
Welcome from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue on Terrorism from the Extreme Right has been guest-edited by Jacob Aasland Ravndal and Tore Bjørgo, both based at the Center for Research on Extremism (C-REX) at the University of Oslo. Last year, we invited a select group of scholars to submit original analyses of key developments in the field of right-wing extremism, violence and terrorism, with a special emphasis on contemporary actors, their modus operandi, and the conditions shaping them. All those who had submitted papers were also invited to a workshop at the University of Oslo on 15-16 February 2018 in order to discuss and revise their original manuscripts. A selection of these manuscripts was then submitted for external peer-review and eventually approved for publication in this Special Issue of *Perspectives on Terrorism*.

Following the 9-11 attacks in 2001, extreme-right terrorism has received far less scholarly and political attention than Islamist terrorism. However, as several of the contributors to this Special Issue make clear, violence committed by extreme right perpetrators represents a very real threat, although it differs considerably from Jihadi terrorism in a number of ways. With a few notable exceptions, political violence from the extreme right tends, in many Western countries, to be more frequent than that from Salafist jihadists. At the same time, right-wing attacks usually result in fewer victims per attack than the ones emanating from jihadi terrorists. However, cumulatively, incidents of extreme right-wing violence add up to large numbers, as in Russia, where 459 people were killed in 406 deadly events between 2000-2017 (Enstad, in this issue).

This Special Issue of *Perspectives on Terrorism* explores the modus operandi of extreme right terrorism and violence – investigating *why* but also *how* violent events occur. It is the first Special Issue of an academic journal on terrorism from the extreme right since a 300 pages strong Special Issue on this topic was published in Vol. 7, Issue 1 of *Terrorism and Political Violence* in the Spring of 1995, also guest-edited by Tore Bjørgo. In the meantime, much has happened in terms of conceptual development and improvements in data quality, as well as theory formation. These developments are analysed in more detail in the introductory article to the current Special Issue, where Jacob A. Ravndal and Tore Bjørgo compare the contents of both Special Issues, aiming to bring this research field one step further.

Sincerely,

Jacob A. Ravndal (Postdoctoral Fellow at C-REX)

and

Tore Bjørgo (Director of C-REX and Associate Editor of *Perspectives on Terrorism*)

Note from the Editorial Team

We are pleased to announce the release of Volume XII, Issue 6 (December 2018) of *Perspectives on Terrorism*, available now at: <https://www.universiteit leiden.nl/PoT>.

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 completing its twelfth year, *Perspectives on Terrorism* has over 8,100 regular e-mail 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.

For this Special Issue, the guest-editors were assisted by Alex Schmid and James Forest, the chief editors of *Perspectives on Terrorism* as well as by Christine Boelema Robertus, Associate Editor for IT. Due to the length of this Special Issue, some of the regular features in the Resources section of our journal will have to wait until the next issue, to be published in February 2019. An exception has been made for the Conference Calendar, compiled by Assistant Editor Reinier Bergema which features in this December 2018 issue.