



ICT

International Institute
for Counter-Terrorism

With the Support of Keren Daniel

The Terrorism Maze

Conference Summary



World Summit on Counter-Terrorism



The International Institute for Counter-Terrorism's (ICT's) 17th World Summit on Counter-Terrorism took place on September 11-14, 2017. The conference convened for two days of Plenary Sessions, on September 11 and September 12, 2017 and two days of Workshop Sessions, on September 13- 14, 2017. ICT's 17th International Conference was held under the theme of "The Terrorism Maze" aimed at analyzing and discussing the factors, influences and trends which make up the web of terrorism and counter-terrorism.

ICT's annual international conference is the largest and one of the most influential events in the field of counter-terrorism today. The conference is a vital opportunity for high-profile experts from diverse background of disciplines to establish professional relationships and serves as a platform for the formation of international cooperation. Over 1,000 top decision-makers, defense, intelligence and police officials, prominent academic scholars and security industry leaders from over 60 countries take part in the world summit on counter-terrorism.

Master of Ceremonies throughout the conference: Mr. Jonathan Davis, Vice President for External Relations & Head of the Raphael Recanati International School (RRIS), IDC Herzliya, Israel



Prof. Uriel Reichman



Mr. Shabtai Shavit



Prof. Boaz Ganor

[Prof. Uriel Reichman](#), President & Founder, IDC Herzliya, Israel opened the conference, and addressed the rapidly changing and interconnected global trends of environment, immigration, geo-political alliances and terrorism. He argued that in the face of new economic and technological developments, there is a need to look at terrorism through a new lens. Following Prof. Reichman, [Mr. Shabtai Shavit](#), Chairman of the Board of Directors, ICT, IDC Herzliya and Former Director of the Mossad, Israel made five predictions about the foreseeable future. He argued that both Sunni and Shia radical Islam will continue to promote the idea of a caliphate and compete, also claiming that radical Islam will shift its focus towards Africa. Shavit stated that the world of Sykes Picot is gone, while simultaneously arguing that the world's super powers will avoid large-scale wars. Finally, he predicted that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will resolve in one of two ways; either there will be a two-state solution, or that one state will remain, and will serve as the source of

constant instability in the region.

[Prof. Boaz Ganor](#), Founder & Executive Director, ICT, Ronald Lauder Chair for Counter-Terrorism & Dean, Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy, IDC Herzliya, Israel introduced the main topics to be addressed at the conference: the phenomenon of lone wolf terrorism, trends in United States' counter-terrorism policy, the future of the Middle East following ISIS, catastrophic terrorism, terrorism in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region, global migration and terrorism, as well as Israel's present and future security challenges.

[The Honorable Moshe Fadlon](#), Mayor of Herzliya, Israel welcomed guests to the ICT's 17th Annual World Summit on Counter-Terrorism, and stressed the importance of diverse counter-terrorism measures today. He encouraged the strengthening of partnerships between researchers and policy makers, stating the possibilities of such cooperation.



[MK Ayelet Shaked](#), was interviewed by [Col. \(Res.\) Adv. Daniel Reisner](#), and discussed her views on Israel's Supreme Court, in respect to national security issues, as well as her outlook for the Middle East. MK Shaked mentioned that Israel has invested in educational initiatives in order to counter the propagation of terrorist content, and stated that in order for a possibility of peace, the Palestinian economy must be bolstered by Israel in respect to energy, infrastructure and employment opportunities. Later, [H.E. Nickolay Mladenov](#) spoke on the vulnerabilities created by collapsing states, and the importance of balancing human rights with security when fighting terrorism. He outlined five objectives in the fight against terrorism: creating an international consensus regarding the condemnation of terrorism, promoting inclusive solutions to conflicts, addressing the political and social factors that lead to violence, establishing a coordinated fight against the

perpetrators and drivers of terrorism and strengthening moderate forces. In his keynote address, [Dr. Jehangir Khan](#) noted that in regards to counter-terrorism the United Nations, following the vision forged by the new UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, is moving from "rhetoric to reality". Khan outlined five steps in developing better counter-terrorism strategies: learn from the past, addressing the drivers of violent extremism, humanizing counter-terrorism, engaging youth and building multilateral cooperation. During his speech, [Mr. Brian Fishman](#) discussed the distribution of terrorist propaganda online; specifically on social media platforms. Fishman described methods of removing such content from these platforms: effective reporting, technical and cross industry cooperation, and research cooperation.



[Terrorism Threats to Israel](#)

This session, led by **Dr. Ronen Hoffman**, aimed to address three questions: what are the main terror threats to Israel? How is Israel supposed to be prepared vis-à-vis these threats? To what extent is Israel currently prepared vis-à-vis these threats? **Mr. Ram Ben-Barak** argued that terrorism has completely changed in the past few years. Some terror organizations currently act like fully equipped armies (e.g. Hezbollah) rather than as passive, transnational groups. He stated that Syria might soon begin to see Iranian militias comparable in size to Hezbollah, while Hamas in Gaza is organized, trained, and well-budgeted- though Israeli security forces have been successful in countering potential attacks. **H.E. Dan Meridor** suggested that in the past, countries typically knew their adversaries. However, today in the world of non-state actors, this characteristic has become increasingly unclear. He further argued that today, Iran is the main state threat to Israel's security. Moreover, the newest challenge is the threat from the cyber-domain. **MK Ofer Shelah** echoed these sentiments, arguing that Israel faces two core challenges: (1) the threat of nonconventional means of terrorism, and (2) threats from the cyber-world. **MK Ofer Shelah** concluded that Israel must adapt to this new world order. Finally, **Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Matan Vilnai** argued that war can breakout at any time in the world due to the cyber threat. However, he continued and stated that Israel has built strong resilience to all sorts of attacks, that nothing is permanent, and that Israel must adapt to the new landscape of the threats it faces

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[The Honorable MK Avigdor Lieberman](#) was presented with a Congressional Service Citation, bestowed upon him by U.S. Representative Peter T. King of New York. During his keynote address, Lieberman described five traits common throughout the history of terrorism: radical ideologies that exploit frustrations, brutal tactics, exportation of revolutionary ideology, charismatic leadership, and governments covertly or overtly supporting terrorist activity. MK Lieberman Minister pointed to Iran as the financial lifeline of many Islamic terrorist entities today, further arguing that Iran is a promoter of other global issues such as nuclear proliferation. Similarly, [The Honorable MK Israel Katz](#) focused his keynote address on Iran, noting that the world must do everything in its power to prevent a nuclear Iran. Katz argued that Iran will avoid breaching the nuclear agreement, triggering a regional arms race. Additionally, he claimed that the U.S. administration must understand that the battle against Iran includes the Syrian theatre as well- as a long term agreement

signed between Assad and Iran will include long term Iranian presence in Syria. Israel, he argued must not allow Iranian forces or proxies along its borders. [Ambassador Eric Danon](#) discussed the threat of terrorism in France. He stated that ISIS propaganda has proven to be very seductive to young people in France, with connections between terrorists “at home” and organizations abroad occurring at many levels: online, Mosques, prisons, and more. Ambassador Danon noted that it is difficult to establish an accurate counter-argument to this propaganda, and that detection is difficult as recent terrorists are autonomous. Also focusing on a specific geographic region, [Assistant Commissioner Alistair Sutherland](#) provided an overview of the City of London’s recent terrorist attacks and law enforcement response. Overviewing the Westminster, London Bridge and Manchester attacks, Sutherland highlighted the community engagement after each attack, and described the threat of copy-cat attacks and similar low-tech attacks in the future.



[Lone Wolves: Lone Wolves: Threat & Response](#)

The plenary session on lone wolf terrorism discussed the need to recognize potential patterns in the history or mental profiles of lone wolf actors, the importance of focusing on the areas of radicalization (mosques, family connections, prison, etc). The importance of understanding both where this population arises from and how to effectively counter this threat was reviewed. Moderator **Mr. Dan Diker** stated that the terrorist attack in Barcelona taught the world that lone wolf attackers need to be investigated thoroughly. Nuances and linkages were discovered soon after the attack and thus such attacks need to be handled extremely carefully. **Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Orit Adato** claimed that radicalization in prison is popular, as weak or frustrated individuals turn to religion or kinship. She described the recruitment process as beginning with a prisoner looking for support. Others offer friendship and company, slowly drawing him into participation in religious activities and prayers. Through persuasion, temptation, exhortation and threats, the individual is eventually led to participate in indoctrination sessions and to commit to the ideology. **Dr. Tricia Bacon** claimed that this generation of extremists has less of a need for formal organization leadership and guidance. Despite this, she described the virtual relationships between lone wolf actors and organizational coordinators, explaining that while these relationships are crucial to the success of the operations they also provide an angle for law enforcement to infiltrate or disrupt these plots. **Prof. Boaz Ganor** discussed the importance of having a typology of terrorism, and understanding where lone wolf terrorism falls in that typology. He described three main forms of terrorism: a lone wolf individual with no operational ties to a terrorist organization, a local independent network of 2-5 individual with no operational ties to a terrorist organization, and organized terrorism- an attack planned and orchestrated by a terrorist organization. **Mr. Brian Jenkins** examined American Jihadism, describing the importance and policy implications of understanding how it grew; whether these individuals were radicalized in the United States or had come to the country already radicalized. He claimed that while terrorist organizations are constantly working on influencing individuals, there is a relatively small amount who are actually radicalized. In continuation of this thought process, **Prof. Ariel Merari** highlighted the importance of understanding why lone wolves carry out attacks while the other percentage of people who share the same values do not. He claimed that some studies show psychological or mental issues in as many as 1/3 of lone wolf actors, caveating that these studies are based on secondary sources such as media, court records or intelligence gathering.

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For his keynote address, [the Honorable MK Naftali Bennett](#) was interviewed by Prof. Boaz Ganor. During this discussion, MK Bennett argued that it is important not to lose focus of the threat of Iran's nuclear capabilities, especially with growing discussion of Iran's involvement in Syria. Similarly, the world must not make the mistake of focusing on the tactical threat ISIS presents, rather than the existential threat Iran presents. In regards to Hezbollah, Bennett claimed that Lebanon is Hezbollah, and a rocket attack on Israel by the organization will constitute a declaration of war by Lebanon itself. During her keynote address, [the Honorable MK Tzipi Livni](#) discussed the importance



of counter-terrorism strategies focusing on the divide between moderates and extremists in the Muslim world. She also noted that while the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is not the source of radical Islamist terrorism, it is a hindrance to true alliances in the Middle East. [Assistant Commissioner Mark Rowley](#) presented the British angle on counter-terrorism strategies, describing the current strategy, which included working closely with communities. A new form of terrorism, he claimed, requires a whole system response; with liberal democracies worldwide

working on approaching 5 sectors: public, private, voluntary, local communities and international relations, on three levels: local, online and international. [Mr. Noor Dahri](#) shared his personal life experience. Having grown up in an anti-Israel, Muslim environment in Pakistan, Dahri stated that it was expected of him to hate Jews and hate Israel. Though initially it was difficult for him to accept Israel as a legitimate state, he made an effort to engage with Israelis via social media and truly wrestled with the debates. Dahri has founded the Pakistan-Israel Alliance, and considers himself the first Zionist Pakistani. During his keynote address, [Dr. Sebastian Gorka](#) sought to emphasize the real issue underlying modern terrorism, the propaganda and ideologies which influence those who carry out attacks, and the importance of United States' counter-terrorism policy addressing these issues. Additionally, Gorka acknowledged the threat Israel faces from Iran, and stressed the close relationship between Israel and the United States. [The Honorable Manuel Valls](#) focused, during his keynote address, on the importance of global and regional cooperation among democracies, countries who share the same values and wish to defend these values. Valls mentioned the rise of the extreme right as a response to extremist Islamism, highlighting the importance of protecting liberal democratic values from all kinds of extremism. [Lt. Col. Stephanie Bagley](#) described her experience of the 9/11 attacks, stating that the attacks showed the world that everyone is equal in the eyes of the terrorists and the harm they try to inflict. She claimed that 9/11 taught her that there are people willing to give up their lives

to fight such an enemy, and concluded that we honour the victims by remaining resolute in the fight against terrorism. During his 9/11 Ceremony address, [Commissioner Roger L. Parrino Sr](#) discussed the commitment and strength needed to fight terrorism, while thanking the world for joining the United States in this fight. Parrino also touched on the difficult issues of rebuilding lives and society following such attacks, noting that many have had to do so. [Ambassador David M. Friedman](#) acknowledged and thanked the hard work that the intelligence community, military and law enforcement put in the fight against terrorism and their efforts to save lives. He described the cooperation between Israel and the United States, the sharing of strategies, intelligence and technologies, and outlined the initiatives the United States is leading in the global fight against terrorism, such as defeating ISIS and countering the foreign fighters phenomenon. [The Honorable MK Gilad Erdan](#) began his address by paying his respects to the firefighters, policemen and law enforcement personnel who have lost their lives in the fight against terrorism. Erdan explained that following 9/11, counter-terrorism policies, laws and intelligence gathering methods were revised. However, he claimed that lately we are facing a new threat (incitements, low-skills weapons, low level planning), which requires new counter-terrorism methods. These methods, he suggests, include defeating the terrorist use of social media, through effective international regulations, reducing the response time and effecting a zero tolerance policy for both incitement and support for terrorist organizations.





[Lt. Gen. \(Res.\) Moshe \(Bogie\) Ya'alon](#) spoke of the importance of inter-agency and international cooperation in the fight against terrorism. Ya'alon noted that the international system must work together against the countries that fund and support terrorist organizations- stating that we must address the source of the problem. During his keynote address, [Mr. Weixiong Chen](#) spoke of the United Nation's Security Council's focus on terrorism as a threat to international peace and security. Chen argued that the international community must turn rhetoric into concrete action, claiming that UN resolutions must be implemented and that all sectors are engaged in the fight against terrorism. [Prof. Alex P. Schmid](#) dedicated his keynote address to the subject of counter-terrorism strategies; claiming that there is a need for international cooperation in creating global counter-terrorism strategies and that these strategies should change in accordance to the relevant conflicts and needs. Schmid stated that there is a need to develop indicators for measuring success and failure in combating terrorism. In his speech, [Brig. Gen. Ram Yavne](#) identified the main threats for Israel, mentioning Iran, Hezbollah and Hamas as serious threats, as well as areas with low levels of sovereignty and a high number of extremists. Yavne described Israel's national security as resting on four pillars: deterrence, early warning, defense and decisive victory. [Prof. Liav Orgad](#) analyzed the link between global migration trends and international security challenges, arguing that international migration presents multiple challenges including issues of community cohesion, terrorism, human trafficking, and a declining majority. Prof. Orgad proposed a new approach to the "cultural defense of nations" which includes responsibility and risk sharing of migration, the creation

of international citizenship laws, and the use of trustful digital IDs. [Mr. Zhou Qing](#) noted the threats Eurasia is facing, including foreign fights, porous borders and online propaganda, expanding on the efforts to counter these threats. Among these efforts, he highlighted the shutting down of online radicalization materials, the establishment of databases to identify prominent extremist organizations and individuals to prevent attacks, and stated the importance of transnational cooperation, intelligence investigations and training of law enforcement. [Maj. Gen \(Res.\) Amos Gilead](#) spoke of Israel's position in the Middle East, the warm relationship with Jordan and thawing relationship with Egypt, as well as Israel's deterrent capabilities- which he claims are crucial for the protection of Israel. Despite these optimistic comments, Gilead warned of the growing threat of Iran, given its potential nuclear capabilities, large military arsenal and influence in the Syrian civil war. [The Honorable MK Avi Dichter](#) provided a keynote speech and spoke of the difficulties Israel has in confronting terrorism and in peace negotiations with the Palestinians. Dichter mentioned both the split between Abbas in Ramallah and the Hamas leadership in Gaza, as well as the fact that the Palestinian Authority pays salaries to convicted terrorists' families as complications. Dichter also mentioned as problematic the Palestinian casting of terrorists as heroes, and the Palestinian's preference for refugee status given the UNRWA benefits. Dichter concluded by claiming that Israel will always be seen as strangers in this region, a fact which must dictate how Israel engages with its neighbours and domestic threats.



[**Bush, Obama, and Trump: The evolution of the United States' CT Policy Post 9/11**](#)

Moderator **Col. (Ret.) Miri Eisin** commenced the panel with each speaker giving their viewpoints on the United States' government's approach to combating terrorism/extremist violence. In particular, Col. (Ret.) Eisin asked each participant to focus on the Bush, Obama and Trump administrations. Beginning the discussion, **Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Russell Howard** noted the dire necessity for a counter-narrative when combating radical ideology. **The Honorable Douglas J. Feith** agreed with this notion, and condemned the soft approach of the Obama administration. **Prof. Boaz Ganor** argued that the only way to counter and understand terrorism remains comprehending the rationale behind motivation and operational capability. Lastly, **Mr. Brian Michael Jenkins** elucidated how terrorism remains one of numerous issues our administrations must combat moving forward. When concluding the session, each expert touched on the vast differences in policy approaches per president, and the need for a counter-narrative in the fight against terrorism.

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[Ambassador Piet de Klerk](#) focused his speech on the importance of maintaining an open and inclusive society to address the grievances which drive extremist radicalization. He identifies transnational cooperation as vital, especially when the open borders of the EU present an issue of terrorist cross-border activities. [Dr. Magnus Ranstorp](#) presented his research into the topic of foreign fighters in Europe, identifying three key issues: the extensive extremist networks across Europe, returning foreign fighters to Europe and the micro-financing of these networks. Ranstorp argued that in order to address these issues, it is important to look at Europe as whole, and not as individual countries. **Commissioner Luc Van Der Taelen** spoke of terrorism and counter-terrorism in regards to the European Union. He argued that the European Union itself serves as a double-edged sword; while it allowed for effective legislation to be adopted by member countries, it also facilitated attacks and aided in the development of networks through its open borders. According to Van Der Taelen, the EU has made efforts following the recent attacks, though it still faces obstacles such as propaganda and problems with transnational cooperation. During her speech, [Brig. Gen. Jebb](#) discussed the importance of preparing for uncertainty through education. She outlined the values

and attributes she believes are most important to students and leadership, including the fostering of independent and empathetic thought and the establishment of stability through empowering local stakeholders. [Commissioner Roger L. Parrino Sr.](#), in his keynote address, discussed the importance of understanding the cultural values and norms of one's enemy, in order to effectively counter them. He stressed that this cannot be done if hatred clouds one's judgement, and emphasized the importance of containing such hatred. [The Honorable Giulio Terzi](#) addressed the subject of cyber terrorism, claiming that similarly to traditional terrorism, it is important and yet impossible to define the rules and parameters of cyber crimes. Terzi emphasized the necessity for collaboration and cooperation in combatting cyber-terrorism, particularly in the European Union. [H.E. Avi Gabbay](#) spoke of the difficulties of terrorism that stems from a religious ideology. He acknowledged that while the Israeli-Palestinian conflict might not be the most important regional issue as far as other Arab states are concerned (vis -a-vis the Islamic State and other radical terrorist organizations), it was important to focus on what Israel can do to bring good news and hope (potentially in the form of peace between Israel and Palestine) to the region.



[ISIS After its Demise in Iraq and Syria](#)

The panel discussed the future of ISIS after the organization's demise in Iraq and Syria, agreed that ISIS was due to lose its territory in these areas, and debated whether the organization will continue to exist and in what format. Moderator **Dr. Seth Frantzman** argued that there is a need for a global strategy that is not only reactive but proactive. He claimed that if we look at the attacks on the Yazidi people in 2014, we can see that the threat of ISIS is a real-world threat. **Dr. Colin P. Clarke** argued that ISIS operates more as an insurgent group, claiming that after losing territory the organization will continue to operate underground, aiming at disseminating their message and inspiring attacks abroad. Similarly, **Mr. Brian Fishman** suggested that just as it had in the past, ISIS will survive a demise in Iraq and Syria, though mentioned that the question that arises is how the organization will continue its message of an Islamic State once the caliphate has fallen. **Prof. Rohan Gunaratna** highlighted the fact that ISIS exists not within a single geographic area, but rather a series of provinces. As such, he argued that while the organization may be defeated in Iraq and Syria- there are areas abroad that ISIS will focus on. **Prof. Fernando Reinares** raised the problem of a lack of comprehensive Western strategy against ISIS, the lack of which will harm attempts at preventing re-emergence. Similarly to Dr. Clarke, **Mr. Aaron Zelin** brought to attention the fact that ISIS' success in its survival was the appeal of its message. As such, he argues that the fall of the organization territorially will be followed by an expansion of its message.

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Counter Terrorism: The Diplomatic Perspective

in partnership with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), Israel

The session addressed the diplomatic aspects of the global fight against terrorism, focusing on the perceptions of threats to each representative's home country. The diplomats discussed issues of terrorism, immigration, self-radicalization, lone wolf terrorism, cyber security as well as the need for the international community to improve their counter-terrorism efforts. **Dr. Michael Borchard**, of Konrad-Adenauer –Stiftung, highlighted the German people's concern about immigration, noting that immigration issues could be directly tied to the threat of terrorism. **Ambassador Chris Cannan**, Australia, discussed the growing concerns regarding the return of foreign fighters in the wake of the decline of radical organizations associated with the Islamic State, as well as the unifying potential of ISIS ideology. **Ambassador Dr. Clemens von Goetze**, of Germany, addressed the concerning rise in the number of self-radicalized individuals, as well as the risk the international community faces from the power vacuums left in the wake of failed states, while **Ambassador Nathaniel Imperial**, Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to Israel, noted that his country was far more concerned with current local insurgencies, and emphasized that concerns about terrorism could be directly tied to insurgencies. **Ambassador Deborah Lyons**, of Canada, stated that the international community needs to learn to be more resilient, as being unequipped and underprepared has contributed to the corruption and chaos. In order to combat this and succeed in resilience, the international community needs to be strengthened. **Deputy Ambassador Tony Kay**, from the United Kingdom, discussed the importance of regulating the cyber space and preventing the spread of violent extremism, and Ambassador **Dr. Dimitar Mihaylov** from Bulgaria directed his attention to the concerns of border and immigration security.

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On September 13th-14th, the ICT held a series of workshop sessions, keynote addresses and a concluding simulation. The first series of workshops examined the main contemporary theaters in which the threat of global jihadism thrives. This year, the conference focused its analysis on jihadist actors in four hotspots: Europe and North America as portrayed by the attacks in Belgium, France, Germany and the United States; the Middle East, including Syrian jihadist groups and their sponsors in Iraq and elsewhere; as well as in Africa.

Iran's Involvement in "Glocal" Terrorism in Latin America in partnership with the Center for a Secure Free Society (SFS)

The workshop on Iran's involvement in glocal terrorism in Latin America focused on transnational links between Hezbollah/Iran in Latin America, criminal activities, and terrorism funding methods between Hezbollah/Iran and Latin America. Most of the panelists discussed the Tri-Border Area (TBA) and how it is utilized by Hezbollah for terrorism on an international level. **Dr. Joseph Humire** opened the panel and discussed why Iran is bringing their military to Latin America. Then he delved into how the Iranian network within Latin America is no longer just Iranians, Syrians or Lebanese; that they have added a layer of legitimacy through surrogates in the country who are able to speak the language and fit in with the culture. Then, **Mr. Misael Lopez-Soto** spoke about his position as a Venezuelan attaché in the embassy in Iraq. He told his story of when he discovered that the Venezuelan embassy was providing passports to Hezbollah and Middle Eastern countries in exchange for hundreds of thousands of dollars. Next, **Mr. Ilan**

Berman showed the US policy perspective and spoke about the infrastructure. He was followed by **Ms. Katherine Bauer**, who spoke about terrorism financing in the TBA and the Western Hemisphere Protection Act. **Ms. Katherine Bauer** claimed that Iran has been active in Latin America for decades and Hezbollah has long relied on a worldwide network for financial and logistical support. Ms. Bauer looked at the policy options going forward and how the use of sanctions diplomacy can be employed to try disrupt Hezbollah's abilities in the region and try constrain Iranian expansion. **Dr. Matthew Levitt**, made the point that if someone like the Barakat Clan are designated, they do not fold but diversify to other free trade zones. Then, Mr. Toma spoke about the 1994 AMIA attacks in Argentina and about Prosecutor Nisman. Finally, **Dr. Ely Karmon** spoke about foreign fighters' involvement in Latin America. The last part of the workshop was a Q&A session which centred around three main issues: the mystery of Nisman's death, what Hezbollah's end game is in Latin America, and Venezuela's influence and relation to Iran right now.

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From Da'wa to Jihad: Breaking the Radicalization and Violence Cycle

The workshop highlighted the immense challenges posed by radicalization within a jihadist, Islamist framework, also discussing the driving factors behind such radicalization. The panelists agreed that countering radicalization must take comprehensive forms that span the realms of community, law enforcement, religious institutions, and much more. Even more so, the panelists suggested that a contextual approach to the issue provides the most effective tool for understanding that which drives radicalization. **Prof. Fernando Reinars** stated that radicalisation remains to a large extent a contested concept, and that deradicalization has both pessimistic and optimistic approaches. **Dr. Eitan Azani** spoke on the necessity of bringing cultural context to the understanding of radicalization in order to produce the most effective measures from a communal and governmental level to countering jihadist radicalization. **Dr. Sagit Yehoshua** discussed the sociological aspects of radicalization, including identity, face-to-face interaction, and the role mothers have in fighters returning to their home country

from the theatres of jihad. **Dr. Barak Ben Zur** highlighted the importance of reviewing radical threats, no matter their source- whether it be radial jihadists or domestic nationalist extremists, while **Mr. Michele Groppi** analysed the jihadist threat to Italy, highlighting the fact that radicalization is not yet a major concern, though it does pose issues similarly to other European Union countries. **Ms. Laurence Bindner** discussed radicalization in France, focusing on the significance of identity crises, as well as perceived humiliation and constriction. Bindner argued that counter-narrative efforts must exist on all levels of society, rather than just governmental efforts. To conclude, **Mr. Noor Dhari** spoke of his personal story, describing his radicalization in Pakistan and the knowledge and steps which allowed his radicalization to stop progressing. Dhari emphasized the importance of maintaining the levels of understanding and counter-radicalization at the levels at which the radicalization is occurring; as theoretical and high-level policy discussions will seem foreign to the average person exposed to radical narratives.

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Catastrophic Terrorism: Threats against Critical

Infrastructure

The workshop, chaired by **Dr. Ehud Ganani**, discussed the threat of terrorism targeting critical infrastructure. The main question regarding natural and/or man-made crises is no longer what will happen, but rather “when will something happen”, thus the urgency has become to try and prepare for a multi-faceted range of threats. Dr. Ganani argued that there is a need to move away from a linear thinking from lessons learned; claiming that we must imagine what has never happened but may happen in the future. Ganani also noted that threats to critical infrastructure become more important as humankind becomes more urbanized. **Col. (Res.) Rami Efrati** discussed the cyber threat to critical infrastructure, highlighting its lethality, low cost and anonymity. Efrati noted that there is a need to invest in protecting critical infrastructure from cyber attacks, emphasizing that future threats will only become more difficult to counter due to progress in artificial intelligence technology. **Mr. Brian Jenkins** spoke of the threat of nuclear terrorism, stating that while the concrete threat is relatively low, the mere lethality and propensity for destruction of such an attack render it something not to be underestimated. Jenkins argued that the idea that governments have that a terrorist nuclear attack is not an infrastructure issue, is problematic-as it reduces the planning and potential protection needed. In continuation to Mr. Jenkins’ topic, **Mr. John Kappenman** argued that the main threat of nuclear attacks is the electro-magnetic pulse (EMP) that is generated by a nuclear blast. He claimed that every infrastructure has vulnerabilities at many levels, from small components to large ones, and argued that there is a need to harden critical infrastructure- most importantly the power grid that lies at the head of all critical infrastructure. **Assistant Commissioner Alistair Sutherland** discussed the United Kingdom’s multi-faceted approach to terrorist threats. Sutherland highlighted the use of physical barriers as well as the recruitment of architects to create a standard for constructions designed to withstand and/or



mitigate terror attacks. **Mr. Danny Lacker** analyzed the threats to water delivery systems, noting the importance of monitoring every element in the infrastructure, down to the individual water hydrant. Lacker also discussed the issues of technology, stating that it acts as a double-edged sword, assisting in management of water systems, but creating a reliance which can be problematic. Even more so, he argues that cyber threats are a rising issue, not only to the water resource, but also to the delivery systems. The workshop was concluded by **Col. (Res.) Gilead Shenhar** who discussed communication in times of crisis. He highlighted the need to coordinate information between all agencies and authorities, and mentioned the importance of media and government cooperating to find a balance between the public’s right to be informed and the need to protect the population from hysteria. Shenhar noted the challenge of presenting information to special needs groups, such as the deaf, blind and elderly- who all receive information differently from the rest of the public.

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Jihadi Terrorism in the Af-Pak Region and its Regional Implications

in partnership with the India Foundation

The workshop reviewed jihadi terrorism in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region, arguing that it is prevalent and undergoing changes. **Capt. Alok Bansal**, who chaired the workshop, argued that in order to pave the way for peace and lasting stability, it is essential to understand the ideological reasoning behind terrorism in the region. Rapporteur **Mr. Aaditya Tiwari** stated that unless we understand the theological underpinnings of terror we will never be able to counter it. Tiwari concluded that a counter narrative is needed to counter the terrorism. **Amb. Amar Sinha** stated that due to the western focus on ISIS, Al Qaeda has gained ground in the Af-Pak region, noting the establishment of AQIS and their focus on incitement, rather than the planning of major terrorist attacks. **Mr. Milo Comerford** spoke of propaganda war between ISIS and Al Qaeda, also noting that the two occasionally collaborated in attacking Afghan forces. Mr. Jonathan Paris focused on Pakistan, arguing that despite the state sponsorship of terrorism, one cannot consider Pakistan a failed state. Paris also highlighted the Taliban’s attempts at destabilizing Pakistan by having multiple fronts in isolated areas, intimidating local governments and exploiting sectarian differences. **Dr. Michael Barak** stated that AQIS has been investing efforts to encourage and to recruit more members in Bangladesh and Myanmar. Even though their past shows a limited ability for large scale attacks, with confidence they will attempt more grandiose plans. **Mr. Peter Knoope** stated that the region has undergone two main changes: 1. the increasing interconnectivity between Jihadist groups in the region, as well as presence along the Pakistani borders & 2. the introduction of ISIS to the region, which induced a shift towards sectarianism. **Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Syed Ata Hasnain** analyzed the Pakistani jihad, claiming that is built on a number of main principles including proxy jihad, flooding Kashmir with foreign fighters, and replacing Sufism with Islam. **Col. (Res.) Dr. Shaul Shay** argued that the Sunni-Shia conflict escalates and will eventually become the most salient conflict in the Middle East. During the Q&A session, the participants stated that Pakistan must stop its support of violence if it aims to stabilize the internal situation.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)



The second series of workshops was devoted to discussion on the broader context of terrorism and counter-terrorism. The workshops examined the emerging fields and debates related to terrorism and counter-terrorism, and scanned new trends in the academic study of terrorism and responses to terrorism.

Global Migration, Terrorism and Integration

The workshop, chaired by **Prof. Liav Orgad**, focused on the issues Europe is facing in regards to the current refugee crisis. The panel covered an array of topics focusing primarily on the problems posed by the mass influx of refugees in the continent, as well as the difficulties in dealing with this situation. **The Honorable Rumiana Bachvarova** discussed Bulgaria's handling of the current situation, and specifically focused on Bulgaria's use of biometric data and how this data helps to regulate the flow and organization of migrants throughout Europe. **Ms. Rebecca Brattskar** spoke about the United Nations' Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, and how the UN is evolving to deal with the changing environment and problems posed by foreign fighters and terrorists, while **Dr. Demir Seyrek** elaborated on the difficulty of organizing the proper tools and resources for refugees coming to Europe, especially when

much of the direct assistance for refugees is from NGOs, with some being linked/supported by radical individuals/organizations. **Dr. Daniele Moro** discussed how Italy's implementation of local level security and direct communication between its security departments helps Italy to prevent terrorist attacks. **The Honorable Giulio Terzi** discussed the problems in the Mediterranean region in terms of the growing jihadi networks in the area and the surging tribulations posed by human traffickers. Following the individuals' speeches, the panelists answered a series of questions, mainly dealing with the way Europe copes with and handles the influx of refugees and the threat this poses on European societies and western ideology. The panelists elaborated on different facets of the problems Europe faces, as well as how Europe and the United Nations deal with the fragility of the situation.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)



Terrorism 3.0 – Adaptation, Innovation and Technology

This workshop focused on the rationale behind adaptive learning for both terrorists and counter-terrorist experts. The constant learning competition between the two sides leads to technological/strategic innovation to master new battlegrounds (cyber/aerial) and create new networks for communication, funding, intelligence, and more. **Dr. Gil-ad Ariely** placed greatest emphasis on defining innovation as technological, organizational, tactical techniques along with being essential for both sides. He argued that terrorists' innovation is always based off of prior innovation. **Dr. Magnus Ranstorp** discussed the learning curve when addressing terror attacks, and the need for experts to analyze attacks individually as opposed to studying them en masse. Following him, **Mr. Magnus Normak** stressed the fact that terror groups tend to avoid risk of unnecessary innovation. He claimed that escalation, competition, ideological shift and countermeasures all reasons for innovation. **Mr. Omri Timianker** called for adapting per situation, rather than global adaptation. Timianker described open source data and artificial intelligence powered web intelligence to track patterns/faces as the future of monitoring terrorists and terror cells. During his presentation, **Mr. Ariel Levanon**

concentrated on the topic of cyber attacks. He differentiated between cyber criminal and cyber terrorist, and showed how the criminal aids the terrorist. **Mr. Zohar Gefen** took the audience through certain security protocols to show how Ben Gurion International Airport promotes aviation security. Among these measures, Gefen presented undercover security, security interviews, passenger luggage checks and check points. **Col. (Res.) Shlomo Mofaz** elucidated three prominent trends in terrorism: SophistPlicity (less sophisticated attacks), privatization (increase in lone actors), and glocality (internet Jihadism and internet radicalization). The session was concluded with a question and answer session, which raised two main points. The panel noted that a great concern should be accountability within technological innovation; preparation for possible vulnerabilities within the innovations themselves. The panelists also noted that it is interesting that terrorist propaganda takes places mainly in the MENA region, despite many attacks occurring in Europe.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)

The third series of workshops considered the numerous challenges of counter-terrorism. The workshops in the third series are titled as follows: Pathways to De-Radicalization Pro-active Tools for Countering Terrorism Law Enforcement and Counter-Terrorism Policing Terrorism Prosecution & Countering the Financing of Terrorism Recovery & Resilience: Lessons Learned from Israel.

The Steven E. Stern Workshop on Cyber-Terrorism

The Steven E. Stern Workshop on Cyber-Terrorism analyzed both existing and developing technological, legal, and structural innovations in the cyber realm. Welcoming the panel, **Mr. Steven Stern** noted that, with no background in the military or technology, he had decided to fund the ICT to specialise in the counter terrorism subject. Stern noted the ICT’s cyber efforts, highlighting jihadi monitoring efforts in particular.

Dr. Eitan Azani began the workshop with an overview of existing technologies utilized by terror organizations for the purposes of secure communication and the anonymous distribution of propagandistic materials. **Mr. Oren Elimelech** then explored developing technologies and current vulnerabilities in the cyber realm, in

addition to the public availability of dangerous hardware and software tools. Prof. Wagner proceeded to examine the implications of encryption and anonymization technologies like TOR for the intelligence community, as it finds itself increasingly unable to effectively monitor digital communications. The workshop continued with both Mr. Paganini and **Brig. Gen (Ret.) Charles Shugg’s** analyzing the structural organization of cyber-terror organizations and an assessment of their capabilities. The workshop concluded with **Adv. Deborah Housen-Couriel’s** analytical overview of both the existing and developing national and transnational legal frameworks developed to minimize and prosecute acts of cyber-terrorism.

To watch the full session online please click here >>



New Battlefields/Old Laws: Crisis Management in Times of Transition in partnership with the Institute for National Security and Counter-Terrorism (INSCT)

The workshop, the tenth of its kind, focused on the legal aspects of terrorism and counter-terrorism. **Dr. Daphne Richemond-Barak** welcomed the audience and introduced herself and the other presenters. Dr. Richemond-Barak acknowledged the strong relationship between herself and Prof. William Banks and the ongoing cooperation in regards to the New Battlefields/Old Laws Workshop. The workshop began with a brief presentation by **Prof. William Banks** in recognition of the 10th New Battlefields/Old Laws workshop. Following this presentation, the floor was given to **Dr. Amichai Magen**, who highlighted the main trends, as well as the good and bad news, in the field of global crisis management. **Dr. Katja Samuel** focused her speech on the issues of disaster law disaster prevention and management. Dr. Samuel claimed that international disaster law is a hybrid law norm from different legal regimes (e.g. IHL, IHRL, IRL, nuclear, aviation, maritime etc.). Explaining that a disaster is an event that involves the loss of many lives, human suffering, as well as material or environmental damage, Samuel argued that armed conflicts also fall in this category. Prof. Banks concluded the workshop, and spoke about the managing of a cyber crisis during presidential transition in the USA. He underlined that transitions in administrations are tremendous sources of vulnerability, such as the one of December 2016 that lead to cyber intrusions in the US power grid.

To watch the full session online please click here >>



The Middle East Maze: Israel and its Neighbors

The session, moderated by **Ms. Smadar Perri**, focused on Israel's relationships with its neighbors and the possibility of normalizing these relations. **Mr. Chagai Tzuriel** spoke regarding Syria, and argued that Syria is the key to the Middle East for two main reasons: (1) the multitude of power relations occurring in the country, and (2) the events in Syria have had repercussions all over the world. As such, containing Syria's situation stands also as preventing Iran from accomplishing its plan to build a bridge with Iraq. In his presentation, **Dr. Col. (Res.) Rateb Amro** stated that Israel's eastern neighbor, Jordan, has started looking at Israel as a real neighbor rather than an enemy. However, he claimed, there are many difficulties that stand in the way of completely normalizing relations between Israel and Jordan, foremost the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. **Mr. Meir Javedanfar** stated that the biggest mistake being made by Iran is risking war with Israel (3 to 4 times more than when the nuclear deal was issued). The scenario is one where escalation could occur so that Hezbollah would fire its missiles –thus bringing Israel to Iran's doors – as Iran is Hezbollah's sponsor. Javedanfar argued that the Iranian Revolutionists believe that they are not in a revolution because of the infiltration of the United States after the fall of the Soviet Union, and that to prevent such infiltration Iran must always be on a "revolution" to harm the US. He concluded that the more the people will want the government to focus on domestic issues, the more the government will focus on its foreign enemies. Analyzing Egypt, **Ambassador Itzhak Levanon** very plainly stated that it is important to be concrete when discussing normalizing relations; arguing

that there are no normal relations between Egypt and Israel. Levanon claimed that while there have been developments in intelligence cooperation, industrialized zones ("QIZ"), and common enemies, these developments are not enough. He concluded that Israel should make the move and take the initiative away from the media and strengthen the relations (more has to be done beyond the peace treaty).

Prof. Joshua Teitelbaum explained that the Saudis have never backed away from asking Israeli support for their military activities and security issues. He stated that progress has been made on Israeli and Saudi contacts regarding the Palestinian issue, and that covert actions are likely to increase between Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Nir Boms spoke of the role of the media, in an attempt to present a picture of the entire maze of relations. He claimed that there have been episodes of good cooperation between all these various countries. Boms emphasized that in social media and beyond, the youth in these countries have not been upset about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but rather about terrorism, unemployment and politics.

Dr. David Pollock spoke of the Kurds, claiming that they are playing a very important role in the region. Pollock argued that there is no emotional relation between Israel and Kurdistan, in this regard, Pollock highlighted the problem that the PKK is still considered a terrorist organization by Israel. Pollock concluded that despite talk of efforts to "improve relations" there have been no actual treaties.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)



Hamas Plus ça Change, Plus c'est la même Chose?

The panel, moderated by **Mr. Avi Issacharoff**, focused on Hamas, on the changes the group is undergoing- both in tactics and in socio-economic aspects. **Col. (Res.) Avi Eliyahu** explained the transformation of Hamas after Operation Protective Edge in 2014. He claimed that, politically, Hamas is isolated both internationally (Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Egypt) and internally (by Abu Mazen). Eliyahu concluded that the main threat to Hamas today is not Israel but rather the citizens of Gaza, as they have witnessed that the group is not able to provide basic needs for them. **Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Figchel** shared his opinion about the group, affirming that Israel sees Hamas as the lesser of possible evils. Figchel highlighted the fact that Hamas' main goal is to be the only representation of the Palestinian people both in Gaza and the West Bank, while **Dr. Anat Kurz** claimed that it is more likely to see a peace agreement between Israel and Hamas than a complete unification between Hamas and Fatah. She argued that Hamas must be treated as a political entity. Moreover Dr. Kurz affirmed that Hamas is changing, but change does not necessarily mean transformation. **Brig. Gen (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel** stated that Hamas faces three main problems. The first, is the underground wall that Israel is building, which aims to restrict and block tunnels. The second problem is that Hamas currently is not taking care of the population in Gaza, and that Hamas has had to transform itself from a military group to a governmental body. Lastly, Nuriel claims that the third problem is the fact that Hamas is isolated from the Arab world.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)

[The Third Lebanon War: not if but when?](#)

The session focused on the likelihood of a third Lebanon war in the near future, with the panelists agreeing that a war between Israel and Hezbollah is unlikely, as it is against the interests of all parties involved, though they made sure to caveat the statement and claim that miscalculations are possible. Moderating the panel, **Dr. Matthew Levitt** noted that Hezbollah's reluctance to attack Israel may stem from the amount of damage they know will occur. He argued that there is a real fear among the Hezbollah leaders that Israel could take advantage of their distraction in Syria and put an end to organization once and for all. **Dr. Eitan Azani** discussed the three levels of activity taking place on both sides of the potential conflict: the strategic activity being undertaken to achieve a potential victory, operational activity- the attempts to materialize said strategy, and the implementation of psychological deterrence. He concluded that although we must be prepared for a miscalculation, both Iran and Hezbollah have no interest or benefit in intimidating or starting a war with Israel.

Mr. Naftali Granot emphasized the lack of strategic advantage for Lebanon to incite a "third war". He pointed out that while it would be unwise of Lebanon to not be suspicious of Israeli intentions, he believes that Israel has no interest in launching a preemptive strike against Hezbollah. Similarly, **Brig. Gen. (Res.) Yossi Kuperwasser** discussed Israel's concern with stability and argued that stability was more important than any potential tactical advantage Israel may gain by initiating a war in Lebanon. Overall, Kuperwasser believes that Israel has the capabilities to deter Hezbollah indefinitely. **Maj. Gen. (Res.) Uzi Moskovitz** addressed several potential escalating factors and components that Israel should be aware of coming from Hezbollah, Lebanon, and Iran. He mentioned the strategic balance that currently exists between Israel and Hezbollah, and likened the potential conflict to the Cuban Missile crisis- alluding to the potential for mutually assured destruction. **Dr. Magnus Ranstorp** also expressed doubt that such a conflict would arise and stated that the status quo was likely to be maintained due to the fears arising from a potential for mutually assured destruction.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)



[It Takes a Network to Beat a Network: The Challenge of Counter-Terrorism International Cooperation](#)

in partnership with the International Counter-Terrorism Academic Community (ICTAC)

This workshop focused on the importance, and difficulties, of counter-terrorism international cooperation. This cooperation, the workshop concluded, must span multiple levels; governments, academia, and society. **Prof. Rohan Gunaratna** claimed that global terrorism is in a “third phase”. Despite the fact that ISIS is losing territory in Iraq and Syria, the organization is expanding globally, establishing new provinces and divisions. Therefore, now more than ever, better and stronger cooperation (and mostly collaboration) between academia and governments are necessary. **Dr. Kristina Eichhorst** argued that it is important to find effective means of implementing counter terrorism policies through networks on both a global level between states and on a public and private level through institutions. An expert in the United Nation’s ISIL (Da’esh), Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Monitoring Team, whose name must be withheld, described the main scope of UN sanctions regime, stating that it is not to eliminate terrorism, but to hit terrorist infrastructures. However, she noted that sanctions can only be put into effect when individuals are known to authorities. As such, she concluded that cooperation is fundamental so that information is shared and can be used properly. **Prof. Robert Friedmann** argued that authorities must have knowledge in order to predict, and that prediction is essential in attempts to establish counter-measures. Friedmann argued that this concept highlights the importance of recognizing incitement, so that its effects and implications can be monitored and mediated. Friedmann concluded with the claim that effective measures are those which are proactive, not only reactive. In his presentation, **Prof. Gregory Rose** explained the chain existing between governments, NGO’s, and partners. Rose claimed that many times, NGO’s are not aware, even if they pursue good purposes, that they indirectly fund terrorist organizations, stating that accountability for NGO’s is fundamental. **Prof. Alex Schmid** analysed the relationship and cooperation between academia and governments, stating that it has never been easy. Schmid claimed that there is a clash between security agencies, which rely on secret information, and academia, which constantly interacts with youth and the society. Nevertheless, he argued, cooperation between these two entities has become a must today, in order to face the new challenges. The session concluded with a question and answer session, which raised the fact that there is a need to regulate the trade of antiquities, as terrorist organizations profit from such sales. Lastly, the panellists stated that world leaders must make sure to not deepen the rift between the Sunni and Shia communities, but rather must aim at bridging the gap.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)



[Targeted Killings, Drone Strikes & Pro-Active Measures](#)

The workshop discussed the tactic of targeted killings and their changing nature due to technological developments. **Dr. Max Abrahms** presented research on the change in a militant group’s tactics in the weeks following leadership decapitations, and showed that variation depends on the leader’s strength and whether they permit attacks on civilians. **Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Russell Howard** asked the audience to imagine a world without Osama Bin Laden, Saddam Hussain, for example. He then postulated that the real question is, who follows when these leaders are no longer and who has the moral right to determine that a leader, no matter how bad, should be taken out? **Dr. Benjamin Acosta** presented the way leadership decapitation reduces the lethality and tactical abilities of the group. Acosta concluded with the recommendation that arrest and legal execution of leaders are the best tactic. **Gen. Ashok K. Mehta** discussed US-Pakistani cooperation on drone strikes within Pakistan’s Federally Administered Tribal Areas during the Bush, Obama, and Trump administrations, while **Brig. Gen. (Res.) Oren Avman** analysed Israel’s use of pro-active measures in the defeat of suicide terrorism. Avman stressed the need for intelligence-driven offensive operations which differentiate between terrorists and the civilian population. Finally, **Col. (Res.) Adv. Daniel Reisner** discussed the legality of targeted killings while identifying the future importance of image recognition, weapons systems’ accuracy, and artificial intelligence.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)

Simulation: Current Security Challenges to Jewish Communities

in partnership with the World Jewish Congress

The simulation presented a terror attack simulation relevant to the Jewish community in a European capital city. Throughout the workshop, the participants discussed strategic and tactical dilemmas both from the attack planning perspective as well as from the law enforcement and security assessment side. Throughout the simulation, issues of information sharing were discussed, both in regards to the information shared with the public as well as in regards to information shared between agencies and organizations. The simulation highlighted the importance of being aware of the threat, especially in regards to the Jewish community, in order to prepare and minimize the damage an attack can incur.



Law Enforcement and Counter-Terrorism Policing

The first part of this workshop included presentations by speakers, on the nexus of law enforcement and counter-terrorism policing. **Mrs. Ana B. Hinojosa** spoke of the role Customs has in counter-terrorism, their responsibility to identify risks and threats, to understand the international trade and travel and the part they play in the terrorist supply chain. Hinojosa highlighted the importance of Customs in risk management, as the acquisition and tracking of data, as well as the recognition of anomalies, plays an important part in counter-terrorism. **Inspector (Ret.) Kenneth Honig** focused his remarks on the importance of managing public perception of public safety responses. Honig explained that while law enforcement measures success by the extent to which “bad things do not happen”, the public often does not view things in the same vein, and emphasized the repercussions these differences have on budgeting. **Commissioner Luc Van Der Taelen** spoke of radicalization and threats in Belgium, detailing the efforts the Belgian law enforcement are making in dealing with said threats. Van Der Taelen explained that a new model of community policing has been introduced, which includes the empowering of citizens, increasing police accountability and focusing on education in communities. **Mr. Denis Monette** stated that the term “policing” has been perfected by the Israeli’s as they have learned how to deal with it out of necessity. Monette noted that terrorism is not over and will happen again – the question is, where and when? Finally, **Maj. Gen. (Res.) David Tzur** spoke of the balance the Israeli Police must find between combatting terror and regular policing, noting the time it takes to shift from one mode (day-to-day policing) to the other (security building and combatting terrorism). Tzur argued that it is important to involve the public, to train them in threat identification and awareness.

The second part of the workshop included a simulation, in which simultaneous attacks on multiple targets in a destination in the United States were planned using open-source intelligence gathered online from various sources. The simulation addressed the information-gathering methods and various red-team dilemmas involved in deciding upon the modus operandi and weapons acquisition process for each attack, as well as the potential blue team dilemmas faced by law enforcement responding to the attacks.

[To watch the full session online please click here >>](#)

Simulation: The Future of ISIS and Syria

The conference was concluded with a simulation focusing on the future of ISIS and Syria, for each round of the simulation, the actors addressed concerns and relayed demands, pertaining to the current situation and relating to each actor's unique needs, both domestically and internationally. The first round of the simulation included participants simulating **Russia (Mr. Ilan Berman)**, **Hezbollah (Dr. Eitan Azani)**, **Iran (Mr. Meir Javedanfar)**, **Turkey (Dr. Demir Murat Seyrek)** and **Syria (Mr. Miroslav Zafirov)**. In this round, Russian interests fell heavily on maintaining its presence and operational position in the Syrian scene, addressing the issue of foreign fighters and perceived increase in strength of the Assad regime. Iran's interest in economic pursuits, pertaining largely to automotive and manufacturing, arose along with obtaining militias, the free movement of persons, and involvement in any Syrian discussions pertaining to Iran. Syria relayed its view of a conspiracy against the country threatening punishment to any involved in attacks against the regime, while maintaining confidence about ISIS' demise. Turkey's expression of concern for the outcome of the Free Syrian Army and improbable coordination with the US, yielded recognition of its significance to play a role in the future outcome in Syria, dismissing Iranian assumptions of ownership in the crisis. Hezbollah relayed its support for the Iranian request for open access into Syria and the ability to protect against Israeli aggression.

The second round of the simulation included representatives playing **the United States (Mr. Brian Michael Jenkins)**, **the European Union (The Honorable Giulio Terzi)**, **the Gulf States & Saudi Arabia (Col. (Res.) Dr. Shaul Shay)**, **Russia (Mr. Ilan Berman)**, and **Israel (Mr. Omri Sharon)**. The US began, recognizing the significant territorial losses suffered by the groups, along with suffering experienced by rebel movements and other insurgent movements alike, further stating the risks by each external actors and the interests of others. The US claimed that moving forward, outcomes regarded as acceptable individually and collectively must be identified. The European Union relayed its consistent view that the civil war could have been prevented and the current need for humanitarian rights. The EU emphasized the requirement of Geneva Process to realize the need for significant results, as well as the need for the redrafting of a constitution. The Gulf States and Saudi Arabia relayed their view for Iran as the main threat to stability, demanding Iranian elements leave Syria, as well as free Syrian elections. Russian interests attempt to maintain territorial integrity, recognizing remaining counterterrorism threats, and the continued Wahhabism threat. The Israeli stance rejects foreign forces in Syria, noting the threat to Israel by such forces along its northern border.

The third round of the simulation portrayed a meeting of ISIS leadership; **Caliph (Prof. Boaz Ganor)**, **Intelligence & Operational Council (Lt. Col. (Res.) Adv. Uri Ben Yaakov)**, **Shura Council (Lt. Col. (Res.) Eyal Dykan)**, **Military Council (Mr. Naftali Granot)**, **Public Information Council (Dr. Eitan Azani)**. This round imitated a discussion of the next steps the organization must take. The Caliph's remarks relayed the promise for developments of a new concept, dismissing claims for the group's demise. Agreement among the Shura, Military, and Operational Councils fell on consensus for the need of a full-blown terror campaign utilizing advantages, sending hundreds of fighters to numerous countries throughout Europe especially. The simulation then presented the results of a red team exercise, providing potential targets, modus operandi and means of attack.





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 the largest public domain research database on the Internet encompassing global terrorist attacks, terrorist organizations and activists in addition to statistical 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, European Union and Israel. An acclaimed management and research staff at ICT spearheads 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.

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