



ICT

International Institute
for Counter-Terrorism

With the Support of Keren Daniel

International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT)

Newsletter, Issue 2 , 2014

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About ICT

Founded in 1996, the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) is one of the leading academic institutes for counter-terrorism in the world, facilitating international cooperation in the global struggle against terrorism. ICT is an independent think tank providing expertise in terrorism, counter-terrorism, homeland security, threat vulnerability, risk assessment, intelligence analysis, national security and defense policy.

ICT also serves as a joint forum for international policymakers and scholars to share information and expertise through research papers, situation reports and academic publications for worldwide distribution. A number of international seminars, workshops and conferences are organized monthly by ICT to discuss and educate on global and regional issues of security, defense, and public policy in order to better facilitate the exchange of perspectives, information and proposals for policy action. Finally, ICT administers one of the largest public domain research databases on the Internet encompassing global terrorist attacks, terrorist organizations and activists in addition to situational reports.

ICT draws upon a comprehensive and international network of individuals and organizations with unique expertise on terrorism and counter-terrorism research, public policy analysis and education, dispersed all over the world, including the United States, Europe and Israel. An acclaimed management and research staff at ICT spearhead the Institute's efforts to coordinate the struggle against global terrorism and leads a worldwide team of affiliates and academic partners working to encourage cooperation among experts and disseminate innovative ideas for policymakers in the fight against terrorism.

ICT is a non-profit organization located at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya, Israel which relies exclusively on private donations and revenue from events, projects and programs.



Prof. Boaz Ganor,

Founding Executive Director

Dr. Eitan Azani,

Deputy Executive Director

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Mr. Shabtai Shavit

Mr. Aharon Scherf

Adv. Avner Tal

Prof. Boaz Ganor



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In early 2014, the ICT made several changes to its structure. As part of these changes, the ICT now operates a number of academic desks which address current and important challenges to counter-terrorism.

Jihadi Websites Monitoring Group (JWMG) Desk

The Jihadi Websites Monitoring Group (JWMG) is a specialized research and analysis team at the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT). Composed of researchers fluent in Arabic, the JWMG monitors websites that support and serve Global Jihad organizations. The unique characteristic of JWMG publications is the team's integration of diverse materials from a wide variety of Arabic sources. JWMG connects each source to larger trends, providing a complete understanding of events on both a local and a global scale. The JWMG also records and analyzes Fatwas by radical Islamic clerics and relevant news items from Arabic media.

The War in Gaza as Reflected in the Global Jihadist Discourse

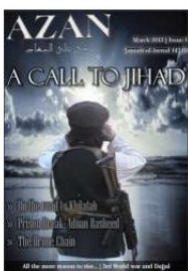
Operation "Protective Edge", which began on July 8, 2014 in order to stop Hamas' rocket fire from the Gaza Strip towards Israel, was expected to bring about a significant shift in the global jihadist discourse in terms of increased militant rhetoric against Israel. This expectation was based on the effect that of Operation "Cast Lead" had in 2009 on the jihadist discourse, the condemnation of Israel by Sheikh Osama bin Laden and Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri, leaders of Al-Qaeda, and the call for the liberation of Palestine. However,

throughout Operation "Protective Edge", not a single statement was made by the Al-Qaeda leadership, including Ayman al-Zawahiri, or by Sheikh Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, leader of ISIS, Al-Qaeda's adversary, regarding the war in Gaza. The meager extent of the jihadist discourse and the weak reactions of jihadists on the subject, as well as the limited statements expressing solidarity with the residents of Gaza, demonstrated that the war in Gaza was being pushed to the sidelines of the jihadist discourse. The unusual effort to

advance the issue of the Palestinian problem to the top of the agenda became evident only in mid-August 2014 with the publication of a new English jihadist magazine titled, "*Palestine, betrayal of the guilty conscience*", by AQAP, which sought to emphasize that while the Palestinian problem has not been abandoned, it has been deferred to a later stage.

[For the full Article >>](#)

AZAN Magazine – Profile Analysis



Issue no. 01 of AZAN magazine

From March 2013 until the summer of 2014, six issues of AZAN magazine were published, with each issue containing an average of 50 pages. The name

of the magazine is taken from the Arabic word "أَذَان", which means "a call to prayer". The editors of the magazine change to the original meaning of the word by adding the following sentence to the name of the magazine: "A Call to Jihad". Despite the fact that the magazine was not officially declared to be the product of a specific jihadist group, and the magazine banner does not

display the flag of any particular organization, the magazine's considerable focus on Pakistan-related issues suggests that it is a product of the Taliban in Pakistan. AZAN draws inspiration from *INSPIRE*, an English-language magazine published by Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). Similarities can be found between the two magazines, not only in terms of their target audience (Muslims in the West) or in their encouragement of readers to send in materials, but also in the common themes and issues that they cover, including: American drone attacks, criticism of President Obama and the US government, and quotes from late jihad figures (such as Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, Anwar al-Awlaki, and Abdullah Azzam).

However, unlike *INSPIRE*, the editions of AZAN that have been published thus far have not included articles providing instructions on "open source jihad", such as proposed methods of attack or instructions on how to make bombs. The magazine's articles are authored by several regular writers who seemingly use fake names. Each writer generally writes about fixed issues, and sometimes the same topic appears in successive articles. For instance, most of the articles written by Jaffer Hussain deal with the use of drones by the US or an analysis of American politics, while the articles penned by Ikrimah Anwar mostly deal with spiritual Islamic issues.

[For the full Article >>](#)

[For JWMG Periodic Review Reports >>](#)



Dr. Eitan Azani
 Head of the
 Cyber Desk

Directed by Dr. Eitan Azani, the Cyber-Terrorism Desk issues a periodic review that addresses two main subjects: cyber-terrorism and cyber-crime. The desk also offers, as part of the MA in Government with Specialization in Counter-Terrorism, a Cluster in Cyber Terrorism. Finally, the desk cooperates with Cyber-Gym to offer courses to executives & practitioners.

PERIODIC REVIEW : Report Number 8

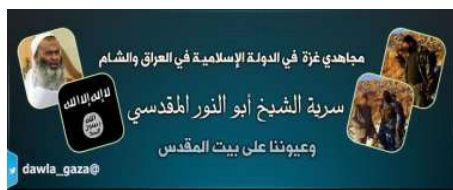
This report covers the period of February - March 2014, the report covers two main subjects: cyber-terrorism (offensive, defensive, and the media, and the main topics of jihadist discourse); and cyber-crime, whenever and wherever it is linked to jihad (funding, methods of attack).

Global jihad groups are increasingly venturing into cyberspace. Their use of the Internet for "typical" activities – communication, recruitment of operatives, fundraising, propagandizing, incitement to hatred and violence, intelligence gathering, and psychological warfare – is well established. In recent years, global jihad and other terrorist organizations have begun to use cyberspace as a battleground for what they call "electronic jihad", attacking the enemy by sabotaging its online infrastructure, using the information available to them from the virtual world to cause mayhem in the real world, and developing their own defensive capabilities against cyber attacks. The following is a selection of recent key acts of electronic jihad, and a brief overview of the key themes reflected in jihadist discourse and propaganda.

Main Highlights:

- ◆ A visitor to the Hanein jihadist Web forum published an invitation to take part in a course on computer hacking to cover the following topics: methods of computer hacking, hiding one's identity using Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) or a Virtual Private Server (VPS), and expertise in the BackTrack system, which includes computerized hacking and monitoring tools.
- ◆ An administrator at the Al-Platform Media Web forum published a guide on the forum's technical department explaining how to hack into Facebook accounts using a method that relies on entering fake URL's similar to the real one, such as www.fecabook.com and www.faceb00k.com, in order to steal passwords.

On March 23, 2014 a Twitter account was opened by Palestinian Salafi-jihadist activists from the Gaza Strip who are fighting among the ranks of the ISIS in Syria, under the name: "The Mujahideen of Gaza in the ISIS: The Abu al-Nur al-Maqdisi Battalion". The account included praise for ISIS operations and focused on fighters of Palestinian origin among the ranks of the organization.



The banner of the Twitter account

On February 14, members of the Syrian Electronic Army announced that they had managed to hack into the Web site of Forbes Magazine and included a screenshot³⁵ that apparently proved their claim. The announcement also stated that the site had been built using the WordPress platform.



[For the full Report >>](#)



Dr. Ely Karmon
Head of the CBRN Desk

Directed by Dr. Ely Karmon, the CBRN Terrorism Desk engages in research in the fields of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism in all its aspects (strategic, operative and technological). The desk monitors continuously the data concerning events and developments in the field of CBRN terrorism.

The CBRN Terrorism Desk is engaged in long term research concerning the threat of chemical and biological terrorism stemming from the situation in the Syrian civil war. In this framework the ICT has published two papers: "Syria's Chemical Weapons - The Terrorism Threat" by the CBRN Team and "Syria's Chemical Attacks: the Strategic Significance" by Dr. Ely Karmon. Publications from the CBRN Desk have been picked by leading international media such as: Fox News, Reuters, CNN, the Huffington Post, Bloomberg and The New York Times.

The Iran Nuclear Deal, The Fight Against ISIL And Iran's Domestic Troubles

21/10/2014 | by Dr. Ely Karmon

According to a Reuters report, Iran is ready to work with the United States and its allies to stop the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL or ISIS), but would like more flexibility on Iran's uranium enrichment program in exchange.

"Iran is a very influential country in the region and can help in the fight against the ISIL [Islamic State – IS] terrorists ... but it is a two-way street. You

"Iran is a very influential country in the region and can help in the fight against the ISIL [Islamic State – IS] terrorists ... but it is a two-way street. You give something, you take something,"

said a senior Iranian official. "ISIL is a threat to world security, not our (nuclear) program, which is a peaceful program," the official added. Another Iranian official echoed the remarks. Both officials said they would like the United States and its Western allies to show flexibility on the number of atomic centrifuges Tehran could keep under any long-term deal that would lift sanctions.

According to this report, Iran has sent mixed signals about its willingness to cooperate on defeating ISIL. Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said recently that he vetoed a U.S. overture to the Islamic

Republic to work together on this matter, while U.S. officials said there was no such offer. In public, both Washington and Tehran have ruled out cooperating

militarily but in private, Iranian officials have voiced a willingness to work with the U.S., though not necessarily on the battlefield.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said on September 19 that Iran has a role to play in defeating Islamic State, indicating the U.S. position may also be shifting.

[For the full Article >>](#)

IDF Medical Corps Conference

*Assessing unconventional
terror threat in light of the
situation in Syria*

Highlights from Dr. Karmon working visit in South America

*"The American Hemisphere:
Challenges to Development
and Security" Conference*

*Meeting with Anti-
Proliferation Department at
the Argentinian Foreign
Ministry*

*Association of Chilean
Mayors (AMUCH) Seminar
on "Is Chile Safe?"*

*Meeting with Mahmud
Aleuy, the Deputy Interior
Minister of Chile*

*Lecture to Chilean Police and
Carabineros Officers*



Dr. Daphné Richemond-Barak
 Head of the IHL Desk

Directed by Dr. Daphné Richemond-Barak, the Terrorism and International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Desk is a leading research program. The desk's purpose is to enhance awareness and understanding of humanitarian law among counter-terrorism experts and bring the ICT's knowledge to the broader legal community.

"Tunnels as war crime" 2/08/2014 by Dr. Daphné Richemond-Barak

Operation Protective Edge has brought unprecedented attention to tunnel warfare, and we can expect tunnels to remain center stage as the conflict winds down and inquiries – legal and otherwise – related to the conflict are launched. Though tunnels were used by the British Army during World War I, the Vietcong in Vietnam, Al Qaeda in Afghanistan, and even the rebels during the current conflict in Syria, tunnels have not been seen as a key strategic threat in decades – until they formed the Israeli government's main justification for Operation Protective Edge this July. As the military effort comes to an end, Israel will certainly assess whether the security establishment (wrongly) downplayed the security risk posed by the Hamas-built tunnels. Other questions, this time related to the legal issues surrounding tunnel warfare, will also emerge. Tunnels have been used as a tactic of war since ancient

times, but, unlike other military means and methods which are regulated by international law, tunnels as such are not addressed in the law governing war. Some would interpret this silence as indicating that tunnel warfare does not raise any unique legal issues. Dealing with tunnels, they might argue, does not significantly differ, from a legal perspective, from waging war in urban areas. But it does. The tunnels built by Hamas in Gaza, in particular, present novel issues for international law. Gaza's tunnels are different from traditional military objectives like army bases or weapons depots. In their design, the tunnels burrow under an internationally recognized border, they traverse civilian areas, and their primary objective and effect – contrary to international law – is to harm and endanger civilians, both Israeli and Palestinian.

[For the full Article >>](#)

United Nations- International Law Week

Dr. Daphné Richemond-Barak lecture
 on : Underground Warfare, Legal
 Dilemmas



Round-Table Discussion

The discussions hosted by Dr. Daphné Richemond-Barak were on the issue of
 New Battlefields/Old Laws: The Next
 Steps in Counterterrorism: Adapting to an
 Evolving Threat and an Expanding
 Battlefield



Opinio Juris: 'New Battlefields, Old Laws' – Debate on the Future of the 2001 AUMF

by Ayal Feinberg





Dr. Amichai Magen
 Head of the Governance
 & Political Violence Desk

Directed by Dr. Amichai Magen, the ICT's Governance & Political Violence Desk is now a leading source of interdisciplinary academic and policy research, teaching, and outreach on the relationship between questions of governance (sovereignty, statehood, democracy, the rule of law, and development) and political violence (terrorism, insurgency, civil conflict, and radicalization). Combining Israel's vast practical experience of confronting different forms of political violence with cutting-edge research and collaboration with outstanding international partners.

The Jihadist Governance Dilemma

Written by Dr. Daveed Gartenstein-Ross & Dr. Amichai Magen

After making astounding territorial gains in its war against the Iraqi government, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria – which has refashioned itself “the Islamic State” – declared that it had reestablished the caliphate. The group's gains put a spotlight on several questions related to Salafi jihadists' efforts at building states. Can jihadists govern? Can they sustainably control and extract resources from territory and populations? As Ariel Ahram recently wrote for The Monkey Cage, insurgent groups face a “resource curse” that has a significant impact on their conflicts; this is true of Iraq, where the Islamic State has gained momentum in its efforts to control oil and water resources. But beyond these factors that confront any insurgency, jihadist groups face distinctive governance problems that they won't be able to overcome in the near future, and will struggle mightily to address in the longer term.

Academics have grown increasingly interested in non-state actors' attempts at governance. In *Inside Rebellion*, Jeremy Weinstein finds that a violent non-state actor's discipline is central to determining whether it will build governance structures and protect populations from violence or kill indiscriminately. Weinstein concludes that richer organizations have a harder time maintaining discipline because they attract opportunists obsessed with immediate gain, and thus predisposed to violence, while resource-poor or-

Jihadists are afflicted by a fundamental dilemma: They cannot attain their goals if they don't govern, yet the record shows them repeatedly failing at governance efforts.

are more likely to establish governance if the state had significant penetration prior to insurgent takeover of a region.

Jihadists have now had several experiences with governance: In Iraq (2006-08), Somalia (2007-12), Yemen (2011-12),

North Mali (2012-13), and again in Iraq (2014-??). There have been some efforts by scholars to examine jihadist governance, but given how important governance is to jihadists, this is an area ripe for more detailed examination.

Jihadists are afflicted by a fundamental dilemma: They cannot attain their goals if they don't govern, yet the record shows them repeatedly failing at governance efforts. Paradoxically, when these groups appear strongest – when they gain control of state-like assets – their greatest weaknesses are exposed.

For the full Article >>

Terrorism Database Desk

The ICT's Incidents and Activists Database is a comprehensive survey of Open Sources of Intelligence (OSINT). The ICT's Database is one of the most all-encompassing non-governmental resources on terrorist incidents in the world. Based on comprehensive and integrated information compiled since 1975, the database records over 35,000 incidents, including successful terror attacks, foiled attacks, and counter-terror operations, along with background and follow-up information.

Highlights Summary of Terrorist Incidents and Counter-Terrorist Operations Worldwide June-July 2014



July 9

French authorities announced they had arrested a man only identified as Ali M. and uncovered a plot linked to Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) to target the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre and a nuclear plant in France.

July 22

double suicide bombing on a military base in Benghazi, killed four Libyan soldiers.

June 8

10 heavily armed militants attacked the Jinnah International Airport in Karachi, Pakistan, killing 26 civilians and injuring 18 others. All 10 attackers were killed by security forces. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) claimed responsibility for the attacks and said it was a joint operation.

June 1

40 people were killed and 12 others were injured when a bomb exploded at a television viewing center for soccer in Mubi, northeast Nigeria. On June 2, authorities arrested one man who was not named but they claimed that he was the main suspect in the attack. No group claimed responsibility for the attack but authorities blamed Boko Haram.

[For full Reports >>](#)

New Desks at ICT

Right-Wing Extremism and Hate Crime Desk



Dr. Sivan Hirsch-Hoefler
Head of Right-Wing
Extremism and
Hate Crime Desk

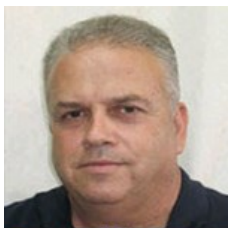
Dr. Sivan Hirsch-Hoefler is an Assistant Professor at the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, and a Senior Researcher and the Head of the Right-Wing Extremism and Hate Crime Desk at the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT).

What is a hate crime? How do such crimes differ from other violent political acts? Who are the perpetrators of hate crimes in Israel? What are the motives underlying this form of criminal action? What are the effective responses to hate crime?

After a recent spate of hate crimes in Israel, this project is designed to inform the public policy debate on hate crimes in Israel by examining the phenomenon from a conceptual and empirical perspective. Specifically, the research aims (1) to explore the political and academic debates over the meaning of the term 'hate-crime', (2) to provide an overview of the different types of criminal acts that fall into this category (physical and verbal violence, so-called 'price tag' vandalism, harassment, etc.), and (3) to assess the conditions under which hate crimes pose a threat to Israeli society.

The desk will also analyze the effects of traumatic events and/or conflicts on Israeli public support for attitudes which express political extremism and violence, such as xenophobia, exclusion, intolerance, opposition to democracy, Kahanism, and hatred.

Terrorism and Religion in Comparative Perspective Desk



Dr. Jonathan Fine
Head of the
TRCP Desk

Dr. Jonathan Fine is a Senior Researcher at the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) heading the Terrorism and Religion desk. He is an Assistant Professor at the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy, and Strategy, at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, and the - undergraduate Academic Advisor of both, the International and Israeli programs at the Lauder Government School, and the joint IDC program with the Maxwell Government School at Syracuse University.

Since the mid-1970's a gradual resurgence of religion in politics on a global level has occurred; there has been a growing use of violence may it come from Judaism, Christianity, Islam or other religions. This trend is marked by the rise of political movements and terrorist groups who wish to influence world politics and change internal local social structures within states and countries. The objective of the Terrorism and Religion Desk is to help us better understand the role religion plays today within violent groups from all religions, putting emphasis among other things, on the impact religious text interpretation has on policy making processes on three levels: ideology, strategy, and tactics. The desk will also highlight the similarities and differences between various religions and groups.

MAIN EVENTS- SUMMER 2014

Working visit to Rome

Conference on "Hybrid Terrorist Organizations and the Arab Spring", organized by the Military Centre for Strategic Studies (CeMISS), The think tank of Italian Ministry of Defence in collaboration with the International Institute for Counter - Terrorism (ICT).

The delegation held meetings with:

- Head of Military Intelligence
- Deputy Minister of Defense
- High ranking politicians, diplomats, practitioners and decision makers



Working visit to Bulgaria

Special Course on Terrorism & Medicine, as well as meetings with officials and Counter-Terrorism experts:

- Deputy Minister of Interior
- Head of External Intelligence
- And high ranking politicians, diplomats, practitioners and decision makers

Herzliya conference, 2014

ICT held a Workshop on Radical Islam & Terror:

"The Impact of the Middle East Turmoil on the Global and Regional Arenas"

Prof. Boaz Ganor, Mr. Shabtai Shavit, Mr. Dan Meridor, Prof. Amitai Etzioni, The Honorable James B. Steinberg.



MAIN EVENTS– SUMMER 2014

Ragonis Foundation Scholarships- Awarding Ceremony

The ICT and the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy at the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya (IDC), held the annual scholarships awarding ceremony to promote research in counter-terrorism and homeland security. The Scholarships was given in memory of Architect, Major Eyal Ragonis Z"l, for his military and civilian accomplishments.

Keynote speakers:

- Brig. Gen. (Res) On Ragonis- Brother of the late Eyal Ragonis
- Maj. Gen. Yossi Baidatz -Commander of Command and Staff College, IDF
- Maj. Gen. Yair Golan- Head of Israeli Northern Command, IDF

Awarding ceremony led by Ms. Lorena Atiyas Ivovsky

- First place: Mr. A.M. : "The Deterrence Element in Israel Homeland Security Strategy"
- Second place: Ms. Danit Gal : "Cyber Jihadi Propaganda: The Curious Case of Jabhat Al-Nusra"
- Third place: Mr. Eyal Feinberg "The Irony of the Iron Dome System: Systems Protection Technologies in International Humanitarian Law"

Discussion Panel on "How has deterrence changed?" led by Dr. Amichai Magen

- Prof. Boaz Ganor- Executive Director of the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) and Dean of the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy at the IDC Herzliya.
- Major General Yossi Baidatz- Commander of Command and Staff College, IDF
- Major General Yair Golan- Head of Israeli Northern Command, IDF



MAIN EVENTS– SUMMER 2014



Briefing and Discussion with the Czech Parliament led by the Head of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee

On November 12, the ICT was pleased and honored to welcome for a briefing and discussion the Defense Committee from the Czech Parliament.

The delegation was led by Roman Váňa, MP, Chairman of the Defense Committee, Czech Parliament and received briefings on underground warfare, ISIS, the geopolitical situation in the Middle East and the threat of Foreign Fighters to Europe.

Round-Table discussion with German Parliament Member

On September 2, the ICT was pleased to welcome for a round-table discussion Ms. Gisela Manderla, German Parliament Member.

Main Discussion: "Germany Strategy dealing with the return of Foreign Fighters".

ICT Participants included:

- Dr. Ely Karmon, Senior Researcher and Head of the CBRN Desk, ICT
- Dr. Daphne Richemond Barak, Senior Researcher and Head of the Terrorism and International Law Desk, ICT
- Dr. Amichai Magen, Senior Researcher and Head of the Terrorism & Governance Desk, ICT



Conference on the Involvement of Children in Terrorism

The International Humanitarian Law Desk at ICT held a unique event addressing the involvement of children in terrorism.

Recent events in Syria and Iraq have brought to the forefront of the public discourse the use of children by terrorist groups - a phenomenon Israel has faced under various forms for years.

The conference brought together representatives of the Israeli legislative and judicial branches, journalists, international lawyers, counter-terrorism experts, and social workers in the hope of demonstrating the complexity of the challenge and the need for broad-based strategies in contending with it.





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SAVE THE DATE

ICT's 15th International Conference on Counter-Terrorism

September 7-10 2015
www.ict.org.il





World Summit on Counter-Terrorism: Terrorism's Global Impact



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for Counter-Terrorism
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In September, shortly after the conclusion of Operation Protective Edge in the Gaza Strip, the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism at IDC Herzliya held its annual conference, this year on the subject of “Terrorism in Shifting Context.”

IDC Herzliya's Institute for Counter-Terrorism, one of the world's leading academic institutions in the field, facilitates international cooperation in the global struggle against terrorism. This year, ICT's annual conference brought together over a thousand decision-makers, defense officials, scholars, and security industry leaders from over 60 countries to learn from each other about the challenges posed by terrorist organizations and strategies for dealing with them. For the first time, the conference's plenary sessions were held at the Daniel Hotel in Herzliya, while the workshop discussions took place on the IDC campus.

“Two weeks ago, we weren't even sure that there was going to be a conference, as we were still in the middle of the operation [Operation Protective Edge],” Prof. **Boaz Ganor**, founder and executive director of ICT and dean of the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy, said at the conference. He cautioned that it was still “too early to judge who the victor was and whether Israel was successful in achieving deterrence.”

The opening keynote address was given by **Shimon Peres**, Israel's recently retired president. Peres gave strong support for the use of economic

sanctions against Qatar and Turkey to punish them for financing terrorism. He also praised Palestinian Authority President **Mahmoud Abbas**, saying, “While the Palestinian Authority has a pro-terror camp, there is also a pro-peace camp, led by Abbas.”

Several government ministers and other Knesset members addressed the plenum, often presenting opposing views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. **Tzipi Livni**, justice minister, declared that a clear distinction must be made between the religious ideology motivating Hamas and the nationalist aspirations of the Palestinian Authority. “Just as it is a mistake to try to appease religious terrorism, it would be a mistake to let terrorist attacks work against us finding a solution to the conflict between us and the Palestinians,” she said. Livni called for Israel to adopt diplomatic initiatives to better connect it to moderates in the Arab world in light of the threat of extremist terrorist groups operating in the region.

Naftali Bennett, economy minister, criticized the Israeli Left, accusing it of holding outdated views. “The Islamic State is moving to the east, Hezbollah is getting stronger to the north, Hamas is building terrorist tunnels to the south,



Recipients of a Congressional Citation from Representative Peter King, chairman of the Sub-Committee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, US House of Representatives (not pictured). From left: Shabtai Shavit, Igal Jusidman, Gerry Cramer, Daphna Cramer, Dennis Monette, Prof. Boaz Ganor, Jonathan Davis and seated, Prof. Uriel Reichman.



MK Tzipi Livni, justice minister, called for Israel to adopt diplomatic initiatives to better connect it to the Arab world.



Shimon Peres, Israel's recently retired president, arrives at the conference to give a keynote address.

“

Just as it is a mistake to try to appease religious terrorism, it would be a mistake to let terrorist attacks work against us finding a solution to the conflict between us and the Palestinians.”

– MK Tzipi Livni, justice minister



MK Naftali Bennett, economy minister: “The Left is continuing with its regular refrain that a Palestinian state will solve all problems.”



Peter Bergen, director of the National Security Studies Program at the New America Foundation.



MK Moshe Ya'alon, defense minister: The IDF "takes steps that no other army would take in warning civilians of approaching strikes against terrorists."



Brian M. Jenkins, senior adviser to the president at the RAND Corporation.



MK Avigdor Lieberman, foreign affairs minister, with Prof. Irwin Cotler, member of parliament and former minister of justice and attorney-general of Canada.

“
I have no doubt that we
can defeat terrorism. There
is no better incentive than
the fact that we have no
other choice.”

– MK Moshe Ya'alon, defense minister



Amb. Dr. Michael Oren, Abba Eban chair of International Diplomacy at the Launder School and former Israeli ambassador to the U.S.



Panel on countering terrorist propaganda. From left: Shabtai Shavit, Prof. Rafi Melnick, Prof. Gerald Steinberg, Dr. Charles Small, Amb. Gideon Behar, David Brog.

and the Left is continuing with its regular refrain that a Palestinian state will solve all problems," he said.

MK **Moshe Ya'alon**, defense minister, stressed the importance of international cooperation and intelligence sharing when dealing with terrorism. He criticized the international community's failure to condemn Hamas as well as Turkey, a NATO member, for supporting it. He also said that the IDF "takes steps that no other army would take in warning civilians of approaching strikes against terrorists." He discussed the difficulty in fighting Hamas, which hides among civilians and launches attacks from hospitals

and schools, but said, "I have no doubt that we can defeat terrorism. There is no better incentive than the fact that we have no other choice."

Speaking on the second evening of the conference, **Avigdor Lieberman**, foreign affairs minister, called for a new set of international norms to be established. "International law must be adapted, and quickly," he said. "Terrorists work in real time, and without bureaucratic restrictions. They use the Internet for recruitment, propaganda, and raising money. The laws of war are not updated to this reality. We can't have any strategic breakthroughs when we are still using old tools."

Shabtai Shavit, chairman of the ICT's Board of Directors and former Mossad director, discussed the concept of proportionality in fighting terrorism. "If your enemy does not represent an existential threat, you should practice proportionality," he said. "But when the threat is existential, the term has no meaning."

Amb. Dr. **Michael Oren**, Abba Eban chair of International Diplomacy at the Launder School and former Israeli ambassador to the U.S., spoke about the boycott, sanctions and divestment movement's international campaign to isolate Israel. He referred to the BDS movement as an existential threat that Israel does not take seriously enough.



A moment of silence during the memorial ceremony for the victims of 9/11 and terrorism worldwide. From left: Prof. Boaz Ganor, U.S. Ambassador to Israel Daniel Shapiro, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Prof. Uriel Reichman and Jonathan Davis.



Benny Scholder, IDC graduate, eulogizes his friend and classmate Steven Sotloff z"l.

“

Terrorists achieve their goals when citizens fail to recover and bounce back. Americans and Israelis have demonstrated outstanding composure and resilience in the face of terrorism.”

– Daniel Shapiro, U.S. ambassador to Israel



Prof. Uriel Reichman eulogizes IDC alumni who fell in Operation Protective Edge: Maj. Tzafir Bar-Or z"l, Maj. (res.) Amotz Greenberg z"l, and Lt. Col. Dolev Keidar z"l.

In a session on countering terrorist propaganda, panelists discussed the phenomenon of “soft terrorism,” which includes delegitimization and anti-Semitism. Prof. **Gerald Steinberg**, president of NGO Monitor, spoke about the need for better diligence in Western government funding for NGOs that are often linked to terrorist groups. Dr. **Charles Small**, director of the Institute for the Study of Global Anti-Semitism and Policy, called contemporary anti-Semitism a “powerful fuel for the phenomenon of radical jihadi terrorism.”

A series of workshop sessions were held on topics including the psychological aspect of terrorism,

the Islamic State group, the impact of the Syrian conflict on global terrorism, the policing and law enforcement of terrorism, and cyber-terrorism. The film “Manhunt: The Inside Story of the Hunt for Bin Laden,” was screened for conference participants, followed by a discussion on U.S. counter-terrorism since 9/11, featuring **Peter Bergen**, director of the National Security Studies Program at the New America Foundation, who wrote the book on which the film was based, **Brian M. Jenkins**, senior adviser to the president at the RAND Corporation, and Brig. Gen. (Ret.) **Russel Howard**, director of the Monterey Terrorism Research and Education Program (MontREP).

On September 11, a memorial ceremony was held for the victims of 9/11 and terrorism worldwide, and this year an additional ceremony was held to honor IDC Herzliya alumni who fell victim to terrorism in 2014. Amb. **Daniel Shapiro**, U.S. ambassador to Israel, mentioned U.S. President **Barack Obama**’s speech of the previous day on the continuation of air strikes against Islamic State terrorists. Shapiro lauded the U.S.-Israel relationship, saying, “The U.S. strongly supported Israel against Hamas. We will work hard to make sure that as Gaza is being rebuilt, it is not allowed to use materials to re-arm.” He also spoke about the importance of resilience, saying, “Terrorists achieve their goals when citizens

“

Iran is still the worst threat to Israel. If Iran gets nuclear weapons, Israeli deterrence will disappear.”

- Maj. Gen. (res.) Amos Gilad, director of Policy and Political-Military Affairs at the Israeli Defense Ministry



Prof. Boaz Ganor, Dr. Mohamad Kamal Al-Labwani, founder of the Syrian Liberal Democratic Union and Maj. Gen. (res.) Amos Gilad, director of Policy and Political-Military Affairs at the Israeli Defense Ministry.



Dr. Mirza Dinnayi, chief coordinator of the Yazidi community in Europe.



special keynote address by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

“

All terrorist groups pose ‘a clear and present danger to the peace and security of the world.’”

- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

fail to recover and bounce back. Americans and Israelis have demonstrated outstanding composure and resilience in the face of terrorism.”

Prof. **Uriel Reichman**, president and founder of IDC Herzliya, was among those who delivered eulogies for IDC alumni serving in the IDF who fell in Operation Protective Edge - Maj. **Tzafrir Bar-Or** z”l, Maj. (res.) **Amotz Greenberg** z”l, and Lt. Col. **Dolev Keidar** z”l - and for RRIS graduate **Steven Sotloff** z”l, who was murdered by Islamic State terrorists.

The closing gala of the conference featured an address by Maj. Gen. (res.) **Amos Gilad**, director of Policy and Political-Military Affairs at the Israeli Defense Ministry, who said that “Iran is still the worst threat to Israel. If Iran gets nuclear weapons, Israeli deterrence will disappear.” However, he did offer some optimism as well, saying, “We have a broad coalition in the

Middle East, including Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.”

Dr. **Mohamad Kamal Al-Labwani**, founder of the Syrian Liberal Democratic Union, said that he had come to Israel “hoping to find friends. We need help organizing ourselves in a coalition against the fanatics.” Finally, Dr. **Mirza Dinnayi**, chief coordinator of the Yazidi community in Europe, spoke about the attacks on the Yazidis by Islamic State. Earlier, during the conference, Dinnayi said the group was being supported by Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Qatar, and controls territory four times the size of Israel.

Towards the closing of the conference, participants were privileged to hear a special keynote address by Israeli Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu**, who said that all terrorist groups pose “a clear and present danger to the peace and security of the world.”

“The battle against these groups is indivisible, and it’s important not to let any of them succeed anywhere, because if they gain ground somewhere, they gain ground everywhere,” Netanyahu said.

He also addressed the threat of Iranian nuclear weapons. “I think it’s crucial not to let the fight against Sunni extremism make us forget the danger of Shiite extremism,” he said. “My policy is to weaken both. And most importantly, not to allow either of them to get weapons of mass destruction.” The prime minister concluded by saying, “We need clarity and courage, and alliances as broad as we can make them with those who understand that we’re in a common battle. I’m confident that militant Islam will perish, but we must not allow anyone else to perish with it before it goes down.” ★

- Ariel Rodal-Spieler

ICT Visiting Fellows

Professor Ron Hassner is an Associate Professor of political science at the University of California, Berkeley. His research explores the role of ideas, practices and symbols in international security with particular attention to the relationship between religion and conflict. His published work focuses on territorial disputes, religion in the military, conflicts over holy places, and the pervasive role of religion on the modern battlefield.

Religion on the Battlefield (under contract, Cornell University Press) examines the impact of religious ideas, symbols and practices on decision making in 20th century interstate wars. *Religion in the Military Worldwide* (Cambridge, 2014), is a collection of essays on religion in contemporary armed forces. *War on Sacred Grounds* (Cornell, 2009) analyzes the causes and characteristics of disputes over sacred places around the globe and the conditions under which these conflicts can be managed. I have published on religion and conflict in the journals *Security Studies*, *International Security*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, *Politics and Religion*, *Civil Wars* and others and I have contributed chapters on similar themes to numerous volumes.

Together with M. Steven Fish, Professor Hassner co-directs Berkeley's Religion and Politics Program (RPP, formerly RGP). Professor Hassner founded and now chairs the Religion and International Relations section (REL) of the International Studies Association. In addition, Professor Hassner is an associate editor of the journal *Security Studies*.



PROF. RON HASSNER

***Associate Professor, Department of
Political Science, University of
California, Berkeley, United States***



LTC JOHN KENKEL

US Army War College Fellow,

United States

Prior to this assignment, LTC John Kenkel served as the Chief of the Office of Security Cooperation at the Embassy of the United States of America -Tunis, Tunisia. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1982, received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in Military Intelligence in 1994, and became a Foreign Area Officer (FAO) specializing in the Middle East and North Africa in 2003.

Lieutenant Colonel Kenkel served multiple tours in parachute units as a Rifleman, Reconnaissance Scout, Battalion Assistant Intelligence Officer, Intelligence Platoon Leader, and Company Executive Officer. While serving in a parachute infantry battalion in Italy he was the US Army Southern European Task Force's (Italy, Greece, and Turkey) Soldier of the Year for 1984 and its top Machine Gunner and Machine Gun Team Leader in 1985; he also represented the US to Pope John Paul II at the first International Military Pilgrimage in Rome, in 1984.

Lieutenant Colonel Kenkel also served in multiple Special Forces units as a Communications Sergeant and as a Military Intelligence Officer in Italy, El Salvador, Korea, and the Philippines where he led the on-site US liaison team to the Armed Forces of the Philippines during the rescue of US hostages.

As a FAO, Lieutenant Colonel Kenkel served in American embassies in Jordan, Lebanon, and Tunisia; deployed to Kuwait and Iraq; and served in operational and strategic headquarters in the US Central Command and Africa Command areas. While assigned to the US Africa Command Intelligence Directorate, J2, he stood-up and led the 180-person analytic team supporting US and NATO operations in Libya.

Lieutenant Colonel Kenkel earned a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science and a Bachelors of Science in Geography-Cartography from the University of Maryland at College Park, Maryland. He earned a Masters in International Public Policy, specializing in the Middle East and Strategic Studies, from The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC, and during this time he also attended an intensive summer program at the University of Damascus, Syria.

ICT's Internship Program

ICT offers unpaid year round internships for undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students. The Internship provides the opportunity to contribute to the ICT's daily research activities and events, while under the supervision of a senior ICT researcher or staff member. The Internship takes place at the ICT, at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya. The ICT Internship lasts a minimum of three months and participants work a minimum of 28 hours a week. Interns also have the opportunity to attend seminars and lectures lead by prominent academics, practitioners and decision-makers.



What projects are available for ICT Interns?

- Articles on current events related to terrorism and counter-terrorism
- Jihadi Websites Monitoring Group
- ICT Terrorist Incidents and Profiles Database
- ICT Cyber-Desk Review
- The Islamist Radicalization Index
- Terrorist Rationality and Decision-Making
- De-radicalization Processes
- Jihadi Arenas and Terrorist Networks
- World Summit on Counter-Terrorism: ICT's Annual Conference
- Think tank
- Theaters of Jihad
- Literature Review

Selected Intern Publication: Hezbollah's Threat in Germany

07/08/2014 | by Ms. Jasmine Williams

Former CIA director, George Tenet testified that the capability and presence of Hezbollah is equal, if not more capable than that of Al-Qaeda. Tenet made this statement in 2003, over a decade ago, and Hezbollah has only further expanded its operations as it continues to evolve and function as a hybrid organization with political, social, and terrorist components, as well as expanding its network outside of its home base of Lebanon.

As many focus on the growing presence of Hezbollah operations in Latin America, the Middle East, and Africa, Hezbollah's presence in Europe is quite fascinating, Germany in particular. Within German borders, the group has built a strong presence, as there is known to be over 1000 operatives within its borders to date.

It is important to note what factors have caused such localized German mobilization. This paper will provide an updated overview of Hezbollah operations in the Federal Republic of Germany and its government reaction and weaknesses.

[For the full Article >>](#)

Education Programs

The Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy at The Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya is offering exciting academic programs, including a BA cluster in counter-terrorism, a MA Degree with Specialization in Counter-Terrorism & Homeland Security, an Executive Course, E-learning Course and special customized training.

Executive Certificate Program in Counter-Terrorism Studies



This Executive Certificate Program in Counter-Terrorism Studies, offered by the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy and the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, is a unique opportunity for professionals to learn about central issues in counter-terrorism and homeland security both from those with first-hand experience and those involved in cutting-edge research in these fields. Based on years of extensive research, instruction and work in the field, this multidisciplinary program brings together the best of academic theory and practical knowledge.

For the past fifteen years, the Lauder School of Government has been offering courses on terrorism, counter-terrorism and homeland security. These courses are taught by leading international scholars and Israeli security professionals from the ICT. Prof. Boaz Ganor, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the ICT and Deputy Dean of the Lauder School of Government, is the program's director.

[For more Information >>](#)

Online Course

Contemporary Issues in Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism

The Online Course on Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism represents the newest of ICT's pioneering educational breakthroughs, designed especially for scholars and experts

Be part of a prestigious virtual community of counter-terror scholars and experts without the expense of travel and from the comfort of your home

Follow cutting edge analyses from Israeli security and intelligence professionals. Learn to write policy papers for presentation to policy makers.

[For Registration Click Here](#)

BA in Government with Cluster in Counter-Terrorism

The scope of terrorist attacks launched in the US post-September 11, the growing use of unconventional weapons, and the spread of a radical-Islamic network of terrorism have transformed the once localized threat of terrorism into an international problem. By intentionally targeting civilians while exploiting the freedom embedded in liberal-democratic values, terrorism presents a difficult and complicated challenge to decision makers and counter-terrorism experts.

The BA in Government with a cluster in Counter-Terrorism and at the Lauder School of Government is held in collaboration with the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT). The degree introduces students to the challenges and dilemmas in counter-terrorism studies, and covers, among others, the Israeli experience in countering terrorism, the nexus between failed states, terrorism and political development, the internationalization of modern terrorism and groups like al Qaeda and Hezbollah, the History of Modern Terrorism, and Law and Terrorism.

[For More Information >>](#)

MA in Government With Specialization in Counter-Terrorism & Homeland Security

The MA in Government with specialization in Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security at the Lauder School of Government in collaboration with the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) is a cutting edge graduate program which combines academic study, simulations and workshops to offer special tools for critical thinking in this field. The courses provide concentrated, in-depth exposure to the phenomenon of modern terrorism and its characteristics, modus operandi, scope and dissemination throughout the world. Students obtain an understanding of the many challenges this phenomenon presents to decision-makers, security establishments, first responders, legal systems and business sectors, based on the experience Israel has accumulated in the field. Internships and Exchange Programs include: The International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT), The National Security Council, the Counter-Terrorism Bureau, the Israeli Knesset.

Guest Lectures

Cluster in Cyber-Terrorism

Experienced and Professional Professors

[For More Information >>](#)



ICT Selected Publications:

"Protective Edge" – Insights

16/09/2014 | by Mr. Shabtai Shavit

Israel's Present and Future Security Challenges in the Field of Counter-Terrorism

28/06/2014 | by Prof. Boaz Ganor

The Gaza Wake-Up Call

14/08/2014 | by Prof. Boaz Ganor

Israel's Policies during Operation "Protective Edge" – Defeat? Deterrence? Settlement?

01/09/2014 | by Prof. Boaz Ganor

The Jihadi Threat to Israel

26/06/2014 | by Prof. Assaf Moghadam

Say Terrorist, Think Insurgent

26/10/2014 | by Multiple Authors

Can Hamas be Defeated?

23/07/2014 | by Dr. Ely Karmon

Iran and Hezbollah Bandwagon Hamas' Fight

30/07/2014 | by Dr. Ely Karmon

Israel, America and the Long War

10/09/2014 | by Dr. Robert Satloff

The Jihadist Governance Dilemma

18/07/2014 | by Dr. Daveed Gartenstein-Ross & Dr. Amichai Magen

The Threat of the New Caliphate

10/08/2014 | by Dr. Shaul Shay

Jordan and the Threat of the Islamic State (IS) Organization

14/09/2014 | by Dr. Shaul Shay

Malaysia and the Hamas Connection

29/09/2014 | by Dr. Shaul Shay

The Appeal of the Islamic State in Southeast Asia

24/09/2014 | by Dr. Giora Eliraz

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08/06/2014 | by Dr. Michael Barak

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29/06/2014 | by Mr. Edan Landau



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