Recent Online Resources for the Analysis of Terrorism and Related Subjects

Complied and selected by Berto Jongman

Note from the Editor:

The amount of new publications, reports, policy papers, lectures, presentations, videos and briefings in the field of terrorism and counter-terrorism can be overwhelming for the untrained researcher as well as for young counterterrorism professionals. In the following, a selection of recent open-source online publications, grouped into a dozen categories, has been made by a seasoned former intelligence analyst. An attempt has been made to select items from a variety of sources and positions, presenting different perspectives. Selection not necessarily means endorsement for a certain position or specific lines of argumentation. The following includes also a number of non-terrorism specific items from the broader spectrum of political violence and armed conflicts reports.

Most of the items included below became available online in July and August 2018. They are categorised under these headings:

1. Non-Religious Terrorism: Actors, Groups, Incidents and Campaigns
2. Religious (mainly Jihadi) Terrorism: Actors, Groups, Incidents and Campaigns
3. Terrorist Strategies and Tactics
4. Conflict, Crime and Political Violence other than Terrorism
5. Counter-Terrorism – General
6. Counter-Terrorist Strategies, Tactics and Operations
7. State Repression and Civil War at Home and Clandestine & Open Warfare Abroad
8. Prevention and Preparedness Studies
   (including Countering Violent Extremism, De-Radicalization, Counter-Narratives)
9. Intelligence
10. Cyber Operations and Information Warfare
11. Risk & Threat Assessments, Forecasts, Analytical Studies
12. Also Worth Reading

1. Non-Religious Terrorism: Actors, Groups, Incidents and Campaigns


A. Roth. Russian journalists killed in CAR ‘were researching military firm.’ The Guardian, August 1, 2018. URL: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/aug/01/russian-journalists-killed-central-african-republic-investigating-military-firm-kremlin-links


Germany’s right-wing terror network – the NSU on trial. DW Documentary, YouTube, July 13, 2018. URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58GgAjmltuU


2. Religious (mainly Jihadi) Terrorism: Actors, Groups, Incidents and Campaigns

2a. AQ and Affiliates


*G. Walters. The Islamic terrorists whose savagery was only matched by their stupidity: one suicide bomber ran out of petrol on the way to his attack while another couldn't stop laughing during his martyrdom video. *Daily Mail Online*, July 6, 2018. URL: [http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5926961/The-truth-Islamic-terrorists-savagery-matched-stupidity.html](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5926961/The-truth-Islamic-terrorists-savagery-matched-stupidity.html)


### 2b. IS/ISIS/ISIL/Daesh and Affiliates


**Terrorism Timeline since 9/11. URL: [https://since911.com/explore-911/terrorism-timeline - jump_time_item_465](https://since911.com/explore-911/terrorism-timeline - jump_time_item_465)**


IS claims attack that killed four foreign cyclists in Tajikistan. *RFE/RL*, July 30, 2018. URL: [https://www.rferl.org/a/tajikistan-terrorism-possible-attack-four-foreign-cyclists/29398154.html](https://www.rferl.org/a/tajikistan-terrorism-possible-attack-four-foreign-cyclists/29398154.html)


Z. al-Shimale. ‘No one was spared’: Sweida massacre leaves Syrians reeling. *Middle East Eye*, July 27, 2018. URL: [http://www.middleeasteye.net/news/No-one-was-spared-Residents-recount-Sweida-massacre-Islamic-State-208185763](http://www.middleeasteye.net/news/No-one-was-spared-Residents-recount-Sweida-massacre-Islamic-State-208185763)


Spotlight on global jihad (July 19-25, 2018). *The Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center*, July


IS restructures regional branches in Syria and Iraq after 2017 losses. BBC, July 20, 2018. URL: https://monitoring.bbc.co.uk/product/c2003zd4


Bangladesh – dawn of Islamism. DW Documentary, YouTube, April 17, 2018. URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6DxXI6wD8U

T. Abdulrazzaq. ISIS may have been defeated a year ago in Mosul, but the ideology that caused it to grow lives on. The Independent, July 12, 2018. URL: https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/isis-mosul-defeat-ideology-region-islamic-fundamentalism-a8442026.html


A. Bodetti. After Middle East failure, is Thailand the next ‘caliphate’ for the Islamic State group? The New Arab, July 6, 2018. URL: https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/indepth/2018/7/6/Is-Thailand-next-for-the-Islamic-State-group


P. Cockburn. After ISIS is gone, Iraq will continue to be a deeply corrupt country. *The Independent*, July 6, 2018. URL: [https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/iraq-isis-corruption-airstrikes-baghdad-patrick-cockburn-a8434371.html](https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/iraq-isis-corruption-airstrikes-baghdad-patrick-cockburn-a8434371.html)


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2c. Other


nytimesworld&smtyp=cur


A. England. Iraq’s Shia militias: capturing the state. Iraq’s Shia militias: capturing the state. *Financial Times*, July 31, 2018. URL: [https://www.ft.com/content/ba4f7bb2-6d4d-11e8-852d-d8b934ff5ff](https://www.ft.com/content/ba4f7bb2-6d4d-11e8-852d-d8b934ff5ff)

C. Salhani. What did Qatar think it was doing providing $1 billion to a terrorist group. *The Arab Weekly*, July 28. URL: [https://thearabweekly.com/what-did-qatar-think-it-was-doing-providing-1-billion-terrorist-group](https://thearabweekly.com/what-did-qatar-think-it-was-doing-providing-1-billion-terrorist-group)


M. Dickson. The 17-year old terrorist. From cradle to grave, indoctrination to hate Israelis and Jews has been a pillar of Palestinian education. *The Time of Israel*, July 27, 2018. URL: [https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/the-17-year-old-terrorist/](https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/the-17-year-old-terrorist/)


A. Mejidyar. Iraqi Hezbollah threatens retaliation against US of Israel attacks Iranian assets in Iraq. *Middle East Institute*, July 23, 2018. URL: [http://www.mei.edu/content/io/iraqi-hezbollah-threatens-retaliation-against-us-if-israel-attacks-iranian-assets-iraq](http://www.mei.edu/content/io/iraqi-hezbollah-threatens-retaliation-against-us-if-israel-attacks-iranian-assets-iraq)


and-the-israeli-palestinian-conflict-july-11-17-2018/

A third round of escalation, more severe than the previous rounds, with about 200 rockets and mortar shells fired at Israel. The shelling is a continuation of Hamas’ policy of controlled violence creating escalation. The Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center, July 16, 2018. URL: https://www.terrorism-info.org.il/en/third-round-escalation-severe-previous-rounds-200-rockets-mortar-shells-fired-israel-shelling-continuation-hamas-policy-controlled-violence-crea/


3. Terrorism Strategies and Tactics


IDF: Hamas plans to strike Israel with exploding drones. IPT, July 16, 2018. URL: https://www.investigativeproject.org/7534/idf-hamas-plans-to-strike-israel-with-exploding

J. Helmhold. IDF uncovers Hamas’s operating system for kite terror. The Jerusalem Post, June 24, 2018. URL:


### 4. Conflict, Crime and Political Violence other than Terrorism


M. Neugroschel. In Germany, online anti-Semitism is going mainstream, study finds. The Times of Israel, July 18, 2018. URL: https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-germany-online-anti-semitism-is-going-mainstream-study-finds/


Italian police search the gaudy homes of mafia mobsters as 31 members of Rome's notorious Casamonica clan are arrested in huge crackdown. Mail Online, July 17, 2018. URL: http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5962715/Italian-police-search-gaudy-homes-Casamonica-mafia-31-members-notorious-mob-arrested.html


E. Vulliamy. Mexico’s narco nightmare will not be ended by an amnesty for traffickers. The Guardian, July 2, 2018. URL: https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/02/mexico-narco-nightmare-amnesty-traffickers


5. Counter-Terrorism - General

T. Shelton. What is terrorism? The controversial label that is used and abused around the world. ABC, July 20, 2018. URL: http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/what-terrorism-controversial-label-used-and-abused-around-world


### 6. Counter-Terrorist Strategies, Tactics and Operations


D. Sandbrook. Poison toothpaste, prisoners hypnotized to kill: how Mossad, Israel’s secret service, has become


K. Alam. Russia's strategy in Syria shows how to win a Middle East war. Middle East Eye, July 9, 2018. URL: http://www.middleeasteye.net/columns/how-russia-outfoxed-syrian-state-s-enemies-135616581


T. Badran, M.R.J. Brodsky, J. Schanzer. Controlled chaos. The escalation of conflict between Israel and Iran in


M. Skovlund. The Valley Boys: how a lone special forces team is fighting ISIS in remote mountains of Afghanistan. *Black Rifle Coffee Company*, July 2018. URL: https://www.blackriflecoffee.com/blogs/coffee-or-die-magazine/
7. State Repression and Civil War at Home and Clandestine & Open Warfare Abroad

M. Levitt. Iran's deadly diplomats. CTC Sentinel, 11(7), August 2018. URL: https://ctc.usma.edu/irans-deadly-diplomats/

Five arrested in plot to assassinate US pastor Brunson & the CIA connection. Newsbud, YouTube, August 7, 2018. URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6a5U7wgvbZc


E. Feng. Crackdown in Xinjiang: where have all the people gone? Financial Times, August 5, 2018. URL: https://www.ft.com/content/ac0ffb2e-8b36-11e8-b18d-0181731a0340


Guatemala's civil war – justice for the missing. DW Documentary, YouTube, July 26, 2018. URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T82JUiJiC4s


J. Green. Sentenced to death: senior Muslim Brotherhood members are among 75 people facing execution for posing threat to Egyptian security. Daily Mail Online, July 28, 2018. URL: http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6002219/Top-Muslim-Brotherhood-figures-75-people-facing-execution.html


R. Fisk. I traced missile casings in Syria back to their original sellers, so it's time for the west to reveal who they sell arms to. *The Independent*, July 23, 2018. URL: https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/syria-missile-deals-west-us-uk-saudi-arabia-a8459731.html


R. Fisk. A Bosnian signs off weapons he says are going to Saudi Arabia – but how did his signature turn up in Aleppo? *The Independent*, July 20, 2018. URL: https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/syria-war-bosnia-saudi-
arabia-aleppo-weapons-arms-deals-a8451841.html


CIA – Al-Qaeda operations center in Iran's backyard exposed. Newsbud, July 17, 2018. URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k5ZK6FbTO2w


D. Brennan. Democracy in Egypt: five years after the military coup, opposition has been silenced. *Newsweek*, July 7, 2018. URL: http://www.newsweek.com/democracy-egypt-five-years-military-coup-opposition-has-been-silenced-1005851

A. Link. Interview with Carla del Ponte. ‘The UN has failed.’ *Bild*, June 20, 2018. URL: https://www.bild.de/politik/ausland/bild-international/carla-del-ponte-snakes-are-easier-to-catch-than-war-criminals-like-assad-56018484.bild.html


Demand ICC investigation of Burma over Rohingya. *Countervortex*, July 1, 2018. URL: https://countervortex.org/node/16008

8. Prevention and Preparedness Studies

*(including Countering Violent Extremism, De-Radicalization, Counter-Narratives)*


Talking terror. *Terrorism and Extremism Research Center*, United Kingdom. URL: [https://soundcloud.com/user-366747443](https://soundcloud.com/user-366747443)


S. Khan. I’ve been travelling around the country talking to people about extremism- here’s what I found. *The Independent*, July 12, 2018. URL: [https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/commission-for-countering-extremism-terrorism-sara-khan-far-right-a8441971.html](https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/commission-for-countering-extremism-terrorism-sara-khan-far-right-a8441971.html)


9. Intelligence

A. Jones. I was MI6’s top spy inside al-Qaeda. *Vice*, August 6, 2018. URL: https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/ev8aw7/i-was-mi6s-top-spy-inside-al-qaeda


Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) Tools & resources. URL: http://osint.link/


A. Ram, D. Bond. GCHQ spy agency given illegal access to citizens’ data. *Financial Times*, July 24, 2018. URL: [https://www.ft.com/content/891131a2-8e91-11e8-bb8f-a6a2f7bca546](https://www.ft.com/content/891131a2-8e91-11e8-bb8f-a6a2f7bca546)


10. Cyber Operations and Information Warfare


Foreign influence operations and their use of social media. Congressional Hearing US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, August 1, 2018. URL: https://www.intelligence.senate.gov/hearings/open-hearing-foreign-influence-operations-and-their-use-social-media-platforms

E. Kaspersky. If we fight cyberattacks alone, we're doomed to fail. The Guardian, July 31, 2018. URL: https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/31/cyberthreats-global-cooperation-online-crime-borderless


H. Pettit. Gmail redesign leaves 1.4 billion users at risk: US intelligence officials warn new ‘Confidential mode’ creates more opportunities for hackers to steal your data. Daily Mail Online, July 19, 2018. URL: http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5969839/1-4-BILLION-Gmail-users-risk-phishing-attacks-intelligence-


P. Paganini. Digging the deep web: exploring the dark side of the web. *Formato Kindle*, 2018. URL: [https://www.amazon.it/dp/B07BJ72H19/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1521284877&sr=8-1&keywords=Digging+the+Deep+Web](https://www.amazon.it/dp/B07BJ72H19/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1521284877&sr=8-1&keywords=Digging+the+Deep+Web)


wired.com/story/how-facebook-checks-facts-and-policies-hate-speech/

UN's chief freedom of expression monitor urges States, companies to provide robust protections for encryption. Freedex.org, July 7, 2018. URL: https://freedex.org/2018/07/06/uns-chief-freedom-of-expression-monitor-urges-states-companies-to-protect-encryption-online/


H. Pettit. Pentagon is developing a 'cyber carrier' to launch online attacks against Islamic State and protect the US from hostile government hackers. Daily Mail Online, July 3, 2018. URL: http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5912561/Pentagon-begins-work-cyber-aircraft-carrier.html


**11. Risk & Threat Assessments, Forecasts, Analytical Studies**


A3M Global Monitoring. URL: https://www.global-monitoring.com/de


Crisis watch: tracking conflict worldwide. International Crisis Group, July 2018. URL: https://www.crisisgroup.org/crisiswatch?utm_source=Sign+Up+to+Crisis+Group's+Email+Updates&utm_campaign=f5c344f057-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_08_01_08_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1dab8c11ea-f5c344f057-359787537 - overview


Concern at potential risks posed by the forthcoming release of imprisoned FTFs. CTED Trend Alert, July 2018.


12. Also Worth Reading


Y. Noah Harari: 'The idea of free information is extremely dangerous.' The Guardian, August 5, 2018.


C. Aydin. There is no Muslim world. Aeon, August 1, 2018. URL: https://aeon.co/essays/the-idea-of-a-muslim-world-is-both-modern-and-misleading


E.A. de Landmeter. The relevance of Clausewitz’s ‘On War’ to today’s conflicts. Militaire Spectator, July 26, 2018. URL: https://www.militairespectator.nl/thema/strategie/artikel/relevance-clausewitzs-war-todays-conflicts


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