Welcome from the Editors

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to announce the release of Volume XI, Issue 3 (June 2017) of Perspectives on Terrorism at http://www.terrorismanalysts.com. Our free and independent online journal is a publication of the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI) and the Institute of Security and Global Affairs (ISGA) of Leiden University’s Campus The Hague. Now in its eleventh year, Perspectives on Terrorism has over 7,200 regular subscribers and many more occasional readers and website visitors worldwide. The Articles of its six annual issues are fully peer reviewed by external referees while its Research and Policy Notes, Special Correspondence and other content are subject to internal editorial quality control.

Here is a brief look at the contents of the current issue:

The first article by Craig Whiteside examines the impact that former Ba'athists made on who joined the Islamic State, how the organizational structure evolved, and its strategy. Then Abdul Basit describes how the evolving Islamic State’s presence in Afghanistan and Pakistan has impacted local conflicts and jihadist radicalization.

Next, Miron Lakomy explores an apparent degradation in the quality of Islamic State’s online propaganda efforts. And in our final research article of this issue, Tahir Abbas examines the how far right and Islamist extremism can be seen as reciprocal and correlative threats.

This issue of Perspectives on Terrorism (PoT) features a Research Note by Gavin Lyall, who draws from background data on British jihadists traveling to fight in Syria to explore two theories of radicalization. Then a Policy Note by Joe Becker highlights the valuable role that U.S. military veterans could play in domestic efforts to counter violent extremism.

In the Resources section the reader will find a review by Bart Schuurman, one of our Associate Editors, of Daniel Koehler’s book on deradicalization, followed by a series of short book reviews by Joshua Sinai. The journal’s Information Resources Editor, Judith Tinnes, provides a third installment of her extensive bibliography series on Islamic State. And the issue concludes with a detailed list of recent online, open-source publications on terrorism and counterterrorism, compiled by web analyst Berto Jongman.

The current issue of Perspectives on Terrorism was jointly prepared by Prof. James J.F. Forest and Prof. em. Alex P. Schmid, the main editors of the journal.