alone would not defeat the Boko Haram terrorists it has been fighting since 2009. The second is the Borno State Rehabilitation and Reintegration Programme (the "Borno model"), innovated by the Borno State government in 2021. How comparable are the two? What lessons can be learnt from the origins, processes and outcomes of the two models in enabling fighters to disengage from Boko Haram terrorism in Nigeria? What are the gaps to be filled in the two approaches for the development of a Nigerian counter-terrorism model? What are the global lessons from the emerging Nigerian scenarios?

2) Raden Roro Mega Utami, Margaretha Hanita, Lydia Freyani Hawadi

Vulnerabilities In Indonesia's Critical Infrastructure: Implications For Biological Attacks And Health Security

This study examines the intersection of unguarded critical infrastructure in Indonesia, the potential for biological attacks, and their implications for health security and counterterrorism efforts. Indonesia's vast archipelagic geography and rapidly developing economy present unique challenges in safeguarding critical infrastructure against emerging threats, particularly those of a biological nature. Our analysis, based on comprehensive field assessments and stakeholder interviews, reveals significant vulnerabilities in key sectors such as water treatment facilities, transportation hubs, and healthcare centers. The research identifies a 40% increase in attempted breaches of biosecurity protocols at critical sites over the past three years, with 65% of these incidents potentially linked to extremist groups. We evaluate the current state of Indonesia's biosurveillance systems, finding critical gaps in real-time threat detection and response mechanisms, particularly in remote regions. The study also assesses the preparedness of Indonesia's health security infrastructure to respond to large-scale biological incidents, whether naturally occurring or intentionally induced. Our findings underscore the urgent need for integrated approaches to infrastructure protection, counterterrorism strategies, and public health preparedness. We propose a novel framework for enhancing resilience against biological threats, emphasizing the role of community engagement, technological innovation, and regional cooperation. This research contributes to the growing body of literature on the nexus between critical infrastructure protection and bioterrorism preparedness in developing nations.

3) Dele Ashiru

Rethinking the War on Terror: Political Islam, Boko-Haram and Counter-Terrorism Efforts in Nigeria

The dominant attempts to 'fight' terrorism, whether nationally or even globally, often ignore the social, political and economic injustices inflicted on humanity by capitalism and its neoliberal orthodoxy. Understood as the systematic use of violence to convey an ideological or political message, terrorism is now used as a weapon by the weak, the exploited, the oppressed and the dispossessed. This paper takes a historical and analytical look at the origins and 'terrorist' activities of the Boko Haram group, noting that although the group was a radical Islamic organisation whose aim was religious proselytisation, it was its involvement in politics, the consequent use of unbridled and disproportionate force and the extrajudicial killing of its leader by the Nigerian state that led to its terrorist leanings. The paper argues that contrary to the propaganda against Islam, it has within its doctrine; social, political and economic prescriptions such as an all-inclusive leadership and governance structure, mass literacy, interest-free banking, compulsory payment of Zakat (poor-due) for a just and equitable redistribution of wealth, which can give birth to a new social order that would then eradicate the conditions that breed and fuel terrorism. The paper concludes that winning the war on terror through the prevailing strategy of military campaigns, intelligence gathering and selective killing of suspected terrorists, while ignoring the harsh and agonising human conditions manifested in socio-political deprivation, political exclusion, mass poverty and social inequality, may remain a mirage.

4) Mohd Mizan Aslam

Deradicalisation & Reintegration Programmes in Southeast Asia & the Middle East: A Comparative Study

Deradicalisation of terrorists is an evolving subject of scholarly study that lacks a universally accepted definition. It is currently understood as efforts to change the attitudes and behaviour of former terrorists so that they reject violence as a means of achieving ideological, religious or political goals that threaten national security and life, or cause political and economic instability. This comparative study looks at deradicalisation and reintegration programmes in Southeast Asian countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand, and in Middle Eastern countries such as Yemen, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. All these countries have developed deradicalisation and reintegration programmes according to their context and are known by different names such as Pemulihan, Derad, Kar-ku-Khun, Al-Ha'ir, Al-Hitar and Al-Istia'datu, which are based on re-education and reintegration. Re-education components focus on correcting political and religious misconceptions, and reintegration provides a thorough post-release

monitoring system. Government-sponsored de-radicalisation modules are designed to rehabilitate detained militants by addressing personality flaws and providing carefully structured reconstructive efforts. This research describes the methods used, which include modular themes such as holistic personality, self-reflection, social skills, criminal behaviour, spirituality, Islamic considerations, security and psychology as the basis of deradicalisation and reintegration programmes.

5) Vlado Azinović

Global Conflicts, Local Vulnerabilities: The Gaza Conflict and Radicalisation Pathways in the Western Balkans and Europe

This presentation examines the impact of the ongoing Gaza conflict on processes of radicalisation to violent extremism and terrorism, with a focus on Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Western Balkans and their diasporas in Western Europe. The analysis highlights the emotional resonance of the Gaza conflict within Muslim communities in these regions, which extremist actors often exploit to recruit and radicalise individuals. By examining the recent surge in terrorist activity across the European Union - including successful, foiled and failed plots - this presentation explores the links between global conflicts and localised vulnerabilities to radicalisation. A notable trend is the increasing involvement of young people, many with roots or direct links to the Western Balkans, in terrorist acts. Using mini-case studies of incidents in Munich, Solingen, Graz, Vienna, Belgrade and Bosanska Krupa, the lecture identifies patterns of radicalisation, recruitment strategies and operational behaviour among this demographic. The discussion highlights the role of identity crises, social alienation and online propaganda in facilitating pathways to violent extremism. It concludes by highlighting the need for tailored prevention strategies that take into account the socio-political dynamics of the Western Balkans and their diasporas, and offer interdisciplinary and localised approaches to mitigate future risks.

6) Elina Beketova

The Militarisation of Education and Forced Conscription in the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine

Abstract: This presentation will explore the ongoing crisis in Ukraine's Temporary Occupied Territories, focusing on the forced militarisation of the local population and education system. It will examine how Russian forces are forcing civilians to join the Russian military to fight against their own country. The presentation will include an analysis of indoctrination efforts in schools, where education is used as a tool to promote loyalty to the Russian regime. The findings, based on interviews with officials and civilians from Ukrainian-controlled areas, as well as open source data, reveal the profound impact

of Russian militarisation and indoctrination efforts. The research shows that residents of the temporarily occupied territories are being forced to change their identities in order to survive under occupation. This is particularly evident among the youth, who are being indoctrinated through the education system to promote loyalty to the Russian regime. The study also shows that the Russian authorities are shaping the future of these regions by targeting young people and using them as tools for the regime's long-term control. In response, the presentation calls for democratic nations to play an active role in supporting young people from these areas by offering them opportunities to engage in programmes that promote democratic values and allow them to reject the authoritarian regime. By doing so, the international community can help ensure that the next generation in Ukraine has the chance to preserve their Ukrainian identity and choose a future free from oppression.

7) Evelyn Bokler-Völkel

Jihadist terrorism and its threat to open societies

The war between Israel and Hamas has significantly increased the potential for jihadist threats to Western Europe and its open societies. The full extent of the concrete danger can only be assessed if the ideology behind the terror and its argumentative appeal are revealed. Although jihadism has never made the Palestinian issue a priority, jihadists have immediately sought to exploit the images of the suffering Palestinian population and the destruction in Gaza as a result of the Israeli military operation against Hamas since 7 October. Jihadism is based on a clear narrative of victimisation of the Muslim population in general, which is intended to lead to an increase in loyalty and teaches a rigorous friend-enemy logic: Muslims in general, supposedly under attack worldwide, on the side of the good guys and Israel on the side of the bad guys, standing shoulder to shoulder with "the West". As a solution to the suffering of the Palestinian people, jihadism recommends unleashing terror and ultimate violence against Israel and the West in the name of the entire ummah - and establishing a state of its own, called a "caliphate". The society they want to build is based on this logic of war, and it would continue to be so if jihadism took over. These argumentation patterns are similar to those of other ideologies that lead to a closed society. The lecture will try to show how this closed jihadist ideology works and what kind of society it is trying to create.

8) Steven Chermak

Understanding Why Extremists Turn to Violence

Understanding the pathways that lead to politically motivated violence remains a pressing concern. Despite extraordinary commitment and effort to better understand and respond to the threat of terrorism, and important theoretical work in this area, key

questions remain unanswered. In this presentation, I will discuss why extremists turn to violence. I will present research that compares ideologically motivated violent offenders with (1) extremists who commit ideologically motivated non-violent crimes, (2) extremists who engage only in legal extremist activities, and (3) individuals who commit non-ideologically motivated homicides and other violent attacks. Using a sample of violent criminal extremists, non-violent criminal extremists, non-offending extremists and non-ideologically motivated homicides from the Risk and Protective Factors dataset, descriptive and predictive analyses were conducted to identify differences between these groups. The comparison is based on differences in the presence and absence of risk and protective factors. Additional findings are presented by comparing ideological motivation and preferred tactics. Results indicate that violent extremists differ significantly from comparison groups on socio-demographic, family/social, adverse life event, psychological/personality, ideological, and criminal history variables, but differences vary by group. Theoretical and policy implications are discussed.

9) Guo Yanjun

Actions and Achievements of China and ASEAN in Responding to the Threat of Cyber Terrorism

In recent years, cyberterrorism has emerged as a new type of terrorism that poses unprecedented challenges. Cyber terrorism in China and ASEAN countries has shown the following new characteristics: In terms of technological means, covert attacks are carried out by using new technologies. The Internet of Things has become a new target for attacks. Meanwhile, cyber-terrorist activities are increasingly relying on cryptocurrencies to raise and transfer funds, which helps them evade detection by traditional financial regulators. In terms of organisational collaboration, cyberterrorist organisations have shown a trend towards transnational cooperation. Extremists from different countries communicate and collaborate through online platforms to plan terrorist activities. They make extensive use of social media and various online forums to recruit members and spread extremist ideas. In terms of target selection, key infrastructure and digital economy industries are being targeted. With the vigorous development of China-ASEAN digital economy cooperation, cyber terrorism has made digital infrastructure a key target of attacks. For example, attacks are launched against data centres, 5G communication base stations, etc. In addition, terrorism also causes social panic by targeting soft targets, affecting the social order of the region and the healthy development of the tourism industry.

In response to cyber terrorism, China and ASEAN have carried out cooperation at multiple levels and in multiple fields. These include: establishing cooperation mechanisms and conducting joint operations to jointly combat cyber crimes; sharing information and exchanging intelligence to improve early warning capability against cyber

terrorist activities and to detect and prevent potential terrorist attacks in a timely manner; strengthening capacity building to better cope with the technological challenges of cyber terrorism; promoting legislative cooperation to provide legal support for cross-border combat against cyber terrorism; and facilitating public awareness to prevent the public from being used or misled by cyber terrorist organisations.

10) Maher Farghali

The Organisational and Ideological Transformation of ISIS Sleeper Cells

The observer of Islamist terrorist organisations will see that they have different organisational and operational structures, such as hierarchical and networked forms, with a well-defined vertical chain of leadership and responsibility. In these structures, the base consists of supporters, while the leadership represents the top. Crucial elements include wings such as funding, recruitment and groups of solitary and sleeper cells. However, these structures are only held together by ideology, or more precisely, a 'unity of thought'. This paper examines the organisational and ideological transformations of ISIS's sleeper cells as a clear example of how these factors affect the dismantling of a terrorist organisation, the ideological fractures resulting from its defeat in the territories it once controlled, the organisational and intellectual changes it has undergone, and their implications for its future, including the reintegration of its members and its recruitment and radicalisation efforts. It also examines the impact on its 'distant provinces' branch, as well as its lone wolves and individual cells. This research is important because it deals with the cells of this organisation, which were tasked with dormant and covert operations during a period when its centre collapsed and its branches became active. This occurred as events unfolded in Gaza, its operations in the Sahel and Sahara regions of Africa intensified, its external operations branch carried out an attack in Moscow, and its lone wolves threatened operations in Europe and the United States. This study therefore answers questions about the shift from consolidation to expansion, how the organisation has built its clandestine cells, how it has faced ideological fractures, and what its future holds amid current ideological and strategic shifts.

11) Mike Hardy

Promoting peace and security to accelerate the resilience of the international community. Leading for resilience: promoting peace in complex times

Peacebuilding requires both strong ideas and strong practice. It requires patience, empathy and care in dealing with people's worst pain and trauma, the depths of their fears and the hard edges of their anger. It demands a 21st century realism about a world without borders and with sacred values that matter to all. This paper looks at recent work on public leadership for peace. Such initiatives can create contexts where dialogue and cooperation take precedence over conflict, enabling countries to address global

challenges together. By focusing on building global resilience, peacebuilders must place greater emphasis on trust and mutual benefit, ensure maximum engagement of communities at the grassroots level, and address the root causes of conflict, such as inequality, poverty and injustice. By addressing these underlying issues, peace efforts contribute to the stability and sustainability of communities. Building trust, promoting inclusiveness and addressing the root causes of conflict are rarely priorities for today's public leaders - and this needs to change.

12) Ahmed Ban

Reviews of Political Regimes and Islamic Groups: Towards a New Approach to Combating Extremism

In early December 2024, the geopolitical landscape of Syria underwent a startling transformation that captured global attention. Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, the Islamist militant group formerly known as al-Nusra Front, dramatically expanded its control, raising significant questions about the country's political future. The group's swift ascendance triggered mixed reactions among international observers. Some viewed the development as a potential liberation from the long-standing Assad regime, interpreting it as a moment of potential change. Others, however, expressed deep concern about the implications of an extremist group gaining such substantial political ground. Despite initial apprehensions, Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham attempted to present a moderate facade, offering public assurances about respecting sectarian diversity and protecting public institutions. These verbal commitments did little to fully assuage the international community's skepticism about the group's true intentions. The unfolding situation highlighted the complex and volatile nature of Syria's ongoing political crisis, demonstrating how rapidly power dynamics can shift in a region long characterized by instability and competing political narratives. The unfolding political dynamics in Syria inevitably prompt critical historical comparisons. Two pivotal regional experiences demand scrutiny: Egypt's tumultuous year under Muslim Brotherhood governance and Sudan's prolonged experience with Islamist political rule. In Egypt, the Muslim Brotherhood's single year in power revealed profound systemic challenges-characterized by power consolidation, ideological rigidity, and governance that prioritized partisan interests over national unity. Similarly, Sudan's three-decade experiment with Islamist political control demonstrated the potential for long-term societal disruptions when ideology supersedes inclusive governance. These historical precedents raise substantive questions about Syria's current trajectory: Can a society learn from proximate political experiments? What institutional safeguards might prevent the replication of previous failures in governance and social cohesion?

13) Florian Hartleb

The virtual dimension of terrorism in the light of current trends in Europe

Terrorism has acquired a new virtual dimension. We can see this in the numerous attacks of Islamist and right-wing extremist terrorism in recent years. The question also arises as to whether these are lone wolves or networks. This also raises the question of the gamification of terror. Using the OEZ attack in Munich as an example, the speaker discovered and examined how the gaming platform "Steam" contributes to radicalisation. The current debate is about Tik Tok radicalisation. This makes it all the more important to produce a trend analysis of terrorism in Europe, especially as the issue of artificial intelligence is now also being discussed. The hybrid conflict situation in the new "world disorder" (Peter Neumann) creates a new need for discussion.

14) Eva Herschinger

Marriage, parenthood and all that: Gender Order and Transgression among German Female and Male Jihadists

Between 2013 and 2017, a large number of people from liberal democratic Western countries travelled to Syria to join jihadist groups there. Many of them were women. This paper argues that the order of jihadi groups, and in particular their binary gender order, plays a crucial role in the processes of radicalisation and the decision to travel. To develop its argument, the paper proposes a gender-sensitive analysis to elaborate the meaning of the binary gender order, focusing on the interplay of constructions of femininity and masculinity. Empirically, the paper analyses a small sample of individual cases of people who left the country and were radicalised in Germany in combination with Salafist (jihadist) propaganda. The paper conducts a qualitative content analysis based on ideologically proscribed gender roles in the propaganda. Our analysis aims to identify the extent to which the gender roles were adopted by the individuals in their process of radicalisation. Two findings stand out. On the one hand, it is clear that the individuals in our sample largely adopt the gender roles that are ideologically constructed for them. On the other hand, it is evident that individuals transgress certain roles, resulting in moments of gender transgression that additionally reveal a strong tension between ideology and the role actually lived. We show how this tension between ideal and lived role offers clues for prevention and deradicalisation.

15) Boushra Jaber

Beyond the State: The Rise of Violent Non-State Actors and their Socio-Political Implications - A Case Study of Hezbollah and Comparative Insights with Hamas

Conventional theories of international relations assert that states are the primary actors and have full sovereignty over their territories. However, the rise and prominence of non-state actors, especially violent non-state actors (VNSAs), necessitates a re-evaluation of this view. VNSAs significantly shape the political dynamics within the states in which they operate and in the broader global landscape. A nuanced understanding of these entities allows scholars to analyse terrorist and extremist groups from a more informed perspective, facilitating a deeper understanding of their origins, the nature of their power, and the diverse tactics they employ to achieve their goals. This paper uses Hezbollah as a central case study to illuminate the group's rise to prominence as a socio-political and military force within Lebanon. By examining Hezbollah's origins, ideological foundations and strategies - including its grassroots community mobilisation and formal integration into the Lebanese political system - this study illustrates the transformative potential of extremist groups as they transition into influential political actors through the lens of political opportunity structure theory, social movement theory and constructivism. It critically analyses the factors underlying Hezbollah's rise and explores the long-term implications of its existence for societal structures, state governance and regional stability. The analysis also extends to a comparative examination of the relationship between Hezbollah and Hamas. It traces their common ideological roots within Islamist thought and their joint efforts against Israel, while outlining the ideological and geopolitical divergences that shape their interactions. Insights from Hezbollah's trajectory serve as a basic framework for understanding how such groups exploit political vacuums, leverage foreign support, and exploit socio-religious grievances to consolidate power. Ultimately, this analysis sheds light on the complex relationship between extremism and governance and provides a lens through which to anticipate the evolving role of similar groups in fragile states and unstable regions.

16) Shyamal Kataria

Identifying seasonal variations in terrorist violence: The case of Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir (1988-2018)

The terrorist insurgency that has gripped the Indian-administered state of Jammu and Kashmir since the late 1980s has, not surprisingly, attracted a great deal of scholarly attention over the past few decades. The main focus of the discourse has been on explaining how and why militancy broke out in the first place, and what series of policy decisions or indecisions have exacerbated the problem. However, there has been little attempt to longitudinally observe and explain the frequency and level of violence that has occurred since the beginning of the terrorist insurgency. Drawing on the well-known 'temperature aggression' theory, which posits that higher temperatures lead people to exhibit higher levels of aggression, this paper seeks to test whether higher mean monthly temperatures in the Indian-administered territory of Jammu and Kashmir have corresponded with higher rates of terrorist-related violence, both in terms of incidents (frequency) and causalities (level).

17) Sonja Biserko

In the Western Hemisphere, nationalist-populist forces have in many cases come to power or entered institutions, either as opposition in parliaments or as partners in the executive branch of government.

In Serbia, this process began more than four decades ago, when Serbian President Slobodan Milošević and his nationalist-populist policies triggered the wartime disintegration of Yugoslavia, resulting in massive war casualties. Since then, ethno-confessional nationalism has been the dominant ideology.

Russia's strategic interest in the Balkans is to keep Serbia in a state of latent conflict for as long as possible. The Serbian government does not oppose Milorad Dodik's threats to secede from Bosnia and Herzegovina, maintains ties with pro-Russian and pro-Serb parties in Montenegro, and seeks to maintain the status quo in Kosovo. Russia's malign influence has deeply penetrated state and social structures throughout the region.

The armed attack on Kosovo police in the village of Banjska in northern Kosovo in September 2023 underlines the fragility of the region. This attack, carried out by a paramilitary group led by Milan Radoičić, resulted in the death of one Kosovo policeman and three attackers. It highlighted the danger of more widespread actions by armed groups under Serb control. Moreover, a subsequent terrorist attack in Kosovo - likely inspired by Belgrade and Moscow - further underlined the fragility of the situation.

These events demonstrate the fragility of the Balkans and the ease with which conflict can be provoked. The ongoing geopolitical convergence is likely to keep the region in a very delicate state, as the EU's enlargement policy will depend on its ability to adapt to the new reality.

18) Ahmet T. Kuru

Islam and Political Violence: A Global Analysis

There is considerable polarisation among scholars who study the relationship between religion and violence. Some argue that Islam, Christianity and other religions are major drivers of political violence, including terrorism, civil wars and interstate conflict. Others challenge this view, arguing that political phenomena - such as violence - have shaped religions, rather than the other way around. My presentation offers a middle ground between these opposing perspectives. Political violence is a complex, multi-causal phenomenon that requires an analysis not only of the influence of religion, but also of political leadership, socio-economic factors, historical conditions, and secular ideologies. My analysis focuses on the global case of Islam. It begins by exploring why the involvement of Muslim actors in political violence was lower than that of Christian and secular actors until the 1980s, and how it became more prominent thereafter. It then examines the various interpretations of Islam in relation to peace and violence. While it is inaccurate to label Islam as inherently pro-violence, one particular interpretation,

Jihadi-Salafism, has been associated with terrorism. Finally, I will highlight the importance of analysing authoritarian states to fully understand the dynamics of political violence in Muslim-majority countries.

19) Elizabeth Pearson

Gendering Extremism: Radicalisation as a Masculinities Project

Feminist scholars have long criticised the neglect of gender in international relations and security studies, including theories of terrorism, extremism and radicalisation. In recent years, however, events have forced both scholars and policymakers to reassess. The travel of young women from across continents to join the so-called Islamic State, the emergence of the misogynistic Incel or 'involuntary celibacy' movement, and the mobilisation of anti-feminist rhetoric by the far right and Islamist groups alike have drawn attention to the importance of gender in understanding terrorism and extremism. This paper responds to calls for the gendering of theories of radicalisation and extremism by proposing that radicalisation is a masculinity project. Based on fieldwork with both anti-Islam radical right activists and actors associated with Anjem Choudary's banned Islamist group al-Muhajiroun, the chapter: outlines the importance of gender and masculinities for the in-group and out-group differentiation that precedes extreme activism; explores the different masculinities that form the reference points for extreme cultures; and documents how groups mobilise these into the cultural norms that enable group activism. As such, the chapter provides an analysis of the different hegemonic masculinities adopted by both extreme women and men.

20) Brian J. Phillips

Corporate counterterrorism: Why do social media companies label some groups as terrorists?

Despite the importance of social media platforms for mobilisation, it is unclear which politically motivated actors have access to them while others are banned. Governments are increasingly pressuring tech companies to ban certain militant organisations as harmful actors, but these organisations rely on social media for recruitment, fundraising and communication. Why do social media companies designate only some militant organisations as "terrorists" and impose consequences on the groups and their supporters? We develop an argument that draws on comparisons with government terrorist designation policies, but emphasises the profit motivation of the companies. We examine hundreds of militant organisations to see which are listed as terrorists by Facebook/Meta and thus "de-platformed". Militant groups are more likely to be designated as terrorists if they use suicide bombing, are Islamist as opposed to other ideologies, have previously been designated as terrorists by certain prominent countries (using multiple measures, including an original index of so-called tech-influential

countries) or intergovernmental organisations, or operate in a country with many Facebook users. The results shed light on the quasi-governmental role of technology companies in global politics.

21) Rebecca Schönenbach

Terrorist Financing in Europe and Obstacles to Countering Terrorist Financing

Various groups and organisations in Europe raise funds to support terrorist organisations in the Middle East and other parts of the world. Activities range from individual initiatives to formalised associations and international organisations. There has been little systematic research into the financing of terrorism, even though it's been on everyone's lips since 9/11 as the most effective way to stop terrorist activities. However, financial flows exist not only from Europe to the rest of the world, but also vice versa. Foreign donors support the activities of terrorist groups in Europe. Organised crime is playing an increasing role in the international network of terrorist organisations. This presentation will highlight the links, the legal framework in Europe to combat terrorist financing, the obstacles to detecting and preventing it and possible solutions.

22) Syarifah Huswatun Miswar

Defining the Undefinable: Global Perspectives on Terrorism and Extremism in the 21st Century

In era of unprecedented global connectedness, the concepts of terrorism and extremism continue to evolve, challenging traditional definitions and approaches to counterterrorism efforts. This paper explores the evolving nature of terrorism and extremism in the 21st century, addresses the challenges of establishing universally accepted definitions, and examines diverse global perspectives. It investigates the complexity of these phenomena across cultural, political and ideological landscapes, analyzing the implications of definitional ambiguity on counterterrorism efforts. It examines the transformation of terrorist and extremist activities in the digital age, including online radicalization, social media exploitation and cyber terrorism. It also explores the blurring of boundaries between domestic and international terrorism and the relationship between extremist ideologies and violent acts. By synthesizing data from global sources and expert insights, this study provides comprehensive understanding of contemporary terrorism and extremism. The paper proposes flexible and context-sensitive framework for defining and addressing these threats, emphasizing the need for international cooperation and adaptive strategies. This research contributes to the ongoing dialogue on global security, offering valuable insights for policymakers, academics, and practitioners working to counter terrorism and extremism in the complex realities of our interconnected world.

23) Bilveer Singh

The continuing threat of religious extremism/terrorism in South East Asia

The Southeast Asian region has a long history of religious and non-religious extremism and terrorism. However, in the last four decades or so, religious extremism and terrorism have been predominant, particularly in Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. This paper examines the causes, trajectory and consequences of religious extremism and terrorism in Southeast Asia, and the extent to which the trend may be reversing, as suggested by the announcement of the disbandment of one of the major Islamist terrorist groups, Jemaah Islamiyyah. The implications for the future of religious extremism and terrorism in the region in the light of various geopolitical challenges, including the current Middle East conflict (Israel's conflict in Gaza and Lebanon), will also be discussed.

24) Oka Wirayudha

Understanding Terrorism In Indonesia: History Of The Development Of Terrorism Threat And The Journey Of Counterfeit Operation Strategy Exploring Operational Strategies and Historical Manifestations

Throughout its history, Indonesia has experienced numerous incidents related to terrorism. In 2002, the Bali bombings captured global attention. In 2009, another major attack took place, this time targeting the JW Marriott and Ritz-Carlton hotels in Jakarta. More recently, in 2021, the Indonesia National Police Headquarters became the target of a terrorist attack carried out by an armed woman. Indonesia did not remain passive; various prevention and response strategies were implemented. However, the perpetrators' continual adaptations have posed ongoing challenges to the effectiveness of these operational strategies. This paper is based on the ideas of Bruce Hoffman (2017), who seeks to fill the gap in the literature on terrorism, guerrilla warfare, and insurgency. According to Hoffman (2017), academic studies must explain the strategies, operations, methods, motivations, and impacts of terrorist organizations, guerrilla movements, and insurgents to develop effective countermeasures. This research is based on post-positivist paradigm. The approach used includes strategic intelligence, political communication, media, and economics, with a library case study method.

The data sources utilized consist of primary data through observation and secondary data from books, scientific research journals, news articles, and documents related to the research subject. Indonesia has a history of large-scale terrorist attacks, including the 2002 Bali bombings, the 2005 Bali II bombing, the 2009 JW Marriott and Ritz-Carlton bombings in Jakarta, the 2016 Thamrin attack in Jakarta, the 2018 church bombings in Surabaya, and direct assaults on General Wiranto and the National Police Headquarters.These terrorist attacks are suspected to be linked to several international terrorist networks such as Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD), Mujahidin Indonesia Timur (MIT), Jamaah Ansharut Tauhid (JAT), Jamaah Anshar Khalifah (JAK), the Santoso group, and pro-ISIS factions. The series of terrorist attacks successfully instilled fear in Indonesia, with social, political, and economic impacts. Indonesia has made efforts to implement counterterrorism strategies, ranging from early detection by strengthening intelligence functions, operational strategies, to political, media, and economic approaches.

25) Nicolas Stockhammer

Tectonic shifts in the extremist threat landscape and current trends in transnational terrorism

The global extremist threat landscape is undergoing profound changes, driven by a confluence of factors including geopolitical shifts, technological advances and evolving ideologies and ideological fragmentation. Current trends shaping transnational terrorism and extremism are further explored. Key developments include the emergence of polymorphic crises that fuel extremist narratives, the increasing transnationalisation of extremist movements and the growing link between conflict zones and terrorist activities. The phenomenon of hybrid radicalisation, which blends online and offline influences, has accelerated the spread of extremist ideologies. At the same time, the virtualisation of terrorism has expanded the operational capabilities and recruitment reach of extremist groups. A trend towards low-level terrorism, characterised by simpler and more frequent attacks, poses new challenges for security authorities. Potential future developments and trends in the extremist landscape are identified, taking into account factors such as the impact of artificial intelligence, instability caused by climate change and shifting geopolitical alliances. Understanding these tectonic shifts is critical to developing effective counter-terrorism and prevention strategies in an increasingly complex global security environment.

26) Imam Subandi

Threat Spectrum of Global Terrorism; Current Conflicts and Potential Terrorist Threats in the Future

The current conflicts have caused concern and raised questions of confidence in the international community. A series of demonstrations in various countries, particularly over the deaths of children and civilians by Israel in Gaza and Rafah, do not seem to be reducing the conflict, but are showing a tendency to spread to other areas, such as the border area with Lebanon and Iran. Those who believe in international law as a resolution mechanism seem to have to bury their faith. UN resolutions have been issued, but thousands of Palestinian children or hundreds of Ukrainian civilians have become victims. Resolving conflicts through violence will always lead to violence, even if it takes on new dimensions and forms. Some of them will give rise to revenge, which will encourage and feed radicalism and extremism, which will give rise to terrorism. This article will substantiate the argument that the failure of international law to fulfil a sense of justice for some countries will shape and colour the threat spectrum of global terrorism in the future.

27) Dwiyono, Dian May Fitri, I Made Astawa, Antonius Dwi Hendro Sunarko Ginting

Counterterrorism And Countermeasures: A Comprehensive Study Of Southeast Asia's Response To Violent Extremism

Terrorism remains a pressing threat in Southeast Asia, particularly in Indonesia, where extremist groups such as Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) and Islamic State-linked cells continue to operate. This study investigates the counterterrorism strategies employed in the region, with a specific focus on Indonesia's response to the growing threats of terrorism and violent extremism. By employing a qualitative descriptive methodology, the research draws on extensive literature reviews, open-source data, and observations to explore the roles of key actors such as the police, military, intelligence services, and civil society in counterterrorism efforts. A key finding from this study is the increasing reliance on Counter-Violent Extremism (CVE) initiatives in Indonesia, which focus on preventing radicalization through education, community engagement, and the promotion of religious tolerance. Studies have shown that early intervention through school curricula and community programs significantly mitigates the spread of extremist ideologies. Additionally, regulatory frameworks targeting online radicalization have emerged as essential tools for governments, given the use of social media platforms by terrorist groups for recruitment and propaganda. However, challenges remain in balancing security with freedom of speech and ensuring that regulations do not inadvertently fuel discontent or radicalization.

This research also highlights the multifaceted roles of security agencies in counterterrorism. Intelligence services, such as Indonesia's National Counterterrorism Agency (BNPT), play a pivotal role in tracking and neutralizing extremist networks. The study underscores the effectiveness of special counterterrorism units like Indonesia's Detachment 88 (Densus 88), which works in collaboration with international partners to dismantle terrorist cells and prevent attacks. However, the research also raises concerns about the growing involvement of military forces in domestic counterterrorism, with debates surrounding civil liberties and the appropriate roles of the military in democratic societies. Furthermore, the study examines the critical importance of protecting infrastructure from terrorist attacks. Terrorist groups often target transportation, energy, and communication systems to maximize disruption. The research finds that both physical and cybersecurity measures are crucial in defending these infrastructures, especially as terrorist organizations increasingly exploit digital vulnerabilities. International cooperation is also emphasized as a cornerstone of counterterrorism efforts, with organizations such as the United Nations and ASEAN playing key roles in fostering intelligence sharing, coordinating responses, and building regional resilience.

The study concludes that while significant progress has been made in counterterrorism efforts across Southeast Asia, much remains to be done. Enhanced international collaboration, the development of more robust regulatory frameworks, and the implementation of cutting-edge cybersecurity measures are critical in preventing terrorism. Moreover, addressing the social and psychological impacts of terrorism, including trauma recovery and community reintegration, is essential for long-term

stability and resilience. Ultimately, a holistic and multidimensional approach is required to effectively combat terrorism and violent extremism in the region.

28) Zora A. Sukabdi

White Extremism: Psychological Perspectives

Whiteness is fluid, as who is considered 'white' changes over time. Like race, whiteness is socially and politically constructed. Whiteness does not simply refer to skin colour. It is an ideology based on beliefs, values, behaviours, habits and attitudes that result in the unequal distribution of power and privilege based on skin colour. Using a literature review of archaeological, anthropological and theological works, this presentation examines the evidence for human 'whiteness' from 34,000-36,000 years ago, the belief systems that justify white extremism, and the indicators of extremism. The findings show that white supremacy is defined as beliefs and ideas that assert the natural superiority of lighter-skinned or 'white' human races over other racial groups. These beliefs may be rooted in the story of the children of Noah and Abraham. Furthermore, white extremism can be analysed from a number of perspectives, ranging from psychopathological to non-psychoanalytical theories. Its obvious indicator is when violence is used as the only means to achieve goals, in addition to other indicators. Furthermore, extremism includes radicalism, while radicalism does not always include extremism. These findings may help academics and practitioners to understand white extremism from a psychological perspective.

29) Usman A. Tar

Transnational Terrorism in Africa: Links between violent extremist groups in the Sahel, the Lake Chad Basin and North African states

Violent extremist groups are increasingly transnational, highly interconnected and appear to defy geopolitical and legal boundaries. This poses a great danger to national and international forces seeking to counter them. This paper examines the links between violent extremist groups in the Sahel, the Lake Chad Basin and North African states and argues that the transformation of the world into a global village through the use of the Internet may well explain the escalation of violent extremism in the Sahel. The paper is based on secondary data and uses social movement theory as a framework for analysis. It found that the strategic location of the Sahel corridor and its vast ungoverned spaces have provided a "centre of gravity" for violent extremist groups to operate unchallenged, and therefore suggests that since the counter-terrorism approach of using military approaches to countering violent extremism (CVE) in the Sahel has not yielded the desired results, governments and international partners should shift ground by pursuing non-coercive CVE means aimed at countering violent extremist recruitment and ideology.

30) Lorenzo Vidino

The Muslim Brotherhood in Europe

The Muslim Brotherhood has had a presence in Europe since the 1950s. Little about the group's presence on the continent is uncontested, including its very existence, as very few of the actors associated with the movement openly identify themselves as such. In recent years, European policymakers and security agencies have debated two intertwined concerns about the movement: its potential negative impact on social cohesion and its relationship to violent radicalisation. The presentation will address the policy debates related to these two concerns, while identifying recent trends in the discourse and tactics of Brotherhood networks in Europe.

31) Mayndra Eka Wardhana

Comprehensive approach to counter-terrorism in Indonesia

This presentation examines Indonesia's comprehensive approach to counter-terrorism, highlighting its multi-faceted strategies to combat and prevent terrorism. As a country with a diverse population and a history of terrorism-related incidents, Indonesia has developed a robust framework that integrates law enforcement, deradicalisation programmes and community engagement. Key components include strengthening the legal framework, such as the implementation of anti-terrorism laws, and enhancing the capacity of specialised agencies such as Densus 88. The presentation also examines the role of civil society and religious leaders in countering radical ideologies through education and the promotion of tolerance. It also discusses regional and international cooperation on intelligence sharing and capacity-building initiatives to address transnational threats. By emphasising a balance between security measures and respect for human rights, Indonesia's approach serves as a model for addressing the root causes of terrorism while maintaining societal harmony. This presentation aims to provide insights into the effectiveness of Indonesia's strategies and their relevance to global counter-terrorism efforts.

32) Jessica White

Mapping the threat and response through a gender lens

This article examines the gendered dimensions of extremism in transnational contexts. Dr Jessica White, Acting Director of Terrorism and Conflict Studies at RUSI, examines the role of socio-cultural gender norms, misogyny and gendered ideologies as key factors influencing participation in extremist activities. The discussion highlights gendered recruitment strategies, the role of hypermasculinity and how misogyny acts as a bridge between local and global contexts of extremism. Using case studies, the analysis maps the mechanisms of ideological transmission, both online and offline. This research highlights the importance of addressing gendered drivers of radicalisation as part of

comprehensive gender mainstreaming strategies to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism.

33) Eva Zulfa Achjani, Jelang Ramadhan

Measuring Indonesia's New Penal Code in Protecting Women and Family from Radicalisation and Criminalisation: A Gendered Legal Analysis

The lawmakers in Indonesia have agreed to formulate the new criminal code (Kitab Undang-Undang Hukum Pidana) or known as KUHP for a very long time. The previous penal code was inherited from the Dutch colonial government and did not adequately take into account local wisdom and global constellations. The new Penal Code, which will come into force in January 2023, will have a transitional period until it comes into full effect in 2026. Many questions arise and people are crucially divided, including whether this formulation could protect women, children and vulnerable groups from radicalisation and criminalisation through exceptional crimes. A critical interpretative analysis to decipher the new law with previous decisions of judges in trials of crimes and terrorist acts involving women in the family suicide bombing after 2018. The purpose of this article is to measure the readiness of the new penal code to be applied in the next two years as Indonesia presents a laboratory of terrorism studies. The methodology of qualitative research constitutes the way of literature study and review. As well as data collection from the old cases to be compared with the new cases during the transition period of the Criminal Code, which claimed to be a national aspiration in defining smooth or frayed transition. The political stability and the absence of terrorist acts involving women or family in the post-pandemic period made the transition manageable, although not smooth due to overlapping possibilities with Law No. 5/2018. The implementation of the humanitarian approach in the fight against extreme violence helped the law to protect women, but not to prevent.

34) Brylov Denys

My enemy's enemy is my friend? Islamist terrorism in the context of the Russian-Ukrainian war.

Since the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian war in 2014, and especially after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, one of the specific features of this conflict has been the involvement of various Islamist groups - from ISIS-aligned jihadists to representatives of the Muslim Brotherhood. In my study, I distinguish two main phases of Islamist involvement in the war: spontaneous (2014-2022) and symbiotic (2022-present). The characteristics of the first stage are that (a) Islamists' participation in the conflict was not

regular and organised, (b) they were represented mainly by natives of the North Caucasus (mainly Chechens) and Crimean Tatars, (c) Islamists fought mainly on the Ukrainian side, (d) Islamist activity was limited to the ATO (Anti-Terrorist Operation) zone in south-eastern Ukraine, (e) there was no or sporadic interaction with the authorities. The second stage was characterised by: a) the instrumentalisation of Islamist groups by both sides of the conflict - Ukraine and Russia, b) the transfer of Islamist activity beyond the Ukrainian-Russian conflict zone (to the Middle East and Africa), c) the broadening of the ethnic composition of Islamist groups involved in the conflict, and d) increased coordination between Islamist groups and the military departments of Russia and Ukraine. An important consequence of the second stage of Islamist involvement in the Russian-Ukrainian war was the adaptation of tactical developments of the Ukrainian and Russian militaries and their application in the Middle East and Africa region (e.g. the tactics of using FPV drones). In addition, Islamist involvement in the conflict is increasingly global in nature, such as Hamas's support for the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the use of the 7 October terrorist attack to distract the United States from the Russia-Ukraine war. The report is based on field research conducted in 2014-2024 using participant observation and unstructured interviews, as well as data from open sources (publications in mass media, telegram channels, etc.).

35) Rehana Hashmi

Confronting Terrorism in Pakistan: Evolving Strategies and Global Insights

Terrorism in Pakistan is a multifaceted problem rooted in a complex interaction of historical, political, socio-economic, and religious factors, exacerbated by regional instability. Though Pakistan has made significant progress in combating terrorism through military operations and legal reforms, even then it has failed to curb the menace completely. To effectively tackle the issue, Pakistan must adopt a holistic approach that combines military, legal, educational, and socio-economic strategies, drawing on both domestic initiatives and international comparative insights. This approach must address not only the symptoms but also the root causes of terrorism and violent extremism, focusing on the ideological and structural drivers of radicalization. This study will address the following fundamental questions

1. What are the underlying causes of terrorism and violent extremism in Pakistan, and how do they compare with global trends?
2. How has Pakistan's counterterrorism strategy evolved, and what measures have been implemented to address the symptoms and root causes of terrorism?
3. What lessons can be drawn from international experiences in counterterrorism that may inform more effective policies and approaches in Pakistan?

The theoretical foundation of this analysis will be based on security studies and the broader literature on political violence and terrorism. It will utilize a multi-disciplinary approach that includes political science, sociology, and international relations to examine terrorism as a domestic and global phenomenon. The Realist and Constructivist theories of international relations will also be used to explore how state security and ideational factors, such as identity and ideology, shape both the emergence of terrorism and the responses to it.

The research will follow a comparative and qualitative methodology, employ case studies of Pakistan's counterterrorism initiatives, and compare them to strategies employed in other countries with a similar history of extremist violence, such as Afghanistan, Iraq, and Sri Lanka. Terrorism is a global challenge that requires an understanding of how different states have responded to similar threats. Pakistan's experience is unique in its historical, geographical, and political context, yet it shares several characteristics with other countries battling terrorism. For instance, like Afghanistan and Iraq, Pakistan has faced terrorism fuelled by regional instability, foreign intervention, and ideological extremism. The Pakistani state, much like Sri Lanka during its civil war, has deployed military operations as the primary tool to counter insurgency and terrorism, as seen in operations such as Zarb-e-Azb and Radd-ul-Fasaad.

By incorporating cross-national comparison, the study will identify best practices and common challenges in counterterrorism. Data will be drawn from government reports, expert interviews, policy documents, and scholarly analyses, providing a comprehensive understanding of Pakistan's efforts within an international context.

36) Shady Ibrahim

Imagined Sovereignty: The Tribal Roots of Non-State Actors

A detailed analysis of the behaviour of paramilitary organisations and the motivations that influence their decision-making is subject to many direct and indirect factors, as outlined in the US CIA's Counterinsurgency Manual. Imagined sovereignty is one of the factors that helps to shape the collective consciousness of combatants and paramilitary organisations. This sovereignty conflicts with state authority and is in direct competition with state power. The competition or conflict between the organisation and the state is manifested in the imposition of laws and the recognition of social customs and tribal traditions, including religious laws or "Sharia" in the case of Afghanistan, Yemen, northern Syria, Sinai and Lebanon. At the grassroots level, tribes regard the land as their private property and do not accept the imposition of state authority; they see it as a legacy inherited from their ancestors. It is common to hear tribal men refer to themselves as Bedouin and to other residents by other terms. The imagined sovereignty of paramilitary organisations is based on tribal sovereignty. For example, the Haqqani tribe in Afghanistan has many members who hold senior positions in the government and decision-making institutions of the Taliban, and the same is true of the Houthi tribe in Yemen, which occupies the most important decision-making positions. This paper explores the relationship between tribal sovereignty, paramilitary sovereignty and imagined sovereignty and their role in the region and the world. Imagined sovereignty helps to delineate the boundaries of actual influence and the crucial sphere of direct influence in the exercise of power or its challenge, even if not in power. Imagined sovereignty also defines enemy, friend and ally according to various criteria related to tribal authority and adopted ideology.

37) Ekenade Israel Kehinde

Banditry: The New Wave of Terrorism in Contemporary Nigeria

Though blessed with abundant natural resources, Africa is a continent rife with intractable conflicts. Nigeria is no different as it grapples with a plethora of violent crimes that have made the country a hotbed of terrorism and hostage-taking, among others. While there are isolated cases in other parts of Nigeria, the activities of these criminals tend to thrive in the northern parts of the country. The Boko Haram insurgency, Fulani insurgency and more recently banditry have caused a lot of mayhem, leaving thousands either dead or displaced to varying degrees. This situation has threatened the peace, unity and stability of the nation. The state, through its security agencies, has tried to restore sanity to the polity through kinetics and dialogue, but the bandits seem to be giving the government a run for its money. The military and civilians cannot account for the losses as this is an open-ended crisis with the international community expressing displeasure at the turn of events in Africa's most populous country. In 2023, Nigeria ranked eighth out of 163 countries on the Global Terrorism Index. This has several social, economic, political and other implications for the giant of Africa. Using desktop research and the Relative Deprivation Theory, I discovered that northern youths seem to be marginalised compared to others; hence their embrace of terrorism to vent their grievances on the state. This paper argues that the troika of Boko Haram, Fulani and bandits complement each other in perpetrating crimes against humanity with no obvious difference in modus operandi. In conclusion, the government should engage these belligerent groups and rehabilitate them accordingly.

38) Erni Kurniati

Support Group for Wives and Female Family Members of Former Terrorists

The experiences of the wives of former terrorists in Indonesia are complex. They may have been close to their husbands but unaware of their extremist beliefs. It was only when their husbands were arrested that these women realised the hidden, disturbing truths that brought unexpected and painful changes to their families. But how can these personal experiences be empowered within a support group? How can such a forum help prevent others from joining, or make them reconsider their involvement with extremist groups? This article explores the personal journeys of these women and shows how their experiences led to the creation of 'FOSPETA' (Forum Support Perempuan Tangguh), or the Female Forum of Resilient Women. This qualitative study, using interpretive phenomenological analysis (IPA), seeks to uncover the deeply personal stories of the wives of former terror convicts. By exploring these intimate narratives, the study sheds light on the challenges these women face and how they come together to form a strong,

supportive community. The author's personal involvement in working with these families and helping to set up the forum adds depth and meaning to the study. The findings highlight the strength of these women in overcoming adversity and how their sisterhood helps them to find new ways forward and make significant changes in their lives. This study provides a valuable example of how preventing violent extremism can be approached at the family level. As well as providing emotional support to its members, the forum counters extremist ideologies within families by offering alternative narratives in their discussions.

39) Nia Lavinia

Decoding Online Radicalisation: Understanding the Meaning-Making Process and its Impact on Engagement with Terrorist Groups in Three Indonesian Youths

In an effort to understand the phenomenon of online radicalisation, terrorism studies research tends to focus on the strategies used by terrorist groups in the online space, such as how these groups construct their messages and how these messages are designed to influence individuals. While this research provides valuable insights, it falls short in explaining how the audience, or the individuals who receive these messages from terrorist groups, become radicalised. This paper aims to fill this research gap by focusing on the audience in the context of online radicalisation. Using a qualitative approach through in-depth interviews and literature review, this study seeks to answer the question of how three young people experience the process of online radicalisation and how their interpretation of terrorist group messages shapes their involvement in terrorist movements. The findings of this paper are: first, personal crises experienced by young people drive them to seek alternative beliefs, which leads them to encounter terrorist group messages in the online space. When these messages resonate and are interpreted as solutions to their crises, young people respond with increasing engagement and ultimately decide to take an active role in the terrorist movement. Second, contextual factors are crucial in analysing the process of online radicalisation, as these factors influence the meaning-making process undertaken by the youth.

40) Kannan M.

Children and Terrorism (A study on children's involvement in terrorist activities)

This research article seeks to understand why children become involved in terrorism, focusing on their role within the ISIS movement. Terrorism is a serious crime, but when children are involved, the legal response is often different. We will gather information from 1995 to 2024 through library research and Google Scholar to explore this issue. The

study goes beyond the problem of children being involved in terrorist activities; it also emphasises the need to rescue them from violent environments. We will discuss how children are victims in the cycle of terrorism and the policies that aim to address their involvement. The research aims to identify children who have been trafficked or smuggled and used in terrorist activities, and to advocate for justice through psychological testing and DNA analysis. The research is driven by the belief that every human being is equal and deserves to know their origins and enjoy basic rights. By shedding light on the plight of child victims of non-state terrorism, the study aims to contribute to a better understanding of and response to this complex issue. In this study, the authors used qualitative methods to collect data through primary and secondary sources. Secondary data is obtained through a list of journals that deal with children and terrorism. The author made observations from 2014 to 2024. The theoretical framework consists of two theories, social learning theory and biological theory. The journal will be based on the development of these theories, the subjective of the matter is that the victim of terrorism as a child. This theory will help to find the victims of terrorism in the foreign country by analysing the behavioural actions with the help of neuropsychological statement of the ISIS prisoners in a certain age group and compare with regional biological analysis like DNA test. This biological theory helps to reach the specific location in this global through its ethnic identity.

41) Sista Raeny

Women in Terrorist Movements: A Case Study of Jamaah Ansharud Daulah from 2016 to 2022

Terrorism is the use of violence or the threat of violence calculated to induce fear in order to coerce or intimidate governments or societies to achieve political, religious and ideological objectives. Terrorism has different characteristics in each era and is always associated with male involvement in violence. Since the rise of ISIS, the increased involvement of women and families has also begun to receive attention. The phenomenon of women's involvement in terrorist activities challenges the patriarchal tradition that views women's roles as exclusively domestic or secondary. Women's participation in terrorism, particularly as suicide bombers, is a rational choice influenced by gender constructs, and this phenomenon also occurs in Indonesia. This study focuses on the motivations of women in terrorist activities, which have different rationalisations compared to male terrorists, particularly within the JAD organisation. The issues examined in this research include the factors that shape women's motivations to play a primary role in terrorism, and the development and relationships between women and men within the JAD terrorist organisation. The phenomenon of women in the JAD terrorist

movement is analysed using concepts of terrorism, theories of agency and structure, and theories of social movements.

42) Muhammad Syaroni

From mercenaries to foreign fighters: The Evolution of Non-State Actors in Modern Warfare - Case Studies from the Russia-Ukraine Conflict and Asia

The involvement of non-state actors such as mercenaries, foreign fighters and foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) in contemporary conflicts has significantly altered the landscape of global security. This paper examines the multifaceted role of these actors in modern warfare, focusing on the Russia-Ukraine conflict and extending the analysis to conflicts in Asia. In the Russia-Ukraine war, private military companies (PMCs) such as the Wagner Group and foreign fighters from various countries have been used for combat operations, intelligence gathering and territorial control. These entities operate in a legally ambiguous space, challenging traditional definitions of combatants and undermining state sovereignty. In parallel, Asia has witnessed a surge of foreign fighters and FTFs in conflicts across the region, most notably in Syria, Iraq and the Philippines. These fighters, often ideologically driven, complicate regional security dynamics and pose significant threats upon their return to their home countries. This paper examines the motivations behind the recruitment and deployment of mercenaries and foreign fighters, ranging from economic incentives and ideological commitment to the pursuit of geopolitical objectives. By analysing the intersections between mercenaries, foreign fighters and FTFs, the study identifies emerging trends in the use of non-state actors in warfare. It examines the legal, ethical and strategic implications of the involvement of these actors, highlighting the shortcomings of existing international legal frameworks, such as the UN Mercenary Convention, and the challenges of their enforcement. It also highlights the regional security implications for Asia, considering recruitment networks, cross-border movements and the potential for spillover effects. The paper concludes with policy recommendations to better regulate and monitor the activities of these non-state actors. It argues for enhanced international cooperation and robust legal mechanisms to address the security threats posed by mercenaries, foreign fighters and FTFs in both Europe and Asia. In doing so, the study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the evolving role of non-state actors in modern conflicts and the broader implications for global and regional security.

43) Areti Demostheneous

The Impact of Fear of Terrorism on Greek Society

Terrorism and extremism are threats closely linked to antiquity. The first book of the Old Testament, Genesis 4:1-16, recounts the beginning of human history following the sin of

Adam and Eve and their separation from God. This passage describes the murder of Abel by his older brother Cain, the first son of Adam and Eve. Cain and Abel worked the land and tended sheep. However, they could not live together in harmony, so Cain began the first primitive (archetypal) effort to kill and threaten the lives of others. Thucydides (the father of history) emphasises that three things determine the actions of individuals as well as relations between kingdoms: Honour, Fear and Profit (Thucydides 1.76, The Peloponnesian War. London, J. M. Dent; New York, E. P. Dutton, 1910). Since terror is also defined as "fear in the extreme", terrorist attacks cause various psychological reactions in individuals that can be considered as political crimes. Thucydides identifies fear as one of the three major human motives for action. This article examines how recent newspaper coverage of terrorism in Greece has been linked to the politics of fear and the use of audiences' beliefs and assumptions about danger, risk and fear to achieve certain goals. It shows that terrorism and crime are now very closely linked to the expanding use of fear, and that there is a sharp increase in news reports linking terrorism to victims. The implications for the social constructionist approach to social problems and social control are also discussed. A few months after the placement of the bomb that did not explode at the premises of the Order Restoration Units (MAT) of the Greek police in Goudi (Athens), a second bomb that exploded deafeningly in the "heart" of Athens came and reinforced the scenarios of the revival of Greek terrorism. The scenario of the appearance of new "blood" recruited into the terrorist organisations seems to prevail, as the latest data within the anti-terrorist service show. It seems that we are facing a new generation of terrorists in Greece. According to Europol, anarchist terrorist groups in Greece have improved operational capabilities and access to military-grade weapons.

44) Sanni Oluwole Kazeem

The Evolution of Salafi-Jihadist Narratives in the Lake Chad Basin: A Comparative Analysis of Boko Haram and ISWAP

The Lake Chad Basin, covering parts of Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon, has been a hotbed of violent extremism and insurgency for over a decade. At the epicentre of this conflict are two prominent Salafi jihadist groups: Boko Haram and its offshoot, the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP). Not only have these organisations wreaked havoc on the stability and security of the region, but their evolving narratives and adaptive strategies pose a complex challenge to counterterrorism efforts. However, the consequences of these terrorist groups are a major bane to the peace, stability and economic growth of sovereign states. Various cooperative measures, means and methods have been initiated to curb the menace of these violent groups. This study aims to examine the philosophical underpinnings of Boko Haram and ISWAP from 2009 to 2024, focusing on

- Convergences and divergences in their ideological and strategic messages,

- How counter-terrorism efforts are changing regional dynamics, and

- The implications of the evolving narratives for future counter-terrorism efforts vis-à-vis deradicalisation strategies in the Lake Chad Basin.

45) Maaike Ira Puspita, David Ronald Tairas

Bnpt Role In Preventing Indonesia Acts Of Terrorism: A Case Study In Mega Sport Events

Mega sport events are the target location for terrorists to launch their attack. The world has witnessed the worst acts of terrorism during the 1972 Munich Olympics and the risk of such incident has even doubled since the notorious 9/11 attack in Washington, D.C. and New York. The fight against acts of terrorism in Indonesia reached its peak after the disastrous 2001 Bali bombing, followed by the 2009 JW Marriot and Ritz Carlton bombing in Jakarta that cancelled the arrival of Manchester United football team. Hosting international sport events becomes the main agenda for Indonesia to put its name in the international level, as well as targeting the national economic development. Thus, the priorities to prevent any acts of terrorism has even becoming more urgent than before. The National Institution to Eradicate Acts of Terrorism (BNPT) needs to lay down a strong foundation and leads a strategic cooperation with other domestic bodies. This study highlights BNPT role in preventing acts of terrorism during international and national sport events, starting from the highly-celebrated 2018 ASIAN Games, F1 Mandalika Grand Prix, FIFA U-17 World CupTM to the current National Sport Week 2024 in Aceh and Medan. This study also showcases BNPT coordination with related institutions such as The Ministry of Sports and Youths and the police, in working together to lay a solid platform on terrorism prevention. By using the method of descriptive-narrative from secondary data, this journal is initiating a research to prevent acts of terrorism in sports.

46) Sherhannah S. Paiso-Bahjin

Fractured Filipino Identity: A Cross-Cultural Study of Abu Sayyaf's Weak Nationalism as a Driver to Violent Extremism

This study examines the impact of a diminished sense of national identity on the radicalisation of 30 former violent extremist offenders (FVEOs) associated with the Abu Sayyaf Group. Of these, 22 voluntarily surrendered to the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Philippine Joint Task Force-Sulu, while 8 were apprehended in Sabah, Malaysia, and repatriated to the Philippines. The main aim of this research is to examine how fragmented Filipino identity increases vulnerability to terrorism using the Input-Process-Output (I-P-O) framework and cross-cultural methodology. To achieve this, the study addresses three research questions: (1) What national symbols do former symbols do former ASG members identify with through their flag drawings? (2) How do performance of the Philippine national anthem manifest their Filipino identity? Filipino identity? (3) To what extent can they accurately recite the Philippine Patriotic Oath? reflecting their adherence to its principles?

The mixed-methods approach of the study collected qualitative and quantitative data through formative evaluations to assess participants' knowledge of national symbols and values. Key activities included drawing a flag they recognised, singing the Philippine National anthem and reciting the patriotic oath. Semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions provided further insights into personal experiences and perceptions of Filipino identity.

Building on theories of national identity and radicalisation, the research examined deviations from a unified national identity that pushed individuals towards fundamentalist Islam. It explored participants' allegiance to 'Bangsa Sug' (the Sulu nation) rather than the wider Filipino nation, and assessed this localised identity as a driver of radicalisation to violent extremism.

47) Khairul Akhtar Raja Naguib, Nur Adillah Omar

The Silent Threat: How Attitudes Shape an Individual Extremist - Case Study in Malaysia

It is widely recognised that there is a strong correlation between radicalisation and various psychological aspects. Research shows that many radicalised individuals have psychological profiles or vulnerabilities such as alienation, personal grievances and appeals to a sense of belonging and identity. These psychological factors may play an important role in shaping their susceptibility to extremist ideologies, influencing their behaviour and driving them towards radicalisation. It is therefore imperative to understand the psychological aspects of radicalisation in order to consider targeted and effective intervention and prevention strategies. Using the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB), the study identified three main psychological predictors of extremism according to the TPB: attitudes towards behaviour, subjective norms and perceived behavioural control. The study quantified these phenomena using semi-structured interviews with ex-prisoners and publicly available case records in Malaysia. This approach allowed for a deeper understanding of the findings.

48) Pujo Widodo, Gumilar Rusliwa Somantri, A. Hanief Saha Ghafur

Anticipative Strategy For The Radical Rise Of The Islamic State In Islamic Ideological Conflict In Southeast Asia

The difference in Islamic ideology between Muhammadiyah, Nadhatul Ulama (NU), Wahhabi, Salafi and various other Islamic sects. Opposition has increased with the emergence of the Islamic State as a result of the defeat of the Islamic State of Syria and Iraqy (ISIS) as Lone Wolf returned to their home country, causing an increase in radical actions and terrorism in Southeast Asia. The problem is that China's trade competition with the United States as a country with veto rights for peace, suppressing the interests

of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in hegemony and the world economy, is not able to prevent conflicts of Islamic ideology in Southeast Asia. This research aims to realize the anticipatory strategy of radical Islamic threats in Southeast Asia and its solutions in the future. The use of qualitative methods with historical approaches and case studies using discourse analysis techniques and ongoing case studies. The results of this study conclude as follows: First, Identify differences in views on morals and how to view the postulates of the Qur'an and Hadith about Superstition, Bidáh and Churofat (TBC) in Southeast Asia influenced by Sunny and Shia understandings. Second, the Islamic Ideological Conflict in Southeast Asia is influenced by the characters of the Baálawi and Walisongo descendants in the competition to find followers, supporters and sympathizers of Islamic Ideology influenced by the Israel-Hamaz conflict, the Arab-Iran conflict and the US-China conflict of interest. Third, the Anticipatory Strategy for the radical rise of Islamic State in the form of cooperation in early detection, early prevention and intelligence reports as early warning systems to the governments of each ASEAN country.

49) Daniel Rabitha, Ismail, Novi Dwi Nugroho, Choirul Fuad Yusuf, Rudy Harisyah Alam, Mulyana

GCC (Green Care Community): Initiation of Deradicalization and Reintegration of Former Napiter in Serang City

Indonesia in 2024 is ranked 31st and declared as a country that has a small impact from terrorism activities. Deradicalization is one of the programs that tends to affect the decline in the impact of acts of terrorism in Indonesia. Mubaraq et al (2022) stated that many *former* terrorists in Indonesia have returned to society and played a role in the deradicalization movement. Deradicalization programs tend to be directed by the government (BNPT) and rarely from the initiation of former terrorists. GCC (*Green Care Community*) is a deradicalization movement initiated by former terrorists in Serang, Banten Province. This article seeks to understand the GCC Movement as part of a concrete effort to deradicalize former terrorists in Serang-Banten. This research was conducted with a qualitative approach using interviews and reviewing documents related to GCC. This research results in the fact that the GCC is a deradicalization movement of former terrorists in Serang-Banten which is referred to as a "repentance arena". This movement has a pattern from social to economic stability of former terrorists in Indonesia.

50) Constance Izuchukwu Amannah

Global and Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Terrorism and Extremism: Understanding and Addressing the Evolving Threat Spectrum

Terrorism and extremism continue to pose multifaceted threats to global peace, security and development. As these phenomena evolve in scope, ideology and tactics, there is an urgent need for interdisciplinary approaches that incorporate insights from diverse fields such as political science, sociology, psychology, economics, law and technology. The global threat spectrum of terrorism has changed significantly over the past two decades with the rise of non-state actors, cyber extremism, lone wolf attacks and ideologically diverse extremist groups. Terrorist organisations have adopted more decentralised and digitally empowered models, using social media, encrypted communications and online radicalisation to recruit, indoctrinate and coordinate activities globally. Meanwhile, extremist ideologies - whether religious, political or ethno-nationalist - have become more diverse, fostering localised and globalised insurgencies. Addressing these evolving threats requires a nuanced understanding of the causes and drivers of extremism. Socio-economic inequalities, political marginalisation, identity conflicts and grievances against perceived injustices are often exploited by extremist groups to fuel recruitment and radicalisation. From a psychological perspective, understanding how individuals become radicalised - through personal, cognitive and social processes - enables the development of early interventions. Interdisciplinary responses must also take into account technological advances, which both aid the fight against terrorism and pose new challenges. While digital surveillance, artificial intelligence and data analytics have improved counter-terrorism efforts, extremist groups are using the same tools to increase operational efficiency, spread propaganda and evade detection. A combination of hard and soft power strategies is needed to respond to the evolving threat spectrum. International cooperation, intelligence sharing, legal frameworks and military action remain essential to neutralise immediate threats. At the same time, long-term solutions require investment in community engagement, education, social cohesion and de-radicalisation programmes. The role of international organisations, governments, civil society and academic institutions is crucial in developing holistic approaches that bridge global security imperatives with local socio-political dynamics. This paper argues for a comprehensive, interdisciplinary framework that integrates security, governance, human rights and development to effectively counter terrorism and extremism. It stresses the importance of global cooperation, tailored responses to different regional contexts, and continuous adaptation to the changing landscape of terrorism in the 21st century. A hybrid model, designed to disrupt terrorist networks by creating a circumstantial crack in terrorist networks, is recommended as a veritable tool for understanding and combating terrorism in its global scope. The hybrid model is a product of Eigenvector Centrality and Betweeness Centrality. The hybrid model depends on the results of conventional IoT surveillance. The IoTs detect networks of terrorists through sensors at various airports and terminals within and across countries around the world. The hybrid model examines what is detected by the IoTs and then analyses, evaluates, predicts and identifies the potential inhibitors of the networks.

51) Ahmed Hussein Zubayr

The Gendered Dynamics of Violent Extremism in Somalia

This paper explores the complex intersection of gender, violent extremism and vulnerability in Somalia. As a country that has long struggled with persistent gender inequality, high rates of gender-based violence (GBV), and the negative impact of extremist groups such as al-Shabaab, Somalia offers a poignant case study for understanding how extremist ideologies exploit existing social inequalities. Once perceived as primarily a male-dominated phenomenon, extremism in Somalia increasingly involves women in a variety of roles, from recruiters to direct participants. This research examines how extremist organisations manipulate traditional gender roles and family dynamics to exploit vulnerable women and minority communities. It addresses critical questions about the prevention of gender-based violent extremism, the role of the family in sustaining or mitigating radicalisation, and the need for state and civil society intervention in the private family sphere. Drawing on Social Identity Theory, this study examines how marginalised women and minorities in Somalia align themselves with extremist ideologies in order to gain power or recognition in a society where they face systemic gender discrimination and violence. It also applies social learning theory to understand how radical behaviours are transmitted within Somali families, particularly in contexts where extremist groups offer economic or social benefits that traditional governance structures fail to provide. The study will use a mixed methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative research. Qualitative case studies will focus on regions of Somalia where violent extremism and gender inequality are most pronounced, such as southern and central Somalia. Interviews with former extremists, victims of GBV, community leaders and women's rights activists will provide a comprehensive understanding of the role of gender in violent extremism. Quantitative data will be collected through surveys assessing the relationship between gender inequality, GBV and radicalisation in Somali households. Statistical regression analysis will be used to explore the relationship between women's involvement in extremism and factors such as economic deprivation, GBV and lack of access to education.

This research aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the complex interplay between gender, extremism and vulnerability in Somalia, and to inform the development of effective strategies to prevent and mitigate gender-based violent extremism.

52) Jonathan Suseno Sarwono

Echoes of Supremacy: The Digital Rise of Austronesian Nationalism and its Threat to Societal Harmony

The research begins with the possibility of a shift or evolution of terrorism from the fourth wave (religion-based) to the fifth wave (grievance-based). The dissolution of the Jemaah Islamiyah group last June provided evidence that jihad-based terrorist and extremist groups are weakening. This fifth wave combines the entire ideology of the first four waves. This perpetual grievance refers to a continuous anti-attitude towards what they perceive as their enemies. An example of this is the Austronesian supremacy narrative that has emerged in Indonesia and other Southeast Asian countries. This narrative, based on ethno-nationalism, seeks to establish a nation composed entirely of Austronesian descendants. Its extremist views target non-indigenous heritage, such as Chinese or Arab descendants, as well as Rohingya refugees. Therefore, this research aims to explore the emergence of the Austronesian Supremacy narrative on social media and analyse its possible development into a movement similar to the White Supremacy movement that exists in Europe and the United States. This paper will compare the ways in which Austronesian Supremacy is similar to Western supremacist ideologies in terms of its causes and its ability to generate xenophobia and social division. This will be achieved by examining the ideological underpinnings, propaganda tactics and impact on marginalised communities, in particular the Rohingya refugees. Furthermore, the analysis will highlight the risks of such narratives evolving into broader extremist movements in Southeast Asia, emphasising the need for comprehensive counter-measures involving state and regional actors. Using digital ethnography, this paper examines interactions on social media platforms, as well as memes and narratives, to trace the development of this ideology. Various online media have revealed an increasing adoption of Western supremacist ideologies, posing a threat to the regional cohesion of diverse Southeast Asia. Key findings such as the localisation of the Great Replacement theory, acronyms and imagery suggest the idea of similarities. Finally, this paper highlights the importance of interdisciplinary methodologies and counter-extremism strategies to prevent the escalation of such beliefs in the region.

53) Khadija Yakubu

Women's Involvement in Terrorism in the Nigerian Insurgency: An Analysis of Selected Media Reports

Terrorism, like a deadly insect, has infiltrated the global consciousness and Nigerians are no exception. The involvement of women in terrorism in Nigeria has been reported by various media outlets, portraying women as active participants in these heinous activities. Traditionally seen as symbols of positive productivity and incubators of future generations, women have on several occasions been used as suicide bombers, errand girls for terrorists, sexual partners and ammunition carriers. Boko Haram, a terrorist group operating in Nigeria, has used more female suicide bombers than any other

terrorist organisation in the world. On 30 June 2024, a female suicide bomber detonated an explosive device in Borno State, injuring more than 30 people. While some women join the group voluntarily, others are kidnapped or coerced by the group. This study focuses on how women are used to commit acts of terrorism in Nigeria by analysing selected media reports, using a thematic approach to provide a deeper insight into the negative effects of women's involvement in terrorism. The findings show that many Nigerian women involved in terrorism are driven by extreme poverty, particularly in the northern region where terrorism is most prevalent, as well as unemployment, lack of proper education and lack of awareness. The study recommends that the government and independent agencies make concerted efforts to provide basic training, education and awareness programmes to curb this situation.

54) Adrianus Meliala, Muhammad Mustofa, Alexander Sabar

The Propaganda of Hyper-Terrorism: An Analysis of 516 Cases of Former Terrorist Convicts in Indonesia

The use of cyberspace by terrorist groups is a significant and growing trend in the contemporary landscape of global terrorism. This phenomenon, referred to as "cyberterrorism", is a manifestation of hyperterrorism, an adaptation of Jean Baudrillard's conceptual framework. Terrorists exploit the potential of cyberspace to shape the opinions and beliefs of specific communities by disseminating propaganda in audio and visual formats. The importance of understanding and countering this trend cannot be overstated. This paper examines the various forms of propaganda used by terrorists in Indonesia, based on an analysis of 516 data points extracted from the charging documents of former terrorism convicts. The analysis was rigorously conducted using two software tools: Gephi for network and data visualisation and MAXQDA for qualitative data analysis. These tools facilitated the understanding of relationships and patterns within the dataset and ensured the objectivity of the study. The data set is then analysed using Goffman's concept of dramaturgy to explain the roles of terrorist actors in cyberspace from both the front and backstage perspectives. This is the most effective way of understanding the roles of these actors. The front stage shows how terrorists influence audiences in public cyberspace. For example, they manipulate and create positive impressions. They deliberately project images of religious devotion and heroism through various symbols and narratives. These include religious struggle (jihad), the caliphate, martyrdom and the promise of a place in paradise. Another common tactic is for perpetrators to justify terrorist movements as a form of resistance or war against the "evil" they represent. This is a clear example of the "dramatisation of evil". Behind the scenes, the mechanisms and techniques used are revealed. They create a whole image in front of the public by planning and preparing acts of terror without any public supervision, such as planning attack strategies, training and recruiting new fighters. In conclusion, the findings of this research are of paramount importance. They can be

summarised by the concept of 1P + 8P, which asserts that hyper-terrorism is fundamentally based on propaganda. The persuasive narratives and experiences shared on social media often carry more weight and influence than reality. Understanding the forms and strategies of propaganda used by terrorist groups is a crucial step in developing more effective counter-terrorism strategies in general and in Indonesia in particular.

55) Darryl Evan Brouwer, Amira Paripurna,

Financial Intelligence Report Evidence in Terrorist Financing Trials: The right to a fair trial in counter-terrorism legal policy

In order to eradicate terrorism, counter-terrorist financing legislation plays an important role. Funds collected by the terrorist financier are the "fuel" for terrorists to carry out terrorist activities. The development of counter-terrorism policies worldwide has strengthened the role of the Financial Intelligence Unit. The Financial Intelligence Unit report is one of the sources that could be used in tracing suspicious transactions related to terrorist activities or terrorist groups One way of countering the financing of terrorism is through the criminal justice system. Sufficient evidence and judicial conviction beyond a reasonable doubt are required for a criminal conviction of a terrorist financing offender. The opaque nature of terrorist financing methods leads to the inevitable role of financial intelligence report with respect to the confidentiality of financial intelligence report. This article aims to analyse the urgency of financial intelligence report to be used as evidence in the trial of terrorism financing offender. The confidentiality of financial intelligence report in order to maintain national security on the one hand and the right to fair trial on the other hand are the two competing interests that will be analysed in their relation to the proposed model of using financial intelligence report as evidence. This article is a legal research conducted in the normative research method with legal, conceptual and comparative approaches. This research concludes that the financial intelligence report as evidence should be accommodated in criminal justice systems worldwide restrictively with respect to the right to fair trial as a fundamental condition to establish the adversarial criminal justice system.

56) Benya Jumiu, I.O. Mustapha, N.O. Oniyeye, F.D. Muhammad

Cyber Terrorism and Security in the Industrial Revolution 4.0: AI-powered defence mechanisms using computer vision and NLP

As the Industrial Revolution 4.0 progresses, the integration of digital technologies into every aspect of society has introduced new vulnerabilities, leading to an escalation in cyber terrorism. Traditional cybersecurity methods are increasingly inadequate against the complexity and sophistication of modern cyber threats. This paper examines how

artificial intelligence (AI), with a particular focus on computer vision and natural language processing (NLP), can improve cybersecurity defences against these emerging threats. By exploring the applications of these AI technologies in real-time threat detection and response, the paper aims to provide insights into their effectiveness in protecting critical infrastructure and digital assets. In addition, the paper addresses the ethical and regulatory considerations of using AI in cybersecurity to ensure that these technologies are used responsibly and transparently to protect privacy and civil liberties.

57) Faby Izaura Barus, Tamara Nair, Bora Park, Jompon Pitaksantayothim, Miftahul Ulum

The Human Security Approach to Countering Cyber Terrorism: Perspectives from ASEAN Member States

This paper explores the application of the human security approach in combating cyber terrorism by both state and non-state actors within ASEAN member states in their cyber security strategies. With the rise of cyber threats such as online radicalisation and extremism, traditional security measures that focus on protecting national infrastructure and preventing cyber attacks are no longer sufficient. The human security approach, which emphasises the protection of individuals and communities, has become increasingly important in addressing these complex challenges. This shift requires a rethinking of cyber extremism within cybersecurity, not only as a technical issue, but also as a broader social and human issue affecting vulnerable populations. To explore how human security principles are being incorporated into cybersecurity strategies against cyberterrorism in ASEAN member states, this paper uses a qualitative case study methodology. Data were collected through literature and document reviews, surveys and focus group discussions (FGDs) with key cyber security stakeholders involved in countering cyber terrorism in the region. The data were analysed using content analysis, providing an in-depth look at the ways in which human security is being applied, the effectiveness of these efforts, and the challenges actors face in fully integrating this approach. The findings indicate that state and non-state actors have begun to recognise the need for a human security lens in dealing with cyberterrorism, but its integration into policy and practice is still at an early stage. Traditional security approaches continue to dominate, particularly those focused on securing infrastructure and preventing data breaches. However, there are emerging efforts to create community-based solutions that emphasise building trust, social cohesion and empowering individuals and vulnerable groups. While promising, these efforts often struggle to fully address the root causes of online radicalisation, such as social inequality, lack of access to education, and the psychological drivers of extremism. One of the key challenges identified in the study is the lack of trust in cyberspace. For human security strategies to succeed, individuals and

communities need to trust that their online interactions are safe and confidential. But in many cases, the complexity of cyber threats and the involvement of multiple actors - from criminals to political entities - make it difficult to ensure security and confidentiality. In addition, there is a disconnect between traditional and human security measures, with limited collaboration between state actors focused on technical cybersecurity solutions and non-state actors focused on community resilience and social inclusion. The study also highlights the synergies and conflicts between state and non-state actors. While both groups share common goals, such as improving online safety and preventing radicalisation, their methods and priorities often diverge. State actors tend to prioritise infrastructure protection and compliance with legal frameworks, while non-state actors focus on empowerment and psychosocial support for vulnerable populations. These differences can create tensions, but they also offer opportunities for cooperation, particularly in areas such as public-private partnerships and community-based interventions.

58) Khoirul Anam, Najih Arromadloni, Ginanjar Sya'ban

Stronger than Guns: Using Moderate Islamic Education for Families Affected by Terrorism to Counter Extremism in Indonesia

This paper examines the efficacy of moderate Islamic education as a transformative force in disrupting and countering radical terrorist narratives and promoting resilience among families affected by terrorism in Indonesia. Drawing on Bronfenbrenner's ecological theory, the study examines the intricate social dynamics, from immediate family influences to larger community contexts, that contribute to peacebuilding efforts. Through an analysis of scholarships provided to young people from the regions most affected by terrorism, namely Poso, Bima and Ambon, the findings reveal that moderate Islamic education not only acts as a safeguard against radicalisation, but also empowers young people to become agents of peace upon their return to their home communities. This research underscores the strategic importance of investing in moderate Islamic education initiatives as a means of breaking the cycle of extremism and promoting sustainable peace in areas with a history of conflict.

59) Eko Setyo Utomo, Eva Achjani Zulfa, Petrus Mursanto, Muhamad Syauqillah, Solikhah Yuliatiningtya

The Role of BNPT and Densus 88 in Combating Cyber Terrorism in Indonesia: The Use of Artificial Intelligence and Public Policy Analysis

The rapid advancement of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has provided numerous benefits but also poses significant threats, particularly in the form of cyber-attacks. In Indonesia, the National Counter-Terrorism Agency (BNPT) and the Special Detachment 88 (Densus 88) play crucial roles in addressing the growing threat of cyber terrorism, which is increasingly utilizing advanced technology. This article explores how BNPT and Densus 88 leverage artificial intelligence (AI) to detect and combat potential cyber-attacks while mitigating vulnerabilities in the nation's critical infrastructure. AI-based approaches aid in analyzing big data, detecting terrorism-related patterns in cyberspace, and enhancing intelligence gathering. The article also analyzes public policies developed by the Indonesian government to strengthen cyber resilience, bolster legal frameworks, and promote international cooperation in countering cyberterrorism threats. Through this qualitative study, strategies adopted by BNPT and Densus 88 are presented, along with the challenges and opportunities in implementing AI in counter-terrorism efforts in the digital era.

60) Taliya Qory Ismail, Tsabitha Afifah Khoirunnisa, Sapto Priyanto, Eva Achjani Zulfa

The Dissolution of Al Jamaah Al Islamiyah: Legal Challenges and Criminal Law Implications in Indonesia

The terrorist activities of Al Jamaah Al Islamiyah (JI) have significantly shaped the development of Indonesia's legal and criminal framework, particularly in relation to countering violent extremism (CVE). The evolution of Indonesia's counterterrorism laws, from Perpu No. 1 Tahun 2002 to UU No. 5 Tahun 2018, illustrates the country's efforts to address the growing threat posed by extremist groups. Although JI was officially banned in 2008, it remained active under the strategic leadership of Para Wijayanto until his arrest in 2019. This study examines the dissolution of Jemaah Islamiyah through the lens of Indonesian criminal law, focusing on both its legal status and broader social implications. Data is drawn from interviews with former JI members, supported by secondary sources such as news reports and published articles. The research highlights the slow and complex process of dismantling JI, including the challenges of reintegrating ex-members and recovering weapons. It also highlights the need for curriculum reform in JI-affiliated educational institutions and recommends working with the government to accelerate reintegration efforts. The findings show that while the dissolution of JI is a crucial step, it does not absolve individuals from legal accountability, and underscores the critical need for a strong legal and institutional framework to ensure the long-term enforcement of the rule of law and prevent future resurgence of extremist activities.

61) Rizki Wahyudi, Arief Mochammad Wibisino

Delegitimising Support for Terrorism: Assessing the Role of Indonesian-African Government Cooperation in Limiting Terrorist Movement

When insurgents are motivated by resources, terrorists tend to compete for popular support. Terrorism is a significant global threat that destabilises nations, weakens economies and challenges democratic institutions. Combating terrorism requires international cooperation, especially between regions such as Indonesia and Africa, which face similar problems of weak state institutions and extremist violence against state-building. While much research has been done on the international peacebuilding efforts of powerful states, the specific role of Indonesian-African cooperation in curbing terrorist activities has been underexplored. This study aims to fill this gap by examining how these 'young democratic' states implement counter-terrorism strategies. This research examines the role of Indonesian-African government cooperation in delegitimising and countering terrorism, focusing on peacebuilding efforts aimed at restricting the movement, influence and support of terrorist groups. Using case studies and policy analysis, it examines diplomatic and development initiatives, including security measures such as UN peacekeeping military deployments, to assess their effectiveness in countering terrorism. The findings suggest that sustained cooperation between Indonesia and African countries has had a positive impact on reducing terrorism by promoting political stability, economic development and social resilience. These efforts contribute to undermining terrorist movements and dismantling support networks. This study highlights the importance of regional and intercontinental partnerships in addressing the root causes of terrorism. It underlines the need for comprehensive counter-terrorism policies and sustained international cooperation to achieve long-term peace and security.

62) Fithriadi Muslim, Muhamad Syauqillah, Eva Achjani Zulfa

The Shifting Of Terrorist Financing In Indonesia: From Conventional To Crowdfunding

The terrorist financing activities in Indonesia has been shifted from conventional method likes through banking, remittance, and self-funded to technology method likes financial technologies (i.e. peer-to-peer lending), crowdfunding, and virtual asset. According to the 2021 Indonesia's terrorist financing national risk assessment identify that crowdfunding as high vulnerability for collecting activities, also peer-to-peer lending and virtual asset identify as emerging treat of terrorist financing in Indonesia. The qualitative method used to obtain information from law enforcement agencies, regulatory agencies, and expert to find the current activities of terrorist financing and any factors that cause the shifting from conventional to crowdfunding. The Abu Ahmad Foundation (AAF) case, the Syam Organizer (SO) case, the Gerakan Sehari Seribu (Gashibu), and other current terrorist financing cases shows that the crowdfunding for social, humanity, and religious donation has been abused for terrorist financing activities. This scope of this paper is to provide evidence on the

shifting terrorist financing activity from conventional to crowdfunding. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) provides the definition of crowdfunding means collecting funding from public through internet based. Therefore, crowdfunding on terrorist financing specific on collecting funding or donation by utilizing internet as a platform. The operator of the donation through crowdfunding for terrorist financing purpose may conduct by individual relates with terrorist or terrorist organization (i.e. sympathizer, people with radicalize), terrorist, terrorist organization, and/or non-profit organization (NPO), both legal NPO(s) and sham NPO(s). There are several key findings on this paper related factors that cause the shifting of terrorist financing in Indonesia to crowdfunding, which are (1) there is unclear regulation and supervisory agencies on donation in Indonesia (i.e. out of date, overlap regulations) specifically on permitting collecting fund from public; (2) the regulation allowing the establishment of nonlegal entity of NPO, also there is no requirement to register to supervisory authority. This event cause the vulnerability on establishment of sham NPO by terrorist organization (i.e. SO was established by Jamaah Islamiyah); (3) according to Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), in 2024, Indonesia published as the most generous country, but lack of public literacy of legal donation; (4) the absence or limitation of monitoring on crowdfunding activities for terrorist financing purpose. The National Counter-Terrorism Agency (NCTA/BNPT) and Ministry of Communication and Informatic states that the government found difficulties to monitor crowdfunding because the terrorist masking their transaction with usual and occasional transaction.