Upcoming and Recently Completed Ph.D. Theses

The Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI) seeks to stimulate and coordinate high-quality research in the field of (Counter-)Terrorism Studies. One of TRI’s instruments are national and (sub-)regional networks of post-graduate students working on their doctoral theses. TRI networks, led by a local coordinator who is usually her- or himself working on a dissertation, exist in more than a dozen countries/regions. Two of the most active networks are two be found in Canada and the Netherlands (including the Flemish-speaking part of Belgium). The two lists below originate from these networks.

Note: Each entry contains information on the (working) title of the doctoral dissertation, its author, the academic institution where the thesis is being written (including name of supervisor where provided) and the expected date of completion.

From TRI’s National Networks of Ph.D. Theses Writers: List of Canadian Ph.D. Theses in Progress and Completed

Prepared by Ryan Scrivens

Ph.D. Theses in Progress:

Auer, Meagan

- Megan Auer, meauer@ualberta.ca
- Representations of terrorists in the media through an intersectional lens
- Dr. Linda Trimble and Dr. Siobhan Bryne, Department of Political Science, University of Alberta
- April 2022

Bencherif, Adib

- Adib Bencherif, abenc026@uottawa.ca
- Des insurrections touarègues au Mali et au Niger à l’exploration des récits: les pratiques de représentation temporelle et spatiale
- Dr. Cédric Jourde, School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa
- 2019

Bérubé, Maxime

- Maxime Bérubé, m.berube@umontreal.ca
- Understanding the framing of Jihad through Al-Qaeda’s inspired English-language propaganda
- Dr. Benoit Dupont, École de criminologie, Université de Montréal
- Fall 2018

Chan, Alice

- W. Y. Alice Chan, alice.chan@mail.mcgill.ca
- Religious bullying: Can religious literacy programs address this phenomenon?
- Dr. Ratna Ghosh, Department of Integrated Studies in Education, McGill University
December 2018

Crosset, Valentine

Valentine Crosset, valentine.crosset@umontreal.ca

Online visibility of Salafist-Jihadist movements across digital platforms: A case study on the Islamic State

Dr. Samuel Tanner and Dr. Benoit Dupont, École de criminologie, Université de Montréal

April 2019

Dilimulati, Maihemuti

Maihemuti Dilimulati, maihemuti.dilimulati@mail.mcgill.ca

A comparative study of identity reconstruction experiences of highly educated Muslim Uyghur immigrants in Quebec and English Canada

Dr. Ratna Ghosh, Department of Integrated Study in Education/Faculty of Education, McGill University

March 2019

Ford, Katie

Katie Ford, katie.ford@uwaterloo.ca

Countering violent extremism on university campuses: A critical analysis and Canadian case study

Dr. Lorne Dawson, Department of Sociology, University of Waterloo

Late 2018

Haag, Julius

Julius Haag, julius.haag@mail.utoronto.ca

The impact of police-citizen encounters on perceptions of justice: Lived experiences of youth in Toronto, Ontario

Dr. Scot Wortley, Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies, University of Toronto

June 2019

Hai, Nadia

Nadia Hai, nadia.hai@carleton.ca

Rebels defining a cause: Movement narratives in Daesh and al Qaeda’s English-language magazines

Dr. Karim Karim, School of Journalism and Communication, Carleton University

April 2019

Hossain, Helal

Helal Hossain, helal.dhali@mail.mcgill.ca

Gender differences in the perception of Extremism among undergraduate students in Bangladesh: Exploring the role of education
• Dr. Ratna Ghosh, Department of Integrated Studies in Education, McGill University
  • August 2021

Knoechelmann, Maike
  • Maike Knoechelmann, maike_knoechelmann@sfu.ca
  • Sexual assault in conflict zones: Exploring the phenomenon from a rational choice and social control perspective
  • Dr. Garth Davies, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University
  • 2021

Landry, Joe
  • Joe Landry, joseph.landry@carleton.ca
  • From fragility to stability: Third party interventions in fragile states
  • Dr. David Carment, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University
  • Summer 2018

Macnair, Logan
  • Logan Macnair, lmacnair@sfu.ca
  • The phenomenology of radicalization
  • Dr. Richard Frank, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University
  • Spring 2019

Masse, Johanna
  • Johanna Masse, johanna.masse.1@ulaval.ca
  • From resilience to armed resistance: Women's activism during violent conflict
  • Dr. Aurélie Campana, Département de science politique, Université Laval
  • February 2019

Millett, Kris
  • Kris Millett, krisgmillett@gmail.com
  • Probing the emergence, mainstreaming and application of radicalization discourse in Canada
  • Dr. Amy Swiffen, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Concordia University
  • Spring 2020

Neal, Patrick
  • Patrick Neal, patrick_neal@bcit.ca
  • Active cyber defence as a deterrence option in the information society
  • Dr. Bernard Schissel, Interdisciplinary Studies, Royal Roads University
  • June 2018
Neudecker, Christine
- Christine Neudecker, christine.neudecker@rutgers.edu
- The method to their madness: An analysis of terrorist attacks using risk terrain modeling
- Dr. Joel Caplan and Dr. Leslie Kennedy, School of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University
- June 2021

Nolan, Elanna
- Elanna Nolan, elanna.nolan@geog.ubc.ca
- Countering violent Extremism in multicultural cities: A comparative study of national security at the local scale, in Melbourne and Vancouver
- Dr. Dan Hiebert, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia
- 2019

Osterling, Anton
- Anton Osterling, 602bvwcop@gmail.com
- Lone wolf terrorism: Is it a Pandora’s box?
- Dr. Nick Ridley, Department of Applied Social Sciences, London Metropolitan University
- 2020

Pumphrey, John
- John Pumphrey, john.pumphrey@royalroads.ca
- Using computational intelligence to inform where and how the Canadian Armed Forces might be employed to prevent conflict
- Dr. Eileen Piggot-Irvine, Faculty of Social and Applied Sciences, Royal Roads University
- 2019

Rahman, Mohammad Azizur
- Mohammad Azizur Rahman, rahman17@myumanitoba.ca
- Refugee labour market experiences and integration trajectories in Canada
- Dr. Sean Byrne, Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Manitoba
- 2020

Rebbani-Gosselin, Meriem
- Meriem Rebbani-Gosselin, meriem.rebbani@umontreal.ca
- Making counter-radicalization: An ethnography
- Dr. Samuel Tanner and Dr. Karine Côté-Boucher, École de criminologie, Université de Montréal
- Spring 2020
Rigato, Brandon
- Brandon Rigato, brandonrigato@cmail.carleton.ca
- Extreme cases: An examination of digital media, collectivism, and violent extremism
- Dr. Merlyna Lim, School of Journalism and Communication, Carleton University
- April 2020

Shkolnik, Michael
- Michael Shkolnik, michaelshkolnik77@gmail.com
- From nascent insurrections to full-blown insurgencies: Why some militant groups engage in sustained armed conflicts
- Dr. Jeremy Littlewood, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University
- June 2019

Tiflati, Hicham
- Hicham Tiflati, hicham.tiflati@gmail.com
- Islamic schooling, identity, and belonging in Montreal: Islamic schooling’s impact on Muslim youth identities and belongingness
- Dr. Roxanne Marcotte, Département de sciences des religions, Université du Québec à Montréal; co-supervised by Dr. Kevin McDonough, Department of Integrated Studies in Education, McGill University
- April-May 2018

West, Jessica
- Jessica West, jessica.l.west@gmail.com
- Building an immune system: Resilience as containment
- Dr. David Welch and Dr. Simon Dalby, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Wilfrid Laurier
- August 2018

Wu, Edith
- Edith Wu, esw1@sfu.ca
- A social network analysis of terrorism in the Middle East: From Al-Qaeda to the Islamic State
- Dr. Garth Davies, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University
- 2021

Recently Completed Canadian Ph.D. Theses:

Ahmed, Kawser
- Kawser Ahmed, umahme33@myumanitoba.ca
- Social conflict and peace-building: the perceptions, experiences, and contributions of leaders of selected community-based organizations in Winnipeg, Manitoba
Dr. Sean Byrne, Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Manitoba
December 2016

Allspach, Anke
Anke Allspach, anke.allspach@ryerson.ca
Modern imperialism: Canadian renditions to torture and the Production of impunity for sovereign racialized state violence
Dr. Carmela Murdocca, Department of Sociology, York University
May 2016

Amarasingam, Amarnath
Amarnath Amarasingam, amarnath0330@gmail.com
Pain, pride, and politics: Social movement activism and the Sri Lankan Tamil diaspora in Canada
Dr. Lorne Dawson, Religious Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University/University of Waterloo
February 2013

Amirault, Joanna
Joanna Amirault, joanna.amirault@humber.ca
Criminalizing terrorism: The impact of context and cohort effects on the sentencing outcomes of terrorist offenders
Dr. Martin Bouchard, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University
August 2014

Bakali, Naved
Naved Bakali, naved.bakali@mail.mcgill.ca
Islamophobia in Quebec secondary schools: Inquiries into the lived experiences of Muslim youth post-9/11
Dr. Aziz Choudry, Department of Integrated Studies in Education, McGill University
June 2016

Clément, Pierre-Alain
Pierre-Alain Clément, pierrealain.clement@yahoo.com
L’État anxieux: le poids de la culture stratégique dans la législation antiterroriste américaine (2001-2016)
Dr. Charles-Philippe David, Département de science politique, Université du Québec à Montréal
May 2017

Cook, Alana
Alana Cook, alanac@sfu.ca
Risk assessment and management of group-based violence
Dr. Stephen Hart, Department of Psychology, Simon Fraser University
April 2014

Cook, Joana
Joana Cook, joana.cook@kcl.ac.uk
“We are just at the beginning of this process.” An agency-level interrogation of women in U.S. counterterrorism efforts
Dr. Vivienne Jabri, War Studies, King’s College London
February 2018

Ducol, Benjamin
Benjamin Ducol, benjamin.ducol@icloud.com
Devenir Jihadiste à l’ère numérique, une approche processuelle et situationnelle de l’engagement Jihadiste au regard du Web
Dr. Aurélie Campana, Département de science politique, Université Laval
2015

Gramaccia, Julie Alice
Julie Alice Gramaccia, lily.gramaccia@gmail.com
The construction of virtual terror: From bypassing traditional gatekeeping to online terrorist propaganda
Dr. Anne Beyaert-Geslin, Département sciences de l’information et de la communication, Université Bordeaux-Montaigne; Dr. Aurélie Campana, Département de science politique, and Dr. François Demers, Département d’information et de communication, Université Laval
December 2017

Hofmann, David
David Hofmann, dhofmann@unb.ca
Warriors and prophets: The role of charismatic authority in the radicalization towards violence and strategic operation of terrorist groups
Dr. Lorne Dawson, Department of Sociology, University of Waterloo
August 2015

Horncastle, James
James Horncastle, jhorncas@sfu.ca
The pawn that would be king: Macedonian Slavs in the Greek Civil War, 1946-1949
Dr. Andre Gerolymatos, Centre for Hellenic Studies/Department of History, Simon Fraser University
Fall 2016

Jardine, Eric
Eric Jardine, ejardine@cigionline.org
• The insurgent’s dilemma: A theory of mobilization and conflict outcome
  • Dr. Jeremy Littlewood, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University
  • May 2014

Kang, Charanjit
• Charanjit Kang, unknown email address
• The rise and decline of Sikh anti-state terrorism in India: An economic based explanation
  • Dr. Garth Davies, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University
  • July 2013

Kilberg, Joshua
• Joshua Kilberg, kilberg@carleton.ca
• Organizing for destruction: How organizational structure affects terrorist group behaviour
  • Dr. Jeremy Littlewood, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University
  • 2011

Kowalski, Jeremy
• Jeremy Kowalski, jkowalski@wlu.ca
• In and out of place: Islamic domestic extremism and the case of the “Toronto 18”
  • Dr. William Jenkins, Department of Geography, York University
  • October 2014

Machold, Rhys
• Rhys Machold, rhysmachold@gmail.com
• Tentative securities: 26/11, Israel and the politics of mobility
  • Dr. Kim Rygiel, Department of Political Science, Wilfrid Laurier University
  • 2015

McQuade, Joseph
• Joseph McQuade, joseph.mcquade@mail.utoronto.ca
• Terrorism, law, and sovereignty in India and the League of Nations, 1897-1945
  • Dr. Tim Harper, Faculty of History, University of Cambridge
  • November 2017

Mirzaei Yengejeh, Saeid
• Saeid Mirzaei Yengejeh, saeid.mirzaei@uottawa.ca
• Law-making by the security council in areas of counter-terrorism and non-proliferation of weapons of mass-destruction
  • Donald McRae, Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa
Nash, Shannon
- Shannon Nash, shannon.nash@utoronto.ca
- Perception vs reality: The idea of Al Qaeda sleepers as a threat to American national security
- Dr. Wesley Wark, Department of History, University of Toronto
- September 2017

Ouellet, Marie
- Marie Ouellet, marieo@sfu.ca
- From emergence to desistance: The structural evolution of violent extremist networks
- Dr. Martin Bouchard, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University
- August 2016

Romaniuk, Scott
- Scott Romaniuk, scott.n.romaniuk@gmail.com
- Under siege: Counter-terrorism policy and civil society organizations in post-socialist Hungary
- Dr. Paolo Foradori, School of International Studies, University of Trento
- April 2018

Scrivens, Ryan
- Ryan Scrivens, ryan_scrivens@sfu.ca
- Understanding the collective identity of the radical right online: A mixed-methods approach
- Dr. Richard Frank, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University
- September 2017

Silva, Derek
- Derek Silva, dsilva28@uwo.ca
- Governing terrorism through preemption: A comparative analysis of radicalization in three western liberal democracies
- Dr. Mathieu Deflem, Department of Sociology, University of South Carolina
- 2017

Smythe, Leanne
- Leanne Smythe, leanne.smythe@twu.ca
- Non-traditional security in the post-Cold War era: Implications of a broadened security agenda for the militaries of Canada and Australia
- Dr. Brian Job, Department of Political Science, University of British Columbia
- April 2013
Speed, Shannon

- Shannon Speed, sspeed@uwaterloo.ca
- Governing the ban: The Canadian security certificate initiative and management of non-citizen terror threats
- Dr. Daniel O’Connor, Department of Sociology and Legal Studies, University of Waterloo
- December 2017

Tishler, Nicole

- Nicole Tishler, nicole.tishler@carleton.ca
- Fake terrorism: Examining terrorist groups’ resort to hoaxing as a mode of attack
- Dr. Jeremy Littlewood, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University
- September 2017

Veilleux-Lepage, Yannick

- Yannick Veilleux-Lepage, yvl@st-andrews.ac.uk
- How terror evolves: An evolutionary framework for the study of terroristic techniques
- Dr. Richard English, Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence, School of International Relations, University of St Andrews
- February 2018

Wegner, Nicole

- Nicole Wegner, nlw980@mail.usask.ca
- Inter-national imag(ining): Canada’s military in Afghanistan
- Dr. J. Marshall Beier, Department of Political Science, McMaster University
- March 2016

List of Dutch and Flemish (Belgium) Ph.D. Theses in Progress or Recently Completed

prepared by Jeanine de Roy van Zuijdewijn

Aerdts, Willemijn

- Willemijn Aerdts, w.j.m.aerdts@fgga.leidenuniv.nl
- Residual threat in the context of security and intelligence
- Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs
- Expected date of completion: 2020

Berge, Wietse van den

- Wietse van den Berge, w.van.den.berge@fgga.leidenuniv.nl
• Examining decision-making within the conflict between Islamic State and the Kurdistan Region in Iraq by using Graham Allison's paradigms of foreign policy analysis

• Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs; Prof. dr. Edwin Bakker, Prof. dr. Beatrice de Graaf

• Expected date of completion: November 2020

Boeke, Sergei

• Sergei Boeke, s.boeke@fgga.leidenuniv.nl
• Terrorism in Mali
• Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs; Prof. dr. Edwin Bakker
• Expected date of completion: end 2018

Dokter, Annemieke

• Annemieke Dokter, adannemiek14@gmail.com
• Indonesia in historical perspective - Muhammadiyah, Nahdlatul Ulama, Darul Islam en Jemaah Islamiyah and the waves of Rapoport
• Universiteit Utrecht; De Nederlandse Defensie Academie; Prof. dr. Bob de Graaff
• Expected date of completion: unknown

Frissen, Thomas

• Thomas Frissen, Thomas.frissen@kuleuven.be
• Societal polarization and violent extremist ideation and the influences of communicative environments.
• KU Leuven; Institute for Media Studies; Prof. dr. Leen d’Haenens
• Expected date of completion: October 2019

Gans, Ben

• Ben Gans, B.Gans@uvt.nl
• Stabilisation Operations as Complex Systems: Order and Chaos in the Interoperability Continuum
• Tilburg University; Netherlands Defence Academy; Research School on Peace and Conflict (Norway); prof. dr. Piet Ribbers, prof. dr. Paul van Fenema, prof. dr. Sebastiaan Rietjens
• Expected date of completion: December 2018

Godefroidt, Amélie

• Amélie Godefroidt, amelie.godefroidt@kuleuven.be
• Analyzing the Impact of Terrorism on Social Cohesion in Nigeria and Belgium
• KU Leuven, Faculty of Social Sciences, Centre for Research on Peace and Development
• Prof. dr. Arnim Langer; Prof. dr. Bart Meuleman
• Expected date of completion: September 2020
Heide, Liesbeth van der
- Liesbeth van der Heide, e.j.van.der.heide@fgga.leidenuniv.nl
- Explaining Processes of Involvement in Terrorism
- Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs; Prof. dr. Edwin Bakker; Dr. Marieke Liem
- Expected date of completion: December 2018

Klem, Wouter
- Wouter Klem, w.m.klem@uu.nl
- Securing Europe, fighting its anarchists. Transnational police networks in the struggle against terrorism, 1881-1914
- Universiteit Utrecht; Department of History and Art History; Prof. dr. Beatrice de Graaf
- Expected date of completion: November 2018

Kowalski, Michael
- Michael Kowalski, m.kowalski@fgga.leidenuniv.nl
- Ethics of counterterrorism
- Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs; Prof. dr. Edwin Bakker
- Expected date of completion: 2018

Mansoury, Elly
- Elly Mansoury, elly.mansoury@vub.ac.be
- The role of education in the polarization of society
- Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Department of Political Science; Prof. dr. Dimokritos Kavadias
- Expected date of completion: December 2020

Milosevic, Ana
- Ana Milosevic, ana.milosevic@kuleuven.be
- Understanding the social meanings of spontaneous memorials after the Brussels attacks
- KU Leuven; Faculty of Social Science
- Expected date of completion: 2018

Romagna, Marco
- Marco Romagna, m.romagna@fgga.leidenuniv.nl
- Hacktivism: Honourable cause or serious threat?
- Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs; Prof. dr. Edwin Bakker, Dr. Bibi van den Berg
- Expected date of completion: June 2020

Roy van Zuijdewijn, Jeanine de
- Jeanine de Roy van Zuijdewijn; j.h.de.roy.van.zuijdewijn@fgga.leidenuniv.nl
• Societal responses to terrorist attacks in Western Europe
  • Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs; Prof. dr. Edwin Bakker
  • Expected date of completion: 2020

Sikkens, Elga
  • Elga Sikkens, e.m.sikkens@uu.nl
  • Family and upbringing dynamics in radicalization and de-radicalization
  • Utrecht University, Department of Pedagogical and Educational Sciences; Prof. dr. Micha de Winter, dr. Marion van San, dr. Stijn Sieckelinck
  • Expected date of completion: Fall 2018

Sterkenburg, Nikki
  • Nikki Sterkenburg, nikkisterkenburg@gmail.com
  • New radical right and extremist right in the Netherlands
  • Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs; Prof. dr. Edwin Bakker
  • Expected date of completion: 2019

Terpstra, Niels
  Niels Terpstra, n.m.terpstra@uu.nl
  • Why do Civilians Comply with a Rebel Group? Towards a Better Understanding of Rebel Governance and Legitimation Processes During Civil War
  • Universiteit Utrecht; Department of History and Art History; Prof. Dr. Ir. Georg Frerks
  • Expected date of completion: February 2020

Van Ostaeyen, Pieter
  • Pieter Van Ostaeyen, pieter.vanostaeyen@gmail.com
  • The usage of social media in the ideological strife between al-Qaeda and The Islamic State
  • Katholieke Universiteit Leuven; Faculty of Arts, Near Eastern Studies; Prof. dr. Prof. dr. John Nawas
  • Expected date of completion: 2019

Vernimmen, Jonas
  • Jonas Vernimmen, Jonas.vernimmen@kuleuven.be
  • The right to cultural identity: a legal analysis of value-based education as a means to prevent radicalization
  • KU Leuven; Leuven Centre for Public Law, Education Law; Prof. dr. Kurt Willems
  • Expected date of completion: June 2020

Volders, Brecht
  • Brecht Volders, brecht.volders@uantwerpen.be
  • Nuclear Terrorism: organizational dynamics in constructing the bomb
- Universiteit Antwerpen; Department of Social Sciences; Prof. dr. Tom Sauer
- Expected date of completion: September 2019

Weggemans, Daan
- Daan Weggemans, d.j.weggemans@fgga.leidenuniv.nl
- Digital Risk Profiling
- Universiteit Leiden; Institute of Security and Global Affairs; Prof. dr. Edwin Bakker
- Expected date of completion: 2018

Whittaker, Joe
- Joe Whittaker, 922288@swansea.ac.uk
- Online Radicalisation
- Swansea University; Universiteit Leiden; Prof. dr. Stuart MacDonald, dr. Lella Nouri, dr. Alastair Reed, Sergei Boeke
- Expected date of completion: September 2019

Wittendorp, Stef
- European Union and counter-terrorism, 1975-present
- Stef Wittendorp, s.wittendorp@rug.nl
- Rijksuniversiteit Groningen; Department of International Relations and International Organization; Prof. dr. J.H. de Wilde, Prof. dr. A.J. University;
- Expected date of completion: Summer 2018

About the Compilers:

Jeanine de Roy van Zuijdewijn is Coordinator of the Dutch-Flemish Network of Ph.D. Theses Writers of the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI). She is a Researcher at the Institute of Security and Global Affairs of Leiden University (Campus The Hague) and a Research Fellow of the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism. She has a background in Liberal Arts & Sciences (BA) and International Relations (MA – cum laude).

Ryan Scrivens is Associate Theses Research Editor of 'Perspectives on Terrorism' and Coordinator of the Canadian Network of Ph.D. Theses Writers of the Terrorism Research Initiative. He is also a Visiting Researcher at the VOX-Pol Network of Excellence and a Research Associate at the International CyberCrime Research Centre. He recently completed a Ph.D. in Criminology at Simon Fraser University and has since been awarded a Horizon Postdoctoral Fellowship at Concordia University, working with Project SOMEONE to develop ways to build resilience against radicalization leading to violent extremism and hatred.

Postscript: Entry from a country without a national TRI Network:

Vesna Poposka
- Vesna Poposka, vpoposka88@gmail.com
- International legal aspects for protection of the critical infrastructure against contemporary security threats
- Prof. Orce Popovski, Colonel at the Military Academy “General M. Apostolski” - Skopje, Macedonia;
- before the end of 2018