

Forum: Security Council

Issue: Addressing the issue of transnational organized crime in order to combat the growth of terrorist groups

Student Officer: Irene Yang

Position: Deputy President

Introduction

Terrorism does not have a fixed definition to this date. This is due to the many people taking different views and perspectives on terrorism. On one hand, they could be a terrorist, but to the others, they could be a hero, a "Freedom fighter"; even the scholars who defined the term terrorism have different views. Therefore, while terrorism can be easy to distinguish from general social crimes due to its distinct ideological tendencies, it is impossible for the international society to just make a simple, general academic definition.

Rapid advances in technology have led to rapid advances in transportation and communication. While these developments did not physically remove the fences of national borders, they were effectively discredited by rapid interchange in political, economic, social and cultural areas. These new changes makes it easier for terrorist organizations to move more freely and carry out organized crimes more easily.

But globalization, which has caused many positive effects such as global economic growth, has led to the side effect of globalization of crime, taking advantage of the weakness of international legal system cooperation, which has not yet been established due to limitations of sovereignty. This new environment of globalization allows terrorist organizations in different countries to cooperate and trade regardless of the barriers of borders. Some recent attacks can be used to prove this point valid, such as the recent terrorist attacks in the European Union where borders are more free.

Definition of Key Terms

Black market

It refers to a market in which illegal transactions take place. When there is a large shortage of goods due to natural disasters, wars and other such causes, or when the supply and sales is under the control of the state, the prohibited items are often sold and controlled goods are traded at prices above normal value.

Weapons of Mass Destruction

Also known as WMD, the term refers to any chemical, biological or nuclear weapon capable of causing large figures of death and destruction.

Fissile material

A nuclear species that can fission after capturing low-energy heat (low-speed) neutrons. Although sometimes used as synonyms for fissile materials, the term gained a stricter interpretation with the limitation that it should be made of fissile by thermal neutrons. In this interpretation, the three primary fissile materials are U-235, U-233, and Pu-239. When reacted, they release toxic levels of radiation and is therefore used for nuclear warheads.

Dirty Bomb

Also known as the RDD, a dirty bomb is not classified as an actual nuclear warhead but is a bomb that has both conventional explosives and fissile material to emit toxic levels of radiation.

Terrorist Organizations

Armed group which intentionally uses violence for political purposes.

Transnational Organized crime

Transnational Organized crime is a massive scale crime coordinated across international borders, involving networks and groups of individuals working in more than one country with the aims of causing systematic violence.

Cryptocurrency

Cryptocurrency is a virtual currency that uses strong cryptography to close and secure financial transactions between 2 or more parties. The main advantage of cryptocurrency is that the transactions stay hidden and anonymous, making it untraceable.

Dark Web

The Dark Web is a subset of the Deep Web in which individuals are able to purchase drugs, firearms, fissile material and other objects banned by the international law. According to recent

researches, only 4% of the is visible to the mass public, meaning that 96% of the internet remains hidden in the Dark Web.

Jihadism

The word “Jihad” directly translates to effort or struggle in Arabic. This struggle could be an internal struggle of a certain individual against instincts, the struggle to build a secure, prestigious Muslim society, or as its now used- as a holy war for the faith against the unbelievers of Islam.

Background Information

Black Market

Anything can be traded on the black market, including explosives and weapons. The weaponry black market is the most active in West Europe, in which weapons are smuggled through borders through small shipments, private vehicles or hidden on public transport. Governmental authorities seize a lot of the weapons at borders however a large quantity still manages to make it through the heavy surveillance. In France, this is a huge problem. After the Paris attacks of 2015. France has increased their surveillance however the countries of origins are not very cooperative at this moment in time which has made French authorities unsatisfied.

Once these weapons make it on to the black market, the situation can escalate very rapidly, once terrorists or individuals with criminal connections acquire these weapons. The main reason it is so hard to track these weapons down is due to the nature of the European Union; within the European union, people and goods are able to move around freely in and out of various borders.

Fissile material

From drugs to organs, anything can be traded on the worldwide black market. Russia is the center of the nuclear black market, the reason being its wide borders which allows dealers to escape into other countries easily. Nuclear warheads can be bought, however, the prices are extremely high and therefore they are not bought frequently. Nevertheless, as nuclear warheads need extensive software and security systems, fissile materials are more frequently dealt with. In Georgia a black market broker was caught with 25 pounds of Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU). The amount that the broker had in possession was not enough to build a bomb that would do much damage, but if packed with other highly reactive materials, it would be able to produce something known as a ‘dirty bomb’, capable of poisoning and release harmful levels of radiation around the blast zone.

Numerous terrorist groups have publicly shown their interest in nuclear warheads, such as Al Qaeda. Osama bin Laden referred to the weapon as "religious device" and cheered for the idea of another Hiroshima attack like the attack in WW2. During the final Nuclear Summit of his presidency, President Barack Obama announced that the risk of ISIS, Al Qaeda or any other extremist group acquiring nuclear arms remains one of the biggest threats of the 21st century.

Osama bin Laden's death has not curbed Al Qaeda's efforts to acquire nuclear warheads. According to the report published by Harvard, with the material available on the black market, a sophisticated terrorist group would be able to produce a gun-type nuclear bomb. In addition to this, although they may face difficulties making a crude bomb, they are with no doubt able to buy or steal these weapons. The saddening truth is that there is not much the world can do to curb the progress of spreading fissile material. Globalization, enormous profit margins, and global-scale organized crime have created a multi-billion illicit trafficking platform with the most sophisticated methods to hide from the police's eyes.

Dirty bombs

Although dirty bombs are not as lethal as nuclear arms, one would be naive to underestimate its power. The bomb is gaining its popularity amongst terrorist groups due to its huge advantage of not needing to split atoms. If these fissile materials are packed with ordinary explosives, a device the size of a small suitcase would have the capability of contaminating numerous city blocks with toxic radiation. The true impact of a dirty bomb would largely depend on numerous factors: the amount and type of the radioactive material and weather conditions. People at the center of the blast zone would suffer injuries from the explosion itself, as well as the radiation; depending on the wind, the fallout caused by the bomb can spread widely. The impact of the explosion would be no different to a regular bomb, but the real impact would be the radiation poisoning. Areas around the blast zones would have to be shut down for months.

The biggest threat is the dirty bomb ending up in terrorist hands. For example, ISIS has already shown plenty of evidence to the public that they would not be afraid to put their hands on nuclear weapons. Surely not weapons as destructive as atomic bombs but dirty bombs seem to be just right for them.

Dark Web

Beneath the surface of the World Wide Web lies a side of the internet that is not indexed by global search engines like google or yahoo. At the surface, it is populated by criminals and the sexually depraved. However, the Dark Web has more uses than just hiring hitmen, purchasing access to illicit

firearms and watching child pornography. It is used by terrorist organizations to form a safe haven for their future attacks, raise funds and also recruit new members. Terrorist organizations can evade governmental surveillance, intelligence agencies, and other security services by hiding under the shadow of the Dark Web. The Dark Web uses encrypted messages for communication and cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin to make trusted transactions between two parties. ISIS and ex-Al Qaeda supporters are very highly adaptive in this aspect, once they feel that one communication channel becomes less secure, they simply move onto another one.

Terrorists have been active on various internet platforms since the late 1990s. However, when they realized that the Surface Web was too dangerous as it could be monitored, traced and found, they moved further beneath the surface into the Dark Web. Many terrorist websites or social media accounts on the Surface Web are monitored by counter-terrorism agencies which hack them or shut them down as a whole. In contrast, in the Dark Web, anonymous and decentralized networks enable evasion of arrest and closure on terrorist platforms.

Terrorists have been using the internet to provide information to their fellow allied terrorist organizations, share details and coordinate attacks, spread propaganda, raise funds, radicalize and recruit new members. 2 days after the Paris attacks of November 2015, ISIS posted a message regarding the establishment of their official website, which releases and archives various propaganda material. The link had a “.onion” address, meaning that it came from the Dark Web. Following the attack on Paris in November 2015, ISIS turned to the Dark Web with the aims of spreading propaganda in an attempt to protect the anonymity of the group’s supporters and safeguard their content from counter-terrorism agencies and hackers.

Terrorists are now using the Dark Web as a safe haven to communicate safer than ever before. Although it had been long assumed that terrorist attacks are coordinated in the Dark Web, concrete evidence was only attained in 2013. Recently, ISIS and other Jihadist groups have been caught using new online applications which allow users to broadcast their messages to an unlimited number of members via encrypted mobile applications such as Telegram.

Cryptocurrency

Extremist groups can use the Dark Web for fundraising, money transfers, illegal purchase of weapons and explosives, using cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin. The weapons used for the deadly attack in Paris is now thought to have been purchased from a hidden store in the Dark Web. Organized crime groups are now using centralized virtual cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin, Webmoney, and Perfectmoney in order to cover their financial footprints from surveillance.

Most if not all Dark Web commerce sites conduct transactions in Bitcoin or some other variant, however it does not fully ensure their safety. Dark Web E-commerce websites have the same features and look no different from normal E-commerce websites, including reviews, ratings, forums and shopping carts. However, the one important difference is quality control. When both the buyer and seller is an anonymous figure, the credibility of any ratings can be easily questioned. A rating can be easily manipulated, and sellers with a long history have been known to suddenly disappear with the purchaser's money.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)

ISIS began in 1979 when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan to defend an incompetent dictator against rebels. Countless young men seeking for change, an uprising, flocked from the Middle East to join the rebels in Afghanistan. These young men are referred to as the Mujahideen. Mujahideen refers to those engaged in a holy struggle. In this conflict, some began to develop extremist views in regards to the situation. Among these people who developed extremist views was a well educated young Saudi Arabian, named Osama bin Laden. At the same time, a semi-literate former criminal from Jordan named Abu Musab Zarqawi was located in Afghanistan. The two men do not get along; however, they do create the biggest terrorist organizations in the world known as Al Qaeda and ISIS.

Zarqawi's extremist group eventually rose to be the most ruthless group in Iraq. He especially performed attacks on Shia, deliberately sparking the Shia-Sunni war. By 2004, Zarqawi was the biggest name amongst Jihadists. Al Qaeda, now isolated and weakened, attempted to bolster its image by forming an alliance with Zarqawi's group, which becomes known as Al Qaeda in Iraq. However, in 2006, Iraq Sunnis rebel against Zarqawi and he is killed in a US air strike. Over the next few years, Al Qaeda in Iraq, also called AQI is largely defeated and remains undisturbing to the international community. In 2011, the Americans withdraw from Iraq that finally seems to have peace and stability. In the same year, in Iraq, the small number of remaining people of Zarqawi's group is still in an alliance with Al Qaeda but now known as the Islamic State in Iraq. This organization is led by a religious scholar named Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi. In 2012, Baghdadi sends a top deputy named Jabhat Al Nusra to Syria with the aims of starting a new Al Qaeda branch to fight alongside the rebels. Simultaneously, Baghdadi attacks a series of prisons in Iraq, freeing former Jihadists and recruiting new ones, building a more secure ground for his organization to become stronger. During the spring of 2013, Baghdadi makes an abrupt announcement that he will now be in control of all Al Qaeda allied forces in Syria and Iraq. His group only

becomes more powerful, eventually forming the extremist group we now know as ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria).

Thousands of Muslims, mostly from the Middle East flock to join the group. Some joined for religious reasons but many joined in anger and felt disillusioned that ISIS would offer them an answer and a purpose. In August 2014, ISIS succeeds in invading Kurdish territory in Iraq and Syria, resulting in the spark of counter - attacks from better organized Kurdish armed forces. Not only does ISIS launch a genocide aimed at Iraqi Yazidis, but they also murder James Foley, an American Journalist on camera. This act outrages the world, provoking an America led air campaign against ISIS. Unable to withstand the onslaught, ISIS results in losing more than a fifth of its territory. As a response, they begin to launch and increasingly spectacular terrorist attack abroad: Kuwait, Sinai, Tunisia, Beirut and in Paris.

Currently, ISIS is stalled and they are losing their ground in Iraq. If these trends continue, ISIS will be unable to hold onto their territory in Iraq in the foreseeable future. When ISIS swept over the Northern areas of Iraq in June 2014, ISIS seemed unstoppable. However their weaknesses began to surface starting as early as August 2014 when ISIS made the mistake of invading Iraqi Kurdistan and threatened Erbil, the Iraqi Kurdish capital. The city was able to defend themselves and turned the tables completely on ISIS, and began offensive maneuvers which weakened ISIS's power in the North. In addition, there were many Americans located in Erbil and the United States intervened, as ISIS posed a direct threat to their own citizens. Therefore in August, the United States began bombing ISIS in order to protect Kurdish holdings and their people.

At the moment, ISIS is simply too weak, without allies, without funders and is surrounded by enemies. However, they can join forces again with AQI, meaning they can always rise into power again.

Al Qaeda

Seventeen years ago, on September 11, 2001, the United States underwent the worst terrorist attack of the century. Two hijacked planes rushed toward the twin towers of the World Trade Center in the heart of New York City, and another plane crashed into the Pentagon building outside Washington D.C. There was also a plane crash in Pennsylvania. The United States was in utter shock when about 3,000 people were killed in a simultaneous terrorist attack.

Al Qaeda is one of the largest terrorist organizations in the world and an armed Islamist group which directly translates to "The base". They began small, simply as a logistical network helping Muslims fight against the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) during the Afghan war. When the Soviet Union withdrew their military forces from Afghanistan in 1989, Al Qaeda shortly dispersed, however set their base in Sudan and continued to oppose what their leader labeled a corrupt Islamic regime and

foreign presence in Islamic territory. In 1996, Al Qaeda was able to reestablish their headquarters in Afghanistan.

Al Qaeda made many allies and eventually merged with other Islamist militant organizations, including the Islamic group, Egyptian Islamic Jihadists and the base of ISIS. As an allied organization, they, on several occasions, declared a holy war against the United States. The organization quickly blew up in numbers by launching training camps worldwide to train Muslim militants in parliamentary warfare skills and got many of their agents involved in numerous terrorist attacks.

The invasion of Afghanistan by the United States in 2001 challenged Afghanistan's viability as an Al Qaeda haven and training territory and compromised communication, financial and operational links between the leaders of Al Qaeda and their militants. This invasion triggered Al Qaeda to restructure their organization and become more franchised. As Al Qaeda become more linked with other extremist groups and linked to more attacks in the 6 years following 9/11 than it had been 6 years ago. These attacks include Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Tunisia, United Kingdom, Israel, Indonesia, and so many more places. At the same time, Al Qaeda used the internet as an expensive venue for recruitment, propaganda, uploading derogatory videos and photos to provoke the international community and communication. Along the attack of 9/11 that pushed the entire world into a state of shock and horror, Al Qaeda was said to have reached is the peak in strength during the first decade of the 21st century.

However, on May 2, 2011, Al Qaeda's leader Osama bin Laden was killed US specialist military forces in Abbottabad, Pakistan. Only a month later, Al Qaeda announced that Ayman al-Zawahiri, bin Laden's trusted deputy, had been appointed to take bin Laden's seat as the Al Qaeda's leader.

United States of America

The motivation of Jihadist terrorists in the United States is very challenging to disentangle. There have been many unhappy voices regarding the foreign policy of the United States. A small number of Jihadists seem to follow comprehensible paths of radicalization whereas others don't.

Disregarding the difficulty of disentangling the motivation of these Jihadist (Extremists who believe in the ideology of Jihadism) terrorists, there are a few major factors that combine the motivations of many extremists. One of the biggest factors being the increasing significance of social media and the Internet. Social media and the Internet is the main site of spreading extremist ideologies to the world and to radicalize and recruit new members for the organization. The emergence of social media and the use of internet allows extremist propaganda to circulate and connect the people to these terrorist

organizations. Many Jihadists use encrypted apps and social media to disseminate propaganda; this new method of recruitment reshaped and reformed the entire Jihadist strategy.

Seventeen years after the attacks of 9/11, Jihadists have killed approximately 103 people in the United States of America. The attack that occurred in Orlando on the 12th of June, 2016 was the deadliest terrorist attack since 9/11, not to mention it was one of the biggest mass shootings in American history. However, these Jihadist attacks are not national-scale catastrophes like the attacks of 9/11.

While the United states have encountered a series of lethal attacks by people who were inspired the extremist ideology of Jihadism, the nation is a difficult target to hit for foreign terrorist organizations as they have not been able to coordinate and carry out successful attacks in the nation since 9/11. This is due to the layered defense systems of USA which includes cooperation from local communities, civilians and the use of informants.

However, attacks coordinated from abroad cannot be unaccounted for. An example is the Christmas day bomb plot which was carried out by Umar Farouk Abdulmuttalab in 2009. He was an individual who was trained and directed by Al Qaeda. The only reason this attempt failed was because his explosive did not work. The year after, there was a bomb set in Times Square Faisal Shahzad who was trained by the Pakistani Taliban. Again, he failed as his explosive did not detonate properly. Despite cases like this, the threats are highly likely to continue. They will most likely be carried out by pairs of individuals who were influenced by Jihadist ideologies.

Syria

In Syria, dictator Bashar Al Assad did not think much of resigning from his title, resulting in a gruesome civil war between his own people. The longer the war dragged on, the more foreign groups joined the fight, and some of these foreign groups included terrorists. These extremist organizations joined the war for mainly religious reasons, having the aim of building a secure and absolute Islamic state in the region. One of those organizations is the Islamic State of Iraq, also known as ISI; they have developed to be known as ISIS. ISIS, supported by trained, fanatic soldiers, is currently fighting in Iraq.

By the end of 2012, at least 80 suicide bombings were recorded in Syria. The government nor the opposition powers have claimed responsibility for this, accusing each other of this tragedy. The terrorist groups Al Qaeda and Al Nusra front have claimed responsibility for these vicious attacks. Out of the 80 bombings, Al Nusra front took responsibility for 57 of them.

The government of Syria has been constantly accused of aiding terrorism. Syria is now going through a massive humanitarian saga. However, the international community is simply sitting back and watching the bloody mass slaughter, massacre and mass elimination of Muslims.

Iraq

In 2003, the United States invaded Iraq, claiming that they had connections to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. At the time, the country was under the rule of Saddam Hussein, a brutal dictator. He was a part of the Sunni minority which made up 20% of the population, and suppressed the Shia majority. The country was conquered quickly however the US had no plans for the country. Until then, the suppressed Shia majority took over and began oppressing the Sunnis.

Unsurprisingly, a Sunni rebel uprising began, allowing terrorist groups such as Al Qaeda trickle into Iraq and local forces, often the former Sunni military began fighting the US troops and the newly formed Iraqi state, peaking in a gruesome civil war in 2006. Since then, the population has been loosely segregated by religious beliefs. The US invasion of Iraq led to the formation of the very terrorist organizations they wished to eliminate initially as now, Iraq was the perfect and ideal training ground for terrorism.

The two main branches of the Muslim faith are the Sunnis and the Shias. Saudi Arabia and Iraq are the two most powerful players in the Gulf region, Saudi Arabia being a Sunni Islam and Iraq being a Shia Islam. Both nations have no separation of state and religion, tumultuous domestic problems, and are rich in natural resources. They are also very supportive of any militant groups which fight and challenge the other religious orientation. An example is Saudi Arabia's support towards ISIS.

European Union

The relatively recent terrorist attack in Brussels have acted as a catalyst in reopening old debates about terrorism in the EU. Terrorism is a deadly threat which does not recognize borders and impacts people irrespective of their location. The citizens of the European Union are unfortunately not an exception to this threat. The EU's increasingly open borders and free movement could be exploited by terrorists to pursue their aims. Therefore, the EU has developed a counterterrorism strategy which was adopted in 2005. The strategy was built around the aim of protecting EU citizens and critical infrastructure by decreasing their vulnerability against terrorist attacks. The EU claimed they will carry out their objective by preventing individuals from turning to terrorist organizations and to further curb the growth of next-generation terrorists. In addition to this, they have listed measures such as pursuing and investigating terrorists, impeding the planning, communications, travels, and funding that enable the terrorist organizations, to bring them into justice. They have also focused on responding to terrorist threats and attacks in a coordinated manner by preparing for the impact of the attacks, improving the capacities to fully deal with the aftermath and also take into consideration the needs of the victims.

Terrorism within the European Union has often been linked to anarchism. Numerous separatist terrorist activities in the EU also begin from a religious angle such as Islamic extremism. In 2015, an

astonishing total of 211 failed, succeeded terrorist attacks were reported by member nations of the European Union which has resulted in 151 fatalities. It was a shock to the EU that more than half of the figure occurred in France.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
1988	Terrorist organization Al Qaeda is officially founded
1998	Terrorist organization AQI is founded
September 9th, 2001	9/11 attacks in USA
October 7th, 2001	Afghanistan war begins with USA
May 16th, 2010	Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi is announced as the leader of AQI
May 2nd, 2011	Osama bin Laden assassinated in Pakistan
August 5th, 2012	Bombings in Sinai, Egypt
April 2013	Baghdadi changes the name of his organization from AQI to ISIS
January 1st, 2014	Iraqi Civil war begins
June 2014	Members of ISIS seize control over the Iraqi city of Mosul
August 19th, 2014	American Journalist James Wright Foley beheaded by ISIS
February 2015	President Obama of USA officially seeks authorisation from the American Congress to conduct a campaign with the aims of combating terrorism
November 12th, 2015	2 consecutive bombings in Beirut, Lebanon
November 13th, 2015	3 consecutive coordinated attacks in Paris leaves 137 deaths
June 12th, 2016	Mass shooting by Jihadists in Orlando, USA
May 23rd, 2017	Battle of Marawi breaks out when ISIS seizes control over Filipino city of Marawi

Relevant UN Treaties and Events

- Condemnation of 9/11 attacks against United States, 12 September 2001 (**S/RES/1368**)
- Creation of Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC), 28 September 2001 (**S/RES/1373**)

- Creation of Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), 26 March 2004 **(S/RES/1535)**
- Creation of working group to consider measures against individuals, groups and entities other than Al Qaeda/Taliban, 4 October 2004 **(S/RES/1556)**
- The United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, 8 September 2010 **(A/RES/64/297)**
- Addressing the growing issue of foreign terrorist fighters, 24 September 2014 **(S/RES/2178)**
- Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorists, 20 November 2015 **(S/RES/2249)**
- Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction, 5 December 2016 **(A/RES/71/38)**
- Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources, 5 December 2016 **(A/RES/71/66)**
- Measures to eliminate international terrorism, 7 December 2017 **(A/RES/72/123)**
- The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review, 26 June 2018 **(A/RES/72/284)**

Previous Attempts to solve the Issue

There have been numerous attempts to settle the constant unrest in world security. But measures were only strongly implemented after the tragic incident of 9/11. As a solution to the issue of terrorism, many governments and civilians demanded more security. In the last decade, it has become increasingly normal for civil liberties to be eroded away and for government or counter-terrorism agencies to spy on citizens to collect their personal information. Regardless of their political stance, left or right wing, this increase in surveillance has an impact on the entire population.

In the aftermath of the tragic attacks of 9/11, the US concluded on the note that the laws had not kept pace with technology. This created the Terrorist Surveillance Programme which was initially established to intercept ongoing communications within Al Qaeda. Many officials were confident that if the programme had been established between the events of 9/11, the hijackers could have been stopped. However, soon the new powers were also used to prove guilt by association. The FBI used immigration records to identify Arab and foreign nationals located in the US. In this process, 80,00 individuals were forced to register, 8000 were called in for FBI interviews and more than 5000 people were locked up in preventive detention. Not one terrorist was found in one the most aggressive national campaign of ethnic profiling since WW2. Although many other countries such as France extended on their laws against terrorism and increased surveillance, it has been proven largely ineffective at identifying terrorists.

Many UN resolutions have been adopted with the aims of tackling the issue of terrorism and transnational organized crime. The UN has established a Counter Terrorism Committee and

implemented numerous resolutions to prevent terrorist attacks and to prevent them from acquiring weapons of mass destruction however it is in question whether they have actually been effective or not.

Possible Solutions

As mentioned above, mass surveillance being carried out at the moment is not a viable solution. In most countries with counter-terrorism policies, the law permits a wide range of actions, even targeted surveillance. To take full advantage of this existing potential, better international cooperation is a must including more effective security and foreign policies. Better applications of the current existing laws will be more effective than new stricter ones which undermine the population's freedom.

A former CIA agent who worked for counter-terrorism and intelligence has once said "Everyone, even the terrorists believe they are the good guys". As people fighting to prevent terrorism, the international community needs to ask themselves whether they are pouring kerosene on a candle. Two different organizations or groups will have drastically different opinions. To really overcome a problem and to disarm an enemy, it is vital that we listen to them first. This attempt is risky and does take courage to approach terrorist organizations and listen to them however once approached and talked with, more often than not, some counter-terrorism agencies or governments may have made the same choices if they lived their lives in a terrorists' instead of their own.

As said by the former CIA agent, it is vital that peace talks are established between terrorists and counter-terrorism agencies and nations. The dissemination of biased opinions and stories such as "Terrorists attack the US because the US is free" must come to an absolute end all together. A common misconception is that the soldiers on both grounds are very keen on brutally attacking each other. The truth is that many of these soldiers are in fact, only there as it is their jobs, to provide a better future for their children, or even dragged along by policies they personally believe is unfair or cruel.

It is no misconception that terrorists are violent and commit extreme acts such as bombing a city or hijacking airplanes, however if the governments commit the same provocative acts as the extremist organizations, peace will never come upon our world. Approaching the terrorist organizations first and establishing peace talks with them is a must.

The INTERPOL can play an active role in the prevention of transnational organized crime by intercepting their communications and their transactions. If any nation, group or individual is found guilty of supporting terrorism, they should face extreme consequences. Most terrorist activities occur within the Dark Web and the black market. Finding a way to track down these activities, especially on the Dark web would be very impactful.

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