

Welcome from the Editors

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to announce the release of Volume VII, Issue 4 (August 2013) of *Perspectives on Terrorism* at www.terrorismanalysts.com. This issue has been prepared at our American editorial office in the Center for Terrorism and Security Studies at the University of Massachusetts Lowell (www.uml.edu/ctss). The next issue will be prepared in the journal's European office by the Editor-in-Chief, Alex Schmid, and his team.

This is a special “single theme” issue, offering insights and analyses about financial activities of terrorists, with a particular emphasis on one of the world’s most powerful and well-financed groups—the Lebanese Shia militia Hezbollah. In the first piece, Michael Freeman and Moyara Ruehsen offer a brief tour through the complex world of terrorist strategies for raising and moving funds. Then Matthew Levitt offers a case study of Hezbollah’s European criminal enterprises. Joel Hernandez follows him with a detailed case study of the intersections between Hezbollah and global trafficking networks, including the infamous Mexican cartel Los Zetas. The final article by Aimen Dean, Edwina Thompson and Tom Keatinge is especially policy-relevant, containing six recommendations that ought to be heeded, especially with regard to Somalia where the implementation of ill-considered counter-terrorism measures could harm those most in need of assistance rather than the terrorists.

This issue also features an excellent, state-of-the-art guide on how to conduct advanced literature reviews in the field of Terrorism Studies, authored by our own Judith Tinnes, along with book reviews by Joshua Sinai and Alex Schmid, and a bibliography of books, articles and reports on the financing of terrorism by our regular contributor Eric Price from Vienna.

Sincerely,

James J.F. Forest

Co-Editor