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## Welcome from the Editors

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to announce the release of Volume XI, Issue 4 (August 2017) of *Perspectives on Terrorism* at [www.terrorismanalysts.com](http://www.terrorismanalysts.com). Our free scholarly online journal is a joint publication of the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI), headquartered in Vienna (Austria), and the Institute of Security and Global Affairs (ISGA) at Leiden University, Campus The Hague (The Netherlands). Now in its eleventh year, *Perspectives on Terrorism* has more than 7,400 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 Notes, Policy Notes, Special Correspondence and other content are subject to internal editorial review and quality control.

This issue features four Articles, three Research Notes, two Special Correspondences, three Bibliographic Resources, and eighteen Book Reviews.

Here are some of the highlights: In the Article section, Ron Zeidel, who created a unique database of some 600 past and present commanders of the Islamic State, reveals some of their backgrounds. Joseph Franco, provides a backgrounder on the IS *Wilayat* in the Philippines, based on his great familiarity with the local conflict situation. In the Research Note section, Neil Bowie provides us with a list of 60 databases in the field of terrorism studies, commenting on their specific features. Astrid Bötticher, who just completed her Ph.D. work at Leiden University, proposes new consensus definitions of ‘radicalism’ and ‘extremism’, based on her analysis of the history of ideas behind these concepts – showing that the two concepts should not be equated.

In the Special Correspondence section, two American commentators – Daniel Milton and Thomas McCabe - reflect on President Trump’s immigration ban for people from certain Muslim-majority countries and on what the Islamic State might do after the collapse of its so-called ‘caliphate’.

In the Resources section, the reader will find three bibliographic tools by Judith Tinnes, Berto Jongman, and Ryan Scrivens that allow our readers to keep up with the recent on- and offline literature on terrorism and related subjects.

This is followed by 18 book reviews by contributors Richard Dietrich, Leiya Lemkey and Daniel Wilcox, Joshua Sinai, and Alex Schmid.

Finally, in the Announcement section, we reveal the names of the two top finalists of the annual TRI Thesis Award and provide Abstracts of the winning doctoral dissertations.

This issue of the journal was prepared by Prof. Alex P. Schmid, Editor-in-Chief, in collaboration with Associate Editor, Prof. Gregory D. Miller, and with the support of Prof. James J.F. Forest, Co-Editor of *Perspectives on Terrorism*. On the IT side, Max Geelen at ISGA (Leiden University) provided technical support.