TRI National/Regional TRI Networks (Partial) Inventory of Ph.D. Theses in the Making

by Alex P. Schmid (Network Coordinator)

The Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI) seeks to stimulate research in various ways, one being the annual competition for the best Ph.D. thesis in the field of terrorism and counter-terrorism. Another effort involves the organization of national or (sub-) regional networks of researchers engaged in writing a doctoral dissertation on (counter-) terrorism or a closely-related subject at a recognized academic institution. There are a dozen TRI Theses Writers Networks in existence, some functioning better than others. Below, the reader will find a list of two dozen doctoral theses in the making. In each case the (working) title of a thesis is given, followed by the name of the Ph.D. researcher and the one of the university where the thesis is being written. The expected date of completion is given at the end. In addition to the networks listed below, there are also (proto-) networks in existence in Australia, Canada, Greece, the Netherlands (incl. Flanders in Belgium), Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia and the United Kingdom.

Graduate students who wish to join a network should contact the network coordinator at <apschmid@terrorismanalysts.com>.

Austrian-German-Swiss Network (Coordinator: Johannes Saal)

   Géraldine Casutt
   University of Fribourg (CH) and EHESS-Paris
   Expected date of completion: 2017.

   Aviva Guttmann
   University of Bern and Handa Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence (CSTPV), University St. Andrews
   Expected date of completion: February 2016.

3. Policies of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan toward Afghanistan: Common Structures, Varying Outcomes
   Azamjon Isabaev
   Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy, University of Hamburg
   Expected date of completion: September 2016.
4. The Dark Social Capital of Religious Terrorists: Analyzing Radicalization, Recruitment and Dynamics of Jihadist Networks in Europe

Johannes Saal
Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (GSL), University of Lucerne
Expected date of completion: Summer 2018.

5. Ermittlungen gegen Organisierte Kriminalität: Ein Vergleich des deutschen und kolumbianischen Rechts [Investigations on Organized Crime: A Comparison between German and Colombian Law]

Angélica Romero Sánchez
University of Freiburg (D) and International Max Planck Research School for Comparative Criminal Law (IMPRS-CC)
Expected date of completion: December 2016.

6. The Military Organization of State Repression

Adam Scharpf
Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences, University of Mannheim
Expected date of completion: Summer 2016.

7. The Illicit Business of Terrorism: Assessing the Resourcing of Terrorist Campaigns

Julia Sammelbeck
Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences, University of Mannheim
Expected date of completion: Summer 2017.


Imdad Ullah
Willy Brandt School of Public Policy, University of Erfurt.
Expected date of completion: not determined.


Dennis Walkenhorst
Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology, University of Bielefeld
Expected date of completion: Summer 2016.
South(ern) Africa Network (Coordinator: Petra Harvest)

   Samuel Adotey Anum (Ghana).
   University of Pretoria
   Expected completion date is 2017.

11. *Counter-terrorism and Civil Society in Nigeria*
    Emeka Thaddues Njoku
    University of Ibadan, Nigeria
    Expected completion date: 2016.

    Happy Kayuni (Malawi)
    University of the Western Cape

13. *Nuclear Proliferation.*
    [Name cannot be released as author is government official]
    University of Pretoria
    Expected completion date: 2016.

Norwegian Network (Coordinator: Cato Hemmingby)

    Cato Hemmingby
    Norwegian Police University College
    Expected date of completion: 2016.

15. *Helicopter Emergency Medical Services in Major Incidents: Patterns of Use and Influence on Outcome*
    Anne Siri Johnsen
    University of Stavanger
    Expected date of completion: 2019.

    Jacob Aasland Ravndal
    Norwegian Defence Research Institute, Terrorism Research Group
    Expected date of completion: 2016.
17. From the Extreme to the Mainstream: the Politics of Anti-Islamic Movements and their Rhetoric
   Lars Erik Berntzen
   Department of Political and Social Science, European University Institute Florence
   Expected date of completion: Spring 2017.

United States Network (Coordinator: Matthew Sweeney)

18. Net-Nazis: Framing Hegemonic Ideologies of the White Power Movement through Racist Humor
   Steven Windisch
   University of Nebraska – Omaha
   Expected date of completion: 2019.

19. Political Crimes and Responses to Them: Terrorism, Expectations of Interactions, and Trust
   Erin Kearns
   American University, Washington D.C.
   Expected date of completion: 2017.

Brazilian Network (Coordinator: Prof. Jorge Lasmar)

20. The Pedagogy of Martyrdom in Shia Narratives
   Patricia Prado
   PUC Minas
   Expected date of completion: December 2017.

   Suzane Vasconcelos
   PUC Minas
   Expected date of completion: December 2018.

22. Gender Issues and the Role of Women in Terrorism
   Luisa Novaes Tolledo
   PUC Minas
   Expected date of completion: December 2016.

23. The Interplay Between Macro-, Meso- and Micro-Factors in the Decision of Becoming a Foreign Fighter: The Case of Syria
   Guilherme Damasceno Fonseca
   PUC Minas
   Expected date of completion: 2015.
24. Cosmopolitan Uncivil Societies and the Problem of Terrorism

Adriana Neves Gomes de Azevedo

PUC Minas

Expected date of completion: August 2017.