Announcement

Call for Contributors to Handbook of Terrorism Prevention and Preparedness

by Alex P. Schmid

The mission of the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI) is to ‘Enhance Security through Collaborative Research.’ As one of the founders and directors of TRI, and as Editor-in-Chief of its online journal Perspectives on Terrorism, I constantly look for new ways to fulfil this commitment. For many years, I have had the desire to produce a Handbook of Terrorism Prevention. However, when I was Officer-in-Charge of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) from 1999 to 2005, I did not have the mandate, money or time to write or edit such a major work. Now that I am semi-retired, I finally am in a position to do so.

I am writing to let you know that I am currently preparing a Handbook of Terrorism Prevention and Preparedness. This volume should bring the best available insights and practices together in a one-stop volume to be published in the ‘Living References’ SpringerLink series, which allows for continual updating of the electronic version of the volume (in addition to the initial paper version). The Handbook will contain 32 chapters (each ca. 30 pages long), from the hand of experts, while three chapters will be written by the editor (see Table of Contents below).

This unique handbook will fill a void in the literature on terrorism. While there are good handbooks on crime- and on conflict-prevention, a similar comprehensive and up-to-date volume in the field of counter-terrorism has been lacking. The individual chapters of the Handbook of Terrorism Prevention and Preparedness will cover a wide range of topics and also integrate lessons from related fields. The concluding chapter will outline an ambitious agenda for a new policy of terrorism prevention and preparedness by the editor. The expected publication date is 1 January 2020.

With this call, the editor is inviting expert contributors who can authoritatively cover specific aspects of prevention and preparedness as outlined in the table of contents below. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, you will be asked to write an original chapter specifically for this handbook. Each contribution should begin by a review of the existing literature on the specific topic selected. Empirical case studies of national, regional or subject-specific experiences can also be included. Each chapter should identify and evaluate good prevention and preparedness practices and conclude with evidence-based policy recommendations. The first draft of each chapter is to reach the editor by 1 August 2019. If you feel that you possess the required expertise (and can demonstrate it based on your publication record), I would like to hear from you and will then send you details about the project. You can reach the volume editor at apschmid@terrorismanalysts.com.

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Handbook of Terrorism Prevention and Preparedness

1. Introduction: purpose and organisation of Handbook
2. Conceptual chapter: definitions, typologies and theories of prevention and preparedness

Part I: Lessons for Terrorism Prevention from Literature in Related Fields

3. Contributions from the crime prevention literature for the prevention of terrorism
4. Contributions from the conflict prevention literature for the prevention of terrorism
5. Contributions from the military counter-insurgency literature for the prevention of terrorism
terrorism

6. Contributions from (inter-)governmental and private sector counter-terrorism manuals (incl. CVE) for terrorism prevention

7. Contributions from terrorists’ own internal (and retrospective) writings that can be of use for terrorism prevention

Part II: Prevention of Radicalisation

8. Prevention of radicalisation to terrorism in schools (incl. universities)
9. Prevention of radicalisation to terrorism in prisons
10. Prevention of radicalisation to terrorism in refugee camps and asylum centers
11. Prevention of radicalisation to terrorism in religious institutions (esp. madrasa, mosques)
12. Prevention of radicalisation in Western Muslim diasporas
13. Prevention of radicalisation in social media on the Internet (including incitement to acts of terrorism)

Part III: Prevention of Preparatory Acts

14. Prevention of recruitment to terrorism
15. Prevention of financing of terrorism
16. Prevention of cross-border movements of terrorists (border security)
17. Prevention of the procurement of arms and explosives by terrorists
18. Prevention of CBRN materials and substances getting into terrorist hands
19. Prevention of (ab-) use of mass media by terrorists
20. Prevention of (ab-) use of the Internet for terrorist plotting

Part IV. Prevention of, and Preparedness for, Terrorist Attacks

21. Prevention of low-tech, single actor attacks
22. Prevention of individual gun- and knife-based assassinations by terrorists
23. Prevention of bombing attacks by terrorists (incl. IED and VBIED)
24. Prevention of kidnappings and hostage-takings by terrorists
25. Prevention of suicide attacks by terrorists
26. Prevention of terrorist attacks on public transport systems (incl. hijackings)
27. Prevention of terrorist massacres during major public events
28. Prevention of terrorist attacks on critical national infrastructures
29. Prevention of cyber attacks by terrorists

Part V. Preparedness and Consequence Management

30. Prevention of lasting traumatisation in direct and indirect victims of terrorism
31. Prevention of public panic in the wake of terrorist incidents (incl. strengthening resilience)

32. Prevention of major economic disruptions following acts of terrorism (e.g. on tourism industry)

33. Prevention of revenge acts and vigilantism in response to terrorist acts and campaigns

34. Prevention of human rights - and international humanitarian law- violations by governments while combating terrorism

35. Conclusion: terrorism prevention and preparedness – an agenda for action.