

Modern Types of Terrorism Expression and the Fight against It

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Abstract

The reason why I decided to treat terrorism as a topic (issue) is the actuality of this phenomenon and the many consequences caused by terrorism in all dimensions of the social life.

Considering the bloody scenes that we see on TV (TV screens and paper covers with terrorist acts around the world), I want to give a modest contribution and a clearer picture on the methodology of the fight against terrorism, through this scientific work.

Covering this phenomenon, i will show that terrorism can only be fought in accordance with international standards and also show what methods and means are the most efficient and effective in the fight against terrorism and, factors leading to its appearance.

Keywords: terrorism, methodology, fight, international standards, methods, factors.

1. Introduction

Amongst the criminal acts, affecting the most precious values of people, such as life, health, belongings, safety, etc., the phenomenon of terrorism takes, without a doubt a special place. Terrorism is a multidimensional social phenomenon, hence it should take a multidisciplinary approach to be defined and determined. Defining terrorism is a problem which still needs a consensus to be reached upon. This problem arises in cases when an individual who's been named a terrorist by a society, becomes an idol or a symbol of a freedom fighter with the rest of that society. So, the problem remains open. This is why, it is necessary to define the unacceptable and illegal acts in the context of the criminal law of a given country, as well as, the international community, as a whole.

Terrorism (according to the Latin word terror: fear, terror) is a doctrine, method and means to spread fear and insecurity among citizens with the systematic use of violence. This is a generalized definition implying that terrorism is considered to be any act which is meant to insert fear to a certain group of people. Also, the general definition is that the term terrorism means "systematic use of violence in order to create an overall environment of fear among the people, aiming to achieve a certain political goal."

In the political sense, terrorism represents a systematic and organized violence on the inactive subject, so that it can be kept in a state of political obedience and the public becomes skeptical on the current government in order to make political gain or concessions from. A great number of

authors think that in order to properly understand the term terrorism, attention should be put on its fundamental elements, such as: politically motivated goals, organization, consequences of terrorist acts, means, the many goals, targets and methods, the economic gain and communication.

Based on what was said above, terrorism is an opposition to authority in the modern society, not only being against totalitarian democratic governments, but also against the very democratic governments. Terrorism is one of the most brutal ways to accomplish set goals which often times do not fit with reality or real life. Literally speaking, terrorism means to cause fear among the political opponents.

This work will mainly stress the importance of the forms which terrorism can take and the most effective methods of fighting it. There will also be analyzed the international standards and different terrorist organizations in other countries. The comparative treatment of the fight against terrorism by other countries and the analysis of the most efficient methods that the developed countries have applied in the fight against it will be analyzed no less.

2. Body of Manuscript

There are hundreds of definitions used to define terrorism, but there is still no definition that would cover the general meaning of terrorism. The German author, Alex P. Schmidt has given some 109 definitions on terrorism, in the eighties of the last century. On September 14-16, 2005, at the United Nations 60th Summit in New York, efforts were made to come up with a universal definition on terrorism, but no agreement was reached.

Terrorism, as a method of political struggle, which consists of using violent means in its most drastic ways, appears since the Ancient times. In general, terrorism as a phenomenon has passed through three periods of its history, which deserve special treatment and consideration: the period of killing the tyrants, terrorism in the nineteenth century and the appearance of anarchists and terrorism in the twentieth century. A very important theoretic issue on terrorism is the issue of ideology, of the factors and causes in the appearance of terrorism.

There isn't a certain profile that would describe a terrorist, as there is no clear path to lead to terrorism. The possible factors in the appearance of terrorism are several different ones, they are complex, and they combine in a unique way, each time. Based on its ideological motivation, terrorism is divided into: the leftist terrorism (left, anarchic, red) and the rightist terrorism (right, fascistic, black). The *Left-wing Terrorism*– The frequent cause of the leftist terrorism and its extremism is the “idea of worthlessness and lack of perspective in the actions of the political groups’ established power in the political system of the Western democracy, due to inertia and dogmatism. “The *Right-wing Terrorism*– The fundamental feature of the right-wing terrorism is reliance on the government and its institutions. It does not mean that the government and the rightist terrorism have identical goals. Terrorism might promote some goals that the government does not support or is ultimately, not interested in.

Of the circumstances which encourage terrorism, also recognized by UN and OSCE are to include: long-lasting unresolved conflicts, depriving the terrorism victims from their human aspects in all

forms of its manifestation, lack of rule of law, violation of human rights, discrimination based on ethnicity, nationality and religious affiliation, political exclusion, social and political marginalization and misrule.

Based on the aspect of its appearance, terrorism may be conventional, unconventional, economical and suicidal.

The conventional–unconventional terrorism is further divided into open and secret terrorism. Open terrorism is carried out by terrorist organizations, having religious and political agendas, either independently or with the support and assistance of some strong country. The basic goal of this type of terrorism is to draw attention from the international community and thus, the organization to reveal its real intentions and gain the support of other countries. Open terrorism is carried out exclusively by terrorist organizations and groups, thing which they declare publicly.

The secret terrorism is mainly planned and executed by the governments based on their strategies towards another country, by the use of their own forces or by hiring terrorist organizations in great secrecy. The important feature of this type of terrorism is that it uses tools and methods which are hidden within the vulnerabilities of the government structure. There are different means used by the secret terrorism, starting with the economic ones, then the chemical, biological, etc. This type of terrorism is the most secretive and very hard to discover, so the fight against it is difficult and minimal.

The Ecological terrorism at the beginning of the 21st century has become the greatest danger for mankind. This kind of terrorism is divided into: biological-chemical terrorism, nuclear terrorism. World terrorist organizations fall into one of the three categories: national (spiritual–religious), international and movements for liberation. National terrorism consists of groups which usually organize their actions on the territory of a country. Such examples can be taken with the Irish Republican Army (IRA), Euskadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA), New People's Army (NPA). International terrorists do not limit their actions to a single country; their attacks are carried out everywhere in the world. Today, the largest international terrorist groups are sponsored by one or more governments, they are encouraged by them, get financial aid, training and protection. As examples are the radical Palestinian organizations, ABU Nidal and the Red Army Faction RAF. Actions carried out by the liberation movements are often of a second instance or incidental to a bigger political strategy.

Organizational Characteristics: in order to understand the typical organizational structures of the terrorist groups, it is important to understand the character of the operation. The general characteristics of the majority of terrorist groups are: they try to intimidate the population by spurring fear, they are militarily weaker than the authorities they're fighting, and they do not equalize the tactical success with the success of the mission. One way to divide the organizational ranks is, as follows: leader, operations cadres, active and passive supporters. This division applies to both, the hierarchical and the network models.

Leaders provide the leadership and policy of the organization; they adopt goals and objectives and provide comprehensive guidance for planned operations of the organization. Normally, leaders come from the ranks of an organization or are their founders.

Operational cadres are active members of the terrorist organization. This echelon does not only plan and carry out the operations but also, manages the intelligence, finances, logistics, propaganda and communications sectors. Medium-level cadres are usually trainers and technicians, such as bomb makers, financiers and surveillance experts. Low-level cadres are direct bombers or terrorists; the direct executors of actions, accordingly.

Active supporters are active people in politics, fundraising and information activities of the group. Acting as visible or silent partners, they can carry out intelligence and surveillance activities; provide safe accommodation, financial contributions, medical assistance, as well as, assistance in transiting the cadres who are members of the organization. Active supporters are fully aware of their relationship with the terrorist group but, they usually don't commit acts of violence.

Passive supporters are usually individuals or groups that are in favor of the goals and objectives of the organization's all-inclusive agenda, but are not sufficiently engaged in active participation. In many cases, they may not be well aware of their affiliation with the terrorist group. Sometimes fear of retaliation by terrorists is an important factor to support them passively. Followers can be useful for political activities, fundraising, collection of aid, being it unintentional or forced to gather information and carry out other non-violent actions.

The main internal unit of the terrorist group is the cell. The cell is a small element at the tactical level of the terrorist organization. Individuals who make up a cell act as basic tactical components of a terrorist organization. One of the main reasons for a cellular configuration is security. The cell leader is usually the only person who communicates and coordinates with the highest levels and other cells.

3. Table Figure and Equations

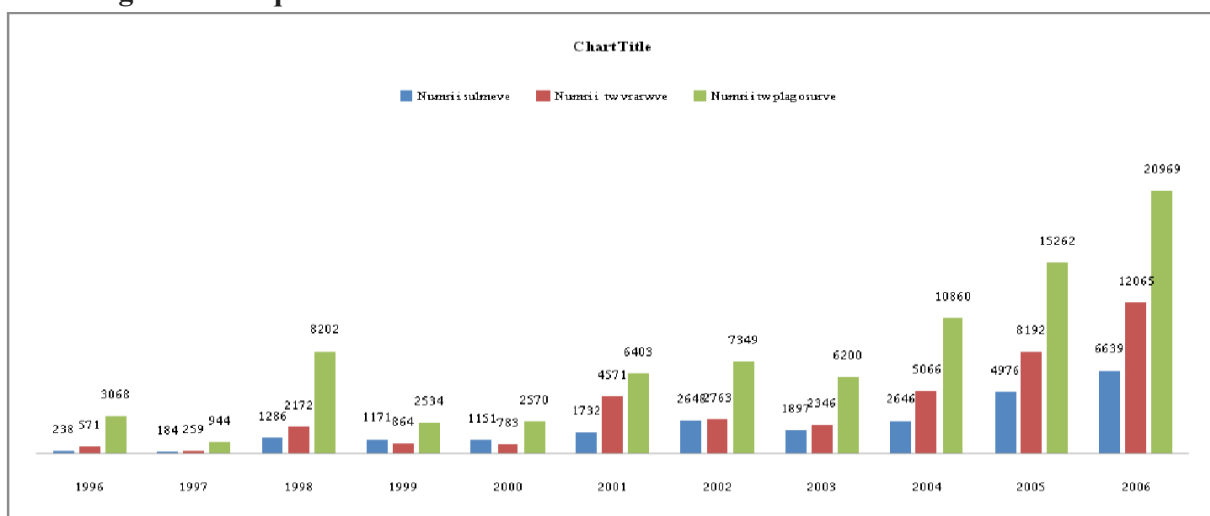


Figure 1. Number of terrorist attacks and victims of terrorist acts during the 1996–2006

In recent years, especially after 2013-2014-2015, there is a tendency of joining different groups in the Middle East as a result of numerous conflicts in these areas.

Table 1. Comparative information of people who joined the wars in Syria and Iraq between the years 2013 and 2014

Country	December	November	Percentage %
France	412	700	+69.9
Great Britain	366	500	+36.6
Germany	240	400	+66.7
Belgium	296	300	+1.4
Netherlands	152	150	-1.3
Denmark	84	100	+19
Spain	95	100	+5.3
Sweden	87	100	+14.9
Austria	60	60	
Italy	50	50	
Norway	40	50	+25
Finland	20	30	+50
Ireland	26	30	+15.4

4. Conclusions

Terrorism means an activity with two characteristics, including violent acts or acts threatening the human life and it has certain goals, such as: intimidating or forcing a civilian population to be subjected to slavery; gaining influence over the politics of a government through intimidation, imposition, threats, use of force, violence, crime, etc. The main factors contributing to the development of terrorism are: the political factor, the religious factor, the ideological factor, and the psychological factor.

Terrorism as a phenomenon dates back to ancient times, based on historical chronology; it is present even today in the world and we don't know its end.

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