



## Course Syllabus

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>ECTS Credits</b>
MIR-688DE	Terrorism and other Forms of Asymmetric Threats	10
<b>Prerequisites</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Semester</b>
None	Politics and Governance	Fall/Spring
<b>Type of Course</b>	<b>Field</b>	<b>Language of Instruction</b>
Elective	International Relations / Security Studies	English
<b>Level of Course</b>	<b>Lecturer(s)</b>	<b>Year of Study</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Cycle	Dr. Constantinos Adamides	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	<b>Work Placement</b>	<b>Corequisites</b>
Distance Learning	N/A	None

### Course Objectives:

The two main objectives of the course are the study of terrorism at various theoretical levels and the analysis of 4 cases of terrorist organizations.

Specifically, students will have the opportunity to theoretically examine various aspects of terrorism, such as:

- o The historical origins of terrorism
- o How terrorism is 'manifested' in different time periods
- o State terrorism and the use of technology and the internet
- o Funding and training
- o The relationship between terrorism and the media
- o State and social dilemmas on "freedom" v. "security"
- o Geopolitical developments and how they affect terrorist organizations

•The aim of the 4 case studies - in addition to the in-depth analysis of the specific organizations - is to connect the theoretical parts of the course with specific cases. In other words, the goal is not only

to analyze the specific organizations, but also to examine and understand the various variables that can lead to the creation, perpetuation and / or dissolution of terrorist organizations.

Furthermore, one of the primary objectives is to acquire knowledge and develop analytical skills on, inter alia, the history and Modus Operandi of terrorist groups, anti-terrorist governmental and non-governmental options and on the impact of terrorism on geopolitical relationships.

Lastly, the objective is to study the issue of terrorism and the case studies within the frameworks of geopolitical developments, the international law and the responsibility and efforts of states to protect their citizens, with all the potentially inadvertent repercussions of their efforts towards the recycling of violence.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

- Comprehend what is – and equally importantly what is not – terrorism and terrorist groups.
- Develop analytical and research skills using the theoretical knowledge acquired on issues of mainstream and more contemporary terrorism.
- Analyze and present case studies of specific terrorist groups and terrorism incidences.
- Acquire profound knowledge on at least 4 case studies (Islamic State, Al Qaeda, Hamas, Hezbollah).
- Describe and evaluate the impact of specific geopolitical changes and historical circumstances on the development and actions of specific terrorist groups.
- Utilize international relations-based theoretical tools – especially from the field of security and conflicts – to analyze terrorism.
- Acquire a profound understanding of the different dimensions of terrorism and the contemporary challenges, including cyber terrorism, the ability (or inability) to profile potential terrorists, anti-terrorist options, cyber terrorism, etc.
- Develop the ability to understand and evaluate different aspects such as funding, recruitment, dissemination of information, radicalization, etc.

**Course Content:**

The course is separated into 3 main sections

1. Terrorism - theoretical approaches
  - 1.1 The evolution of terrorism
  - 1.2 The development of contemporary terrorism
  - 1.3 State and other forms of terrorism
  - 1.4 Drone attacks – state terrorism?
  - 1.5 Ethnic/national terrorism
  - 1.6 Violence and terrorism
  - 1.7 Cyber terrorism
2. Contemporary dimensions of terrorism
  - 2.1 Media and terrorism
  - 2.2 Terrorism and international law
  - 2.3 Lone wolves
  - 2.4 The risk of the ‘returnees’
  - 2.5 Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction
  - 2.6 Obstacles in identifying potential terrorist
  - 2.7 Freedom vs. security
  - 2.8 Foreign interventionism and terrorism
  - 2.9 Recruitment, funding and training of terrorist groups
3. Case studies
  - 3.1 Hamas
  - 3.2 Hezbollah
  - 3.3 Al Qaida
  - 3.4 ISIS

**Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

Lectures, Presentations, Case Study Analysis, weekly Article Reviews, forum discussions, research paper

**Assessment Methods:**

- i. Weekly article reviews (Response Papers – 8 in total)
- ii. Research paper
- iii. Forum discussions (weekly responses)
- iv. Final exam

### Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century (7 <sup>th</sup> . Edition)  <a href="#">E-book available</a>	Combs, C. C.	Routledge	2016	9780205851652

**Articles – In addition to the assigned books chapters, at least one main article (Academic articles – the ones without an asterisk) per week are required readings. You are free to choose which ones to read in cases where there is more than one. The rest of articles are recommended.**

- Aarti Lyer, Webster Joanna, Hornsey Matthew, Vanman Eric J, 2014. Understanding the power of the picture: the effect of image content and emotional and political responses to terrorism. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*. 44: 511-521.
- \* Abraams et al. 2017. What comes after ISIS. *Foreign Policy*. July 10, 2017.
- Asat R. 2020. The world's most technologically sophisticated genocide is happening in Xinjiang. *Foreign Policy*.
- Auerswald David P., 2006. Deterring Nonstate WMD Attacks. In Demetrios James Caraley and Loren Morales Kando, *Terrorist Attacks and Nuclear Proliferation. Strategies for Overlapping Dangers*, The Academy of Political Science, pp. 75-100.
- \* Apuzzo Matt, 2016. Who will become a terrorist? Research yields few clues. The New York Times. Available at: <http://nyti.ms/1VPp5ep>
- Azani Eitan, 2013. The Hybrid Terrorist Organization: Hezbollah as a case study. *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, Issue 36, pp. 899-916
- Barret R. 2016. Beyond the Caliphate: Foreign Fighters and the Threat of Returnees. *The Soufan Center*.
- \* BBC. Profile: Hamas Palestinian Movement. Available at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-13331522>

- \* BBC. Profile: Lebanon's Hezbollah movement
- Bakker E. and Graaf B. 2014. Towards a theory of fear management in the counterterrorism domain: a stocktaking approach. *International Center for Counter-Terrorism – The Hague*.
- Blair C. 2020. The death and life of terrorist networks. *Foreign Affairs*.
- Blakeley Ruth, 2007. Bringing the state back into terrorism studies. *European Political Science* 6. pp. 228-235
- Bunzel Cole, 2015. From paper state to caliphate: The ideology of the Islamic State. Center for Middle East Policy, by Brookings.
- Butt R. and Tuck H. European Counter-radicalization and De-radicalization: A comparative evaluation of approaches in the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark and Germany. *Institute for Strategic Dialogue, Cross-country evaluation report*.
- Byman D. 2019. Does Al Qaeda have a future? *The Washington Quarterly*. Vol. 42(3): 65-75.
- \* Callimachi R. 2016. How a secretive branch of ISIS built a global network of killers. *New York Times*
- \* Champion Marc 2015. Internal Borders aren't the answer to EU terrorism. Bloomberg View. Available at: <http://www.bloombergvie.com/articles/2015-11-24/ending-schengen-is-not-the-way-to-stop-terrorism-in-europe>
- \* CNN, 2016. The inside story of the Paris terror attack. Available at: <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/03/30/europe/inside-paris-brussels-terror-attacks/index.html>
- Clunan Anne L., 2007. The Fight Against Terrorist Financing. In Demetrios James Caraley and Loren Morales Kando, *Terrorist Attacks and Nuclear Proliferation. Strategies for Overlapping Dangers*, The Academy of Political Science, pp. 101-128.
- Di Filippo Marcello (2014). Introduction: The Uses And Abuses Of The Term 'Terrorism' – The Need To Shift From A Label To A Juridical Concept. SSRN. Available at: [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=3021978](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3021978)
- Dubin Rhys (2018). *Coalition Analysis Warns of Potential Islamic State's Resurgence*. Foreign Policy. Available at: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/01/10/coalition-analysis-warns-of-potential-islamic-state-resurgence-iraq-isis-isil-terrorism-military/>
- Ganor Boaz, 2009. Terrorism in the twenty-first century. In S.C Shapira et al. *Essentials of Terror Medicine*. Springer, pp. 13-26

- \* Global Security. Al-Qaida / Al-Qaeda Background. Available at: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/al-qaida-background.htm>
- \* Global Security. Al-Qaida / Al-Qaeda (The Base). Available at: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/al-qaida.htm>
- Hodgson Jacqueline S. and Tadros Victor (2013). The impossibility of defining terrorism. *New Criminal Law Review* Vol. 16 No. 3. Pp. 494-526.
- Hroub K., 2017. A Newer Hamas? The Revised Charter. *Journal of Palestine Studies*. Vol. 46 No. 4, Summer 2017: 100-111. Available at: <http://jps.ucpress.edu/content/46/4/100.full.pdf+html>
- Jarvis Lee, Macdonald Stuart, Whiting Andrew. 2016. Unpacking cyberterrorism discourse: Specifics, status, and scale in news media constructions of threat. *European Journal of International Relations*. Vol. 2 part 1. Pp. 64-87.
- Janssen F. 2009. Hamas and its Positions Towards Israel: Understanding the Islamic Resistance Organization through the concept of framing. *Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael*.
- \* Kaminski Matthew, 2015. Interview 'All the terrorists are migrants'. Politico. Available at: <http://www.politico.eu/article/viktor-orban-interview-terrorists-migrants-eu-russia-putin-borders-schengen/>
- Krieker T and Meierrieks D. (2011). What causes terrorism? *Public Choice* Vol. 147, pp. 3-27
- Krueger Alan and Maleckova Jitka (2003). Education, Poverty and Terrorism: Is there a causal connection? *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17(4): 119-144.
- Lahoud N. 2021. Bin Laden's Catastrophic Success: Al Qaeda Changed the World—but Not in the Way It Expected. *Foreign Affairs*. September/October 2021.
- Levitt M. 2004. Hamas from Cradle to Grave. *The Middle East Quarterly*. Winter 2004, pp. 3-15.
- Lyer A., Webster J., Hornsey MJ, Vanman E. 2014. Understanding the power of the picture: the effect of image content on emotional and political response to terrorism. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*. Vol. 44 pp. 511-521.
- \* Mansour R. (2018). *ISIS inc*. Foreign Policy. Available at: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/01/16/isis-inc-islamic-state-iraq-syria/>

- McLaughlin John, 2016. Islamic State and WMD: A future nightmare? Available at: <http://www.ozy.com/OZY-TRIBE/JOHN-MCLAUGHLIN/2751>
- Melki Jad and Jabado May. 2016. Mediated Public Diplomacy of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria: The Synergistic Use of Terrorism, Social Media and Branding. *Media and Communication*. Vol. 4, No. 2. Pp. 92-103
- Michael O. and Brands H. 2021. American failed its way to counterterrorism success. *Foreign Affairs*.
- 
- Mironova V. 2017. The bloody split within ISIS. *Foreign Affairs*.
- Nowrasteh A. 2016. Terrorism and Immigration. *CATO Institute – Policy Analysis*. No. 798.
- Pokalova E. (2018). The Al Qaeda Brand: The Strategic Use of the “Terrorist” Label. *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 30(3): 408-427.
- Radil Steven M. & Pinos Jaume Castan, 2019. Reexamining the Four Waves of Modern Terrorism: A Territorial Interpretation. *Territorial Interpretation, Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610X.2019.1657310>
- Rapoport David. 2001. The Fourth Wave: September 11 in the History of Terrorism. *Current History*. December 2001.
- Rapoport David. 2002. The Four Waves of Rebel Terror and September 11. *Anthropoetics: The journal of Generative Anthropology*. VIII, no. 1 Spring/ Summer 2002
- Ravndal Jacob Aasland. 2016. Right wing terrorism and violence in western Europe: Introducing the RTV Dataset. *Perspectives on Terrorism*. Vol. 10 No. 3 pp. 2-15.
- Rhodes B. 2020. The 9/11 Era is over. *TheAtlantic.com*.
- Sandler Todd, 2013. Advances in the study of the economics of terrorism. *Southern Economic Journal* 79(4), 768-773
- Sinai Joshua, 2008. How to define terrorism. *Perspectives on Terrorism*. Vol. 2 No. 4. Available at: <http://www.terrorismanalysts.com/pt/index.php/pot/article/view/33/html>
- Sobelman Daniel. 2017. Learning to Deter: Deterrence Failure and Success in the Israel-Hezbollah Conflict, 2006–16 *International Security*, Vol. 41, No. 3 (Winter 2016/17), pp. 151–196
- Tishler N.A. 2018. Fake Terrorism: Examining Terrorist Groups’ Resort to Hoaxing as a Mode of Attack. *Perspectives on Terrorism*. Vol. 18 No. 4, pp. 3-13.

- Treverton G., Thvedt A., Chen A., and Lee K. (2018). Addressing Hybrid Threats. *Swedish Defense University, Center for Asymmetric Threat Studies and European Center of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats*. Available at: <https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1219292/FULLTEXT01.pdf>
- \* US National Security Strategy for Counter -Terrorism. Available on the platform..
- Walt Stephen, 2016. Monsters of our imaginings. *Foreign Policy*. (March 24, 2016).
- Walter Christian, 2003. Defining Terrorism in National and International Law. Available at: [https://www.unodc.org/tldb/bibliography/Biblio\\_Terr\\_Def\\_Walter\\_2003.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/tldb/bibliography/Biblio_Terr_Def_Walter_2003.pdf)
- Weimann G. 2016. Terrorist migration to the dark web. *Perspectives on terrorism*. 10(3): 40-44.
- Wright Joshua D. 2016. Why is contemporary religious terrorism predominantly linked to Islam? Four possible psychosocial factors. *Perspectives on Terrorism*. Vol. 10, No1. Pp. 19-31.
- Wolf K. An analysis of Islamic State Propaganda Distribution. *Flashpoint*
- Wood. 2015. What ISIS really wants. *The Atlantic*. Available at: <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2015/03/what-isis-really-wants/384980/>