International Terrorism & Transnational Crime

Causes of Terrorism

Extent of Terrorism

Changing Nature of Terrorism

Responses to Terrorism
Terrorism

- Terrorism is politically motivated violence directed against noncombatants and designed to instill fear in a target audience. Terrorism has been used throughout history and is shocking in its very nature.

- Terrorism can take on many forms.
  - It can be used by non-state actors, such as drug organizations in South America,
  - It can be used as a tool of statecraft, such as government kidnappings.
  - It can be used by non-state actors who use terrorism to achieve political motives.
Terrorism

- Terrorism is not a new concept.
  - Throughout history, religious groups have used terrorism to carry out "the will of God".  
    - The Zealots, a Jewish sect in A.D. 6
    - The Assassins, a Muslim group in 1090-1275
    - The Spanish Inquisition in the 15\textsuperscript{th} century
  - The French Revolution popularized the term terrorism.
  - Anarchists, or individuals who advocate entirely voluntary human associations or communities and reject authority in general, practiced terrorism throughout Europe in the 19\textsuperscript{th} and into the 20\textsuperscript{th} century.
Terrorism

- International terrorism is terrorist acts of violence that involve the citizens or territory of more than one country.

  For example, if a terrorist group in Lebanon attacks a Lebanese building, it is domestic terrorism. If the same group attacks foreign citizens in Lebanon, it is international terrorism.
Terrorism

- Depending on point of view, one’s terrorist is another’s freedom fighter.
  - Examples: The People’s Will, a Russian Anarchist group; Shining Path in Peru, New People’s Army in the Philippines, Palestinian Liberation Front (PLF), Hezbollah (Party of God), Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), al Qaeda in Afghanistan, Armed Islamic Group (GIA) and The Salafist Group for Call and Combat (GSPC) in Algeria,
  - For a complete list of known terrorist organizations according to the U.S. State Dept., visit www.cdi.org/terrorism/terrorist-groups.cfm
Current List of Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations

1. Abu Nidal Organization (ANO)
2. Abu Sayyaf Group
3. Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade
4. Ansar al-Islam
5. Armed Islamic Group (GIA)
6. Asbat al-Ansar
7. Aum Shinrikyo
8. Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)
9. Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA)
10. Continuity Irish Republican Army
11. Gama’a al-Islamiya (Islamic Group)
12. HAMAS (Islamic Resistance Movement)
13. Harakat ul-Mujahidin (HUM)
14. Hezbollah (Party of God)
15. Islamic Jihad Group
16. Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU)
17. Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM) (Army of Mohammed)
18. Jemaah Islamiya organization (JI)
19. al-Jihad (Egyptian Islamic Jihad)
20. Kahane Chai (Kach)
21. Kongra-Gel (KGK, formerly Kurdistan Workers' Party, PKK, KADEK)
Current List of Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations

22. Lashkar-e Tayyiba (LT) (Army of the Righteous)
23. Lashkar i Jhangvi
24. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)
25. Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG)
26. Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group (GICM)
27. Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization (MEK)
28. National Liberation Army (ELN)
29. Palestine Liberation Front (PLF)
30. Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ)
31. Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)
32. PFLP-General Command (PFLP-GC)
33. Tanzim Qa'idat al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (QJBR) (al-Qaida in Iraq) (formerly Jama'at al-Tawhid wa'al-Jihad, JTJ, al-Zarqawi Network)
34. al-Qaida
35. al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (formerly GSPC)
36. Real IRA
37. Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)
38. Revolutionary Nuclei (formerly ELA)
39. Revolutionary Organization 17 November
40. Revolutionary People’s Liberation Party/Front (DHKP/C)
41. Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso, SL)
42. United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC)
Causes for Terrorism

- There are numerous possible causes.
- No single factor can be identified as the key cause.
  - Psychological/Social-Psychological explanations of terrorism-the idea that terrorists are mentally disturbed in some way.
  - While there is no doubt that this is sometimes true, to claim that all terrorists are mentally disturbed is wrong. Most of the time, terrorists would be considered "normal".
Causes for Terrorism

- Ideological factors can explain terrorism.
  - Emphasize the power of ideas
  - Examples: Fascism, communism, nationalism, and religion
  - All provide a true cause to fight for with no room to back down.
  - “true believers” possessing an idea that a better society is possible if certain obstacles or threats are eliminated.
Causes for Terrorism

- Environmental factors such as grievances and cultures of violence can lead to terrorism.
  - Grievances that affect communities include social, political, and economic complaints.
  - Groups that have been repressed in some way oftentimes turn to terrorism.
  - Cultures of violence are communities where violence becomes commonplace;
    - It may acquire an acceptance or even legitimacy in a community or society.
    - Violence becomes a way of life.
The Extent of Terrorism

- Conventional terrorism
  - Terrorism limited to bombings, fire bombings, arson, armed attacks, kidnappings, and vandalism.

- Weapons of mass destruction terrorism is more serious, yet more rare.
  - The threat of nuclear, chemical, or biological terrorism has gained more attention in recent years with the collapse of the Soviet Union and the proliferation of such weapons.
The Changing Nature of Terrorism

- Today’s terrorism is a multifaceted phenomenon with diverse actors, motivations, and tactics.
- Today there is evolution of the who, why, and how of terrorism.

**WHO ARE TERRORISTS?**

- Typically, terrorists employ nouns as “army,” “brigade,” or “command” in the name of their organization to enhance the legitimacy of their cause by suggesting they view themselves as soldiers.
The Changing Nature of Terrorism

- The nature of terrorism is changing in the modern world. Whereas terrorism is traditionally based on group beliefs, *ad hoc* groups have recently taken up the tactic for their own use.
- Ad hoc or transient groups come together for one or two operations. They tend not to have any formal name.
- Terrorism has also become more privatized in recent years. Individuals such as Osama bin Laden privately financed and carried out terrorist attacks.
The Changing Nature of Terrorism

WHY TERRORISM?

- Motivations for terrorism are diverse.
  - Possibilities include psychological and social-psychological factors, ideologies and political, social, and economic grievances.
  - Other complicating factor includes revenge.
  - For many terrorists today, the death of innocents increases the shock value of an attack – an instrumental goal – and is now an end in itself.
  - Attacks aren’t necessarily aimed at achieving a particular political agenda but rather have the generalized goal of inflicting pain and suffering.
The Changing Nature of Terrorism

**HOW TERRORISM WORKS?**

- The prospects of terrorists using technology certainly increases with an increasingly technologically reliant society.

- The electronic media disseminate the dramatic stories of terrorists, often accused of being coconspirators. A responsible media has implemented certain norms to minimize the attention of attackers.

- The internet offers terrorists a way to control the spread of their propaganda, to recruit supporters, to disseminate tradecraft such as how to build improvised explosive devices (IED), and to solicit financial contributions.
The internet reflects the vulnerability of society’s reliance on technology.

Who is at risk of Cyber Terrorism?
- Military installations, power plants, rail & air traffic control centers, banks and telecommunication networks.
- Other targets include police, medical, fire and rescue systems, and water systems.

![Pie chart showing the distribution of hackers. 90% are world-class cybercriminals, 9.9% are amateurs (cyberjoyriders), and 0.1% are potential professional hackers for hire (corporate spies).]

Base: About 100,000 hackers worldwide

Source: IBM Global Security Analysis Lab, Yorktown Heights, N.Y.
Responses to Terrorism

- One such way is eliminating the causes of terrorism
  - Relieve terrorist’s grievances.
  - Counterattacks.
    - This is appealing because it appears that punishment and justice are achieved.
    - Problems with counterattacks include easily identifying terrorists groups.
    - When identified and attacked, such groups could respond with greater levels of terrorism.
  - Imposing the rule of law through international cooperation.
    - Increased cooperation between states has led to an increase in extraditions and punishments.
Transnational Crime

- Difference between Terrorists groups and Transnational Criminal Organization (TCOs): terrorist groups are generally politically motivated and criminal groups are essentially economically motivated.
  - Drug cartels
  - Trafficking in human beings for sexual exploitation and forced labor
  - Trafficking in nuclear materials in Europe
  - Organized criminal networks in areas of the former Soviet Union and East Bloc
  - Mafias, cartels, yakuza, and triads
  - International money laundering
  - Sale of pirated and counterfeit products
  - Pirating or Privateering of merchant ships in eastern Africa and the south China Sea
Transnational Crime

- The lines between Terrorists groups and TCOs are eroding. For example:
  - the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) protects coca growers and shippers from government forces
  - the Medellin cartel in Colombia and the Sicilian mafia assassinate government officials and judges
  - the Shan Army of Burma evolved into a cabal of drug traffickers

- While international crime is not aimed at bringing down societies, it can have a significant negative effect on societies.

- Despite increased cooperation among states to reduce crime, it is often a difficult process.
Case Study: The U.S., Latin America, and drugs

- Some states, such as the South American drug-producing states, find a large portion of their economy relies on the drug trade.
This chapter looks at the changing role of terrorism and international crime in today's world. While these groups develop new ways of carrying out their goals, states attempt to find ways to respond in turn through unilateral and multilateral cooperative arrangements.
Review – How much do you understand?

1. Terrorism is all of the following except
   A. weapons of the weak.
   B. symbols of the rejection of authority.
   C. threat to democratic civil societies.
   D. relatively new phenomenon.
Review– How much do you understand?

2. Which of the following is NOT a cause of terrorism discussed in the book?
   A. ideological factors
   B. environmental factors
   C. psychological factors
   D. geographic factors
Review– How much do you understand?

3. A culture of violence is best described as
   A. a culture which is caught up in war.
   B. a culture which is innately violent.
   C. a culture where violence becomes the status quo.
   D. None of these answers
Review– How much do you understand?

4. Which of the following is an example of a transnational criminal organization?
   A. the PLO
   B. the Medellin cartel
   C. Hezballah
   D. all of these answers
Review– How much do you understand?

5. In what basic aspect do criminal organizations and terrorist groups differ?

A. Criminals are essentially economically motivated, while terrorists are generally politically motivated.

B. Criminals are peaceful, while terrorists are violent.

C. Criminals are liable under international law, while terrorists are not.

D. Criminals are domestic actors, while terrorists are international actors.
Review– How much do you understand?

6. Terrorism can be a weapon of?
   A. guerrilla and insurgent groups
   B. drug traffickers
   C. states
   D. all of the above
Review– How much do you understand?

7. The first time a nerve gas was used by a terrorist group was in
   A. the United States
   B. Japan
   C. Ukraine
   D. Israel
Review—How much do you understand?

**8. Cause of terrorism are least likely to include**

A. ideological factors.
B. environmental factors.
C. profit making through illegal business activities.
D. psychological factors.
Review– How much do you understand?

9. That a state can defend itself from attacks as an inherent right of sovereignty is underscored in
   A. the Geneva Convention.
   B. the Hague Convention.
   C. Article 51 of the U.N. Charter.
   D. NATO documents.
10. Which of the following is a response to terrorism?

A. Counterattacks
B. Imposing the rule of law through international cooperation.
C. Eliminate the causes by relieving the terrorist’s grievances.
D. All of the above