
Welcome from the Editors

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to announce the release of Volume VIII, Issue 2 (April 2014) of *Perspectives on Terrorism* at www.terrorismanalysts.com. Our free online journal is a joint publication of the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI), headquartered in Vienna, and the Centre for Terrorism and Security Studies (CTSS), headquartered at the University of Massachusetts' Lowell campus.

The report from a recent conference on conflict and reconciliation in Syria, co-sponsored by TRI and CTSS, is now available on the journal's home page (www.terrorismanalysts.com), along with the announcement of a new conference – “Religious Extremism in Syria” – to be held May 2 in Vienna, Austria. Also, CTSS is co-sponsoring (with the Society for Terrorism Research) the 8th Annual International Conference on Terrorism and Counterterrorism (17-19 September in Boston, Massachusetts). Please visit the following website for details and the Call for Papers: www.uml.edu/Research/CTSS/STR-Conference/. Finally, the Award Jury has begun to evaluate the 29 verified submissions we received for the “Best Dissertation on (Counter-) Terrorism published in 2013” competition. The award winner will be announced, and a summary of the thesis will be published in the August 2014 issue of *Perspectives on Terrorism*. TRI will also assist the award winner in finding a publisher for his or her thesis so that the full results of the award-winning research become available to the scholarly community with minimal delay. The August 2014 issue of the journal will also announce the honorable mention of authors whose theses were judged second and third best.

Now in its eighth year, *Perspectives on Terrorism* has over 4,200 regular subscribers and many times more occasional readers worldwide. Our Twitter account ([@Perspectives_T](https://twitter.com/Perspectives_T)) has over 19,000 followers, further enhancing the visibility of the Journal. The Articles of its six annual issues are fully peer-reviewed by external referees while its Research Notes, Resource and Book Reviews sections are subject to internal editorial review.

The core of this issue of *Perspectives on Terrorism* is comprised of four thought-provoking research articles. The lead article, by Joseph Young and Laura Dugan, examines the relationship of strategic competition between terrorist groups and the longevity of terrorist groups. Matt Levitt provides an interesting case study of Hezbollah operatives in Egypt. Heather Gregg describes how religious and secular groups differ in their goals, leadership and target selection, and explains why counterterrorism strategies should take these differences into account. Drawing from their survey of researchers in twenty-four countries, Lee Jarvis and Stuart Macdonald illustrate the global debate about defining and using concepts like cyberterrorism, cyber jihad, and cyber crime.

Dr. Judith Tinnes has compiled a lengthy literature list on the Muslim Brotherhood. Eric Price has compiled a bibliography on violent extremism and efforts to counter it. Finally, our book reviews editor, Joshua Sinai, presents brief summaries of 27 mostly new publications in the field.

The current issue of *Perspectives on Terrorism* was prepared by Prof. James J. F. Forest, the American co-editor at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. The June issue will be assembled by Editor-in-Chief, Prof. em. Alex P. Schmid.

Sincerely,

Professor James J.F. Forest

Co-Editor, *Perspectives on Terrorism*