Advancing CVE Research: The Roles of Global and Regional Coordinating Bodies

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This report was prepared by Naureen Chowdhury Fink and Rafia Bhulai of the Global Center on Cooperative Security (GCCS), on behalf of CT-MORSE. This study was commissioned by CT-MORSE to provide an extensive analysis of current and planned CVE research initiatives across the globe and perspectives for enhanced mutual engagement by the EU and other partners.

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ACRONYMS

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<td>AQIM</td>
<td>Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb</td>
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<td>CTED</td>
<td>United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate</td>
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<td>CVE</td>
<td>Countering Violent Extremism</td>
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<td>DDR</td>
<td>Disarmament, Demobilization And Reintegration</td>
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<td>ECOWARN</td>
<td>Ecowas Early Warning And Response Network</td>
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<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>Economic Community Of West Africa</td>
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<td>GCERF</td>
<td>Global Community Engagement And Resilience Fund</td>
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<td>GCSP</td>
<td>Geneva Center For Security</td>
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<td>Global Counterterrorism Forum</td>
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<td>ICCT</td>
<td>International Centre For Counter-Terrorism – The Hague</td>
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<td>ICPVTR</td>
<td>International Centre For Political Violence And Terrorism Research</td>
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<td>ICSR</td>
<td>International Centre For The Study Of Radicalisation And Political Violence</td>
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<td>ISIL</td>
<td>Islamic State In Iraq And The Levant</td>
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<td>ISS</td>
<td>Institute For Security Studies - Africa</td>
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<td>JI</td>
<td>Jemaah Islamiya</td>
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<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization For Security And Co-Operation In Europe</td>
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<td>P/CVE</td>
<td>Preventing And Countering Violent Extremism</td>
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<td>RAN</td>
<td>Radicalisation Awareness Network</td>
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<td>RESOLVE</td>
<td>Researching Solutions To Violent Extremism Network</td>
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<td>SEARCCCT</td>
<td>Southeast Asia Regional Centre For Counter Terrorism</td>
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<td>SESRIC</td>
<td>Statistical, Economic And Social Research And Training Centre For Islamic Countries</td>
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<td>TCCVE</td>
<td>Tafi Center For Research On Conflict And Violent Extremism</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Educational, Scientific And Cultural Organization</td>
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<td>UNICEF</td>
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<td>Violent Extremism And Radicalisation That Lead To Terrorism</td>
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<td>WANEP</td>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An increasing number of institutions and scholars focusing on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) and related research has emerged in the recent past, as has a number of networks to help coordinate and facilitate such research initiatives. Notably, this development includes the establishment of “Hedayah”, the first-ever International Center of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism, in 2012¹, and the more recent launch of the RESOLVE (Researching Solutions to Violent Extremism Network) global network in September 2015². The present report aims at assessing how various research initiatives on CVE are engaging among themselves, and presents a set of concise, practical recommendations on how research efforts could be improved at the regional and global levels.

Traditionally, CVE research has looked at the so-called drivers of radicalisation, and explored ways of preventing individuals from joining violent extremist groups, including developing effective counter-narratives and promoting the roles of communities, women and the youth in these efforts. More recently, research has focused on the issue of foreign terrorist fighters: understanding why and how individuals travel abroad to join terrorist groups, how to prevent them from joining, and how to deal with them upon their return. There is also an increased interest in the CVE field from non-traditional counterterrorism actors and practitioners, such as those involved in peacekeeping operations, Disarmament, Demobilization & Reintegration (DDR), conflict prevention, and importantly, development actors. Against this background, this paper highlights the need to enhance coordination and communication among new and existing CVE-focused institutions and platforms. It suggests to create a single consolidated platform to gather relevant research that could be widely accessible as a resource for researchers, practitioners and governments alike, and that could also serve as a network hub for various existing research and practitioners’ networks. The recommendations section includes a call to the CVE community in general and to donors in particular to support regional and local research institutions and initiatives by strengthening the formers’ institutional and technical capabilities, and to facilitate platforms for coordination. A call is also made to support a broader spectrum of voices in CVE research, to ensure that contextual diversity is adequately reflected in CVE research, and to facilitate the translation of existing relevant research papers to maximize their impact by ensuring outreach to a wider audience. Finally, a recommendation is also made to invest in and facilitate more national-level assessments of the drivers of violent extremism and resilience studies.

¹ http://www.hedayah.ae
INTRODUCTION

While dedicated research on preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) has been limited to date, the proliferation of general counter-terrorism (CT) research since the attacks of 11th of September 2001 in the United States has provided an important knowledge-base for researchers, policymakers and practitioners focusing on the prevention of terrorism. Especially relevant in this regard have been the research efforts looking at the dynamics of radicalisation and recruitment, de-radicalisation and counter-radicalisation. Over the past fifteen years, a plethora of think tanks, research centres and academic programmes dedicated to understanding the causes and issues of terrorism have emerged. Since 2005, however, the emphasis on the preventive dimensions of counterterrorism efforts has increased, translating into a growing international focus on P/CVE.

Normative frameworks have also increasingly underscored the focus on comprehensive approaches to terrorism, with a specific focus on prevention. The UN Global Counterterrorism Strategy, adopted by consensus by the UN General Assembly in 2006, notably includes a pillar dedicated to addressing “the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism” (pillar I), as well as a pillar reaffirming the importance of the promotion and protection of human rights while doing so (pillar IV). Additionally, UN Security Council (UNSC) resolutions have increasingly stressed the need for such a preventive approach, notably UNSCR 1373 (2001), which called upon UN Member States to improve cooperation to prevent terrorist acts, and more recently UNSCR 2178 (2015) addressing the issue of foreign terrorist fighters - the first UNSC resolution adopted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to expressly cite CVE.

At the regional and national levels, several countries and regions, including the United States, the United Kingdom and the European Union, have emphasized the above-mentioned preventive approach to counterterrorism in their own national counterterrorism strategies, and a broader range of states are currently looking at developing national counterterrorism and/or P/CVE strategies in line with the principles outlined in the recently launched UN Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. Such is the case, for example, of the EU Strategy for Combating Radicalisation and Recruitment to Terrorism, revised in May 2014, which takes a comprehensive view of CVE and identifies priority areas for EU action, both internally and externally. Recognizing that CVE can be both “directly and indirectly relevant to improving the delivery of EU assistance and development aid in vulnerable countries”, the EU also promotes development approaches aimed at strengthening resilience against violent extremism.

It is within this context that the area of CVE has evolved from a “rhetorical commitment

1 In 2010, Benjamin Freedman compiled a list of terrorism research centres that consisted of 100 institutes, programmes, and organizations in the field of terrorism, counterterrorism, radicalisation, and asymmetric warfare studies, see: Freedman, Benjamin, “Terrorism Research Centres: 100 Institutes, Programmes and Organisations in the Field of Terrorism, Counter-Terrorism, Radicalisation and Asymmetric Warfare Studies,” Perspectives on Terrorism, Vol. 4, No. 5, 2015
2 Similarly, in 2013, Rohan Gunaratna surveyed the landscape of terrorism research centres and suggested that in order to effectively counter the threat of violent extremism, think tanks should evolve to focus on strengthening community engagement, providing capacity building, and establishing partnerships, see: Gunaratna, Rohan, “The Evolving Role of Think Tanks in Countering Extremism and Terrorism,” in SEARCC’s Selection of Articles, Volume 1, 2013
4 For more information on key EU policies and programmes in this domain, see European Commission, “STRIVE for Development,” 2015
to an increasingly prominent subfield of counterterrorism policy and practice.\(^5\) This evolution can be seen especially at the international level, for example with the establishment of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) and its CVE Working Group; the Hedayah Center; and with the setup of the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCEF). Furthermore, the Researching Solutions to Violent Extremism Network (RESOLVE) was established to facilitate and coordinate locally-informed research on the dynamics of violent extremism, and to expand a multidisciplinary approach to deepening the understanding of drivers of radicalization.\(^6\) A range of initiatives from local community-based projects to national media and strategic communication programmes, for example, that bring together a range of stakeholders including education, development, media and civil society practitioners as well as government and law enforcement actors, have also been undertaken.

Lessons learned from these experiences have underscored that relying on general “cookie-cutter” CVE programmes is not the most effective approach, and that context-specific programmes acknowledging the peculiarities of political, social and cultural dynamics, are key to achieve effective and sustainable interventions. Against this backdrop and in light of the calls for more evidence-based and tailored-made policies and programmes, CVE research is likely to proliferate. To this end, it is important to take stock of CVE research initiatives to ensure that research efforts are directed towards providing clear policy and programmatic guidance for policymakers and practitioners alike working on the CVE realm, particularly in the design, implementation and evaluation phases of CVE programmes. This report provides an overview of several CVE research and initiatives to date, and offers a set of recommendations on how various research efforts could be coordinated and strengthened at the regional and global levels. A directory of entities (institutions, organizations, consortiums) focusing on CVE is also included in the Annex.

\(^5\) Peter Romaniuk, “Does CVE Work? Lessons Learned From the Global Effort to Counter Violent Extremism,” Global Center on Cooperative Security, October 2015

\(^6\) For more about RESOLVE, see www.resolvenet.org
METHODOLOGY OF THE REPORT

The methodology utilized for this report combined desktop analysis of open source information and direct consultations and interviews with key partners and stakeholders focusing on CVE matters. For methodological reasons, the research carried out for this compilation was limited to those entities that identify themselves as undertaking CVE or CVE-related work. Additionally, since there is still a certain level of ambiguity and debate around the scope and definition of CVE, plus the fact that several CVE-relevant research draw on other fields of study not always labelled as CVE, the criteria for what materials constitute CVE could not avoid certain extent of subjectivity.

As the CVE discipline evolves, researchers and practitioners continue to build on an existing body of knowledge, experiences and expertise in a number of related fields, including development, psychology, sociology, anthropology, history and gender studies, as well as conflict prevention, peace-keeping and peace-building. There is also increased focus on the relationship between CVE efforts and the rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders, as well as the preventive components of efforts to address the challenges posed by foreign terrorist fighters. However, as stated earlier, this mapping focuses only on organizations that have indirectly or directly engaged in CVE research or CVE dialogue.

In recognition of the nature of available research in this field, this mapping comprises not only academic or peer-reviewed research papers, but also relevant documents and publications such as policy briefings and commentaries that could contribute to inform a CVE knowledge-base framework. This selection does not necessarily indicate the quality of the referenced research or document. The entities and selected research included in this paper were grouped by region (which were further sub-divided nationally and internationally).

For the same reasons outlined above, this compilation cannot and does not intend to be exhaustive. Rather, it aims at providing international stakeholders interested in the CVE field with a useful overview of the current landscape of research institutions and initiatives. It has been conceived as a reference tool and, as such, it is our hope that it will be a living document that could be updated over time, in line with the constant evolution of the CVE field.

STATE OF THE ART OF CVE RESEARCH

CVE research to date has identified two main sets of drivers that can contribute to an individual’s support for, or participation in, violent extremist groups.

“Push” factors are structural conditions that in themselves, or most likely, in combination, can fuel grievances that make individuals receptive to violent extremist ideas. These grievances may be real or perceived, or felt on behalf of communities with whom individuals share a cultural, ideological, religious, or ethnic bond, even if they are at a physical distance. The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy identifies some of these conditions, which were reiterated in the Secretary General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, as unresolved conflicts, dehumanization of victims of terrorism, lack of the rule of law and violations of human rights, ethnic, national and religious discrimination, political exclusion, socio-economic marginalization and lack of good governance. These factors were underscored by a 2009 USAID study which listed seven drivers of violent extremism identified by experts: 1) denial of basic political rights and civil liberties; 2) gross violations of human rights and government repression; 3) widespread corruption and perceived impunity for elites; 4) poorly governed areas; 5) protracted violent conflicts; 6) governments perceived as illegitimate; and 7) previous support to violent extremist groups to serve national strategic interests. While no direct causal relationship to radicalisation can be proved, many of these issues have factored prominently in recruitment and radicalisation narratives of groups like the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), also known as Daesh, for example, but also far-right extremist groups.

“Pull” factors are proximate incentives that prompt material or ideological support for, or participation in, extremist groups. Among these factors are social networks and personal relationships; material and social benefits of belonging to a violent extremist group; and the influence of charismatic leaders or attractive ideas and causes. Traumatic events or tragedies, experienced directly by an individual and/or his/her family or friends, or indirectly by a community with which they share an emotive bond, can also create powerful cognitive openings to prompt participation in violent groups or activities. Powerful familial ties or events may also prompt individuals to reconsider violent extremist ideas and activities. Another important “pull” factor is the appeal of ideologies propagated by extremist groups, often through well-executed strategic communication and outreach campaigns, particularly using the Internet and the so-called “dark web.”

In early 2016, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) released its strategy entitled "Preventing Violent Extremism through Inclusive Development and the Promotion of Tolerance and Respect for Diversity". The document outlines a set of eight drivers of violent extremism, primarily reflecting structural conditions that are believed to create a hospitable environment for violent extremist groups to recruit individuals and gain support and sympathy by exploiting grievances. These are: 1) economic exclusion and limited opportunities for upward mobility; 2) political exclusion, shrinking civic space and limited opportunities for participation; 3) rejection of growing diversity in society; 4) weak state capacity and failing security; 5) perceptions of injustice, corruption and mistreatment of certain groups; 6) rejection of socio-economic and political system; 7) role and impact of global politics; and 8) changing global culture and banalization of violence. Broadly, the strategy underscores that where the state-society relationship is broken and there is an overall rejection of pluralism, violent extremist groups can flourish.

As these drivers highlight, much of the analysis on radicalisation to violent extremism in a number of developing countries has focused on the “push” factors or structural

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conditions. However, in a number of countries with past experiences of organized violent extremist groups, researchers have spent more time examining the individual dimensions of the problem, i.e. why violent extremist groups are attractive to individuals, and why individuals may be inspired to support and join violent extremist groups, and even travel abroad to fight for their cause. This focus is particularly notable in Europe, for example, which confronts the challenge of individual or small groups that may or may not have formalized institutional connections with violent extremist groups but may be inspired to act by them. Such perpetrators pose a particularly challenging dilemma for law enforcement officials, as they may have no prior records of criminal activity and their preparatory footprint may be invisible to state institutions. In the current environment, attacks perpetrated by supporters of ISIL have particularly highlighted the challenges of differentiating between ISIL-directed and facilitated attacks, and those undertaken by individuals or small groups inspired by its ideology and tactics and benefitting from the wealth of open-source training and information materials now available on the internet.

Even with the normative and growing institutional backing for CVE, this area of policy and practice suffers from a weak knowledge-base platform. This is due to a number of factors, including unfamiliarity with concepts, definitions and scope of work associated with CVE, funding for preventive work and research; and technical-capacity gaps in research and analysis. How the “push” and “pull” factors interact, and whether in fact they provide a useful typology of drivers, remains debated by some experts. The majority of CVE research covers many of the underlying conditions that can give rise to other violent manifestations of concern, while others focus on conflict and violence prevention, criminology and organized crime, to name a few. The ambiguity about the parameters of “CVE” creates some challenges for researchers where the terms, objectives, and indicators are not sufficiently defined so as to clarify what constitutes “CVE research.”

However, as the CVE field develops, it continues to rely and build heavily on an existing body of knowledge, experience, and expertise in a number of related fields, such as conflict prevention, development, psychology, anthropology, history, criminology and gender studies. These continue to enrich the CVE discourse. Moreover, as there is increased focus on the rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders, including a CVE dimension in preventing recidivism and the violent radicalisation of detainees’ networks, lessons learned from global DDR and “de-radicalisation” or “disengagement” efforts-including those aimed at nationalist and other ideologically driven groups- are also relevant.10 As more CVE programmes and policies complete a “policy cycle”, there is also increasing scope to evaluate the impact, with a number of national studies being undertaken to assess the outcome and impact of CVE interventions.11

CVE and terrorism-related research has not gone without criticism, however. Terrorism scholar Marc Sageman, for example, has pointed out a lack of progress and quality of terrorism research.12 This might be a result of a lack of publicly available data and funding for empirically-based research, which has led to many “assumptions and out-dated hypotheses that have little relevance to the

9 UNDP, “Preventing Violent Extremism through Inclusive Development and the Promotion of Tolerance and Respect for Diversity: A development response to addressing radicalisation and violent extremism,” January 2016


11 For example, see Julian Brett, Kristina Bro Eriksen, Anne Kirstine Rann Sørensen, and Tana Copenhagen Aps, “Lessons Learned from Danish and Other International Efforts on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) in Development Contexts,” Evaluation Study, 2015, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

current younger, fresher and angrier crop of violent extremists”. Additionally, a 2008 review of terrorism literature found that only 3 per cent of articles from peer-reviewed sources appeared to be rooted in empirical analysis, and in general there was an “almost complete absence of evaluation research” concerning antiterrorism strategies. While many scholars agree with Sageman’s view that we are no closer to answering the question, “what leads a person to turn to political violence?”, others argue that the focus should be on understanding the broader number of radicalised but non-violent individuals in order to develop better CVE policies and initiatives.

Nevertheless, the uptick in interest in CVE is likely to continue, prompting scholars and researchers to better understand how and why individuals and groups are motivated to support or join violent extremist groups, how terrorism relates to contemporary conflicts and if and how interventions can effectively prevent or address violent extremism. The rise of ISIL has also prompted greater interest in understanding how contemporary terrorist groups relate to conflict actors, organized crime, as well as the impact on international humanitarian law and multilateral counterterrorism/CVE practices, and is likely to shape research interest for many years to come.

13 Aly, Anne, “Your theory about violent extremism doesn’t help us understand why a teenager would kill,” The Guardian, 7 October 2015
INTERNATIONAL CVE RESEARCH AND INITIATIVES

A number of initiatives have been developed or are underway to promote local or national engagement in CVE efforts, most notably by connecting practitioners, activists and researchers through a variety of regional and thematic networks. In December 2012, Hedayah, the first-ever International Center of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism, was launched in Abu Dhabi, UAE, under the aegis of the GCTF. Research and analysis represents a core component of Hedayah’s mandate, with the objective of facilitating research activities and broadening the network of fellows and researchers focused on CVE. Since 2014, Hedayah and its partners began to organize an annual CVE research conference to highlight current trends in the field and provide a platform to share CVE research and analysis, and an edited volume is produced to capture the research presented during the conference.16

Following the White House’s Summit to Counter Violent Extremism held in the United States in February 2015, and subsequent international high-level meetings and summits in a range of countries, the need for better and more research was underscored in the resultant Action Agenda. In September 2015, on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, international stakeholders launched the Researching Solutions to Violent Extremism Network (RESOLVE). In addition to generating, facilitating, aggregating, and synthesizing research on the dynamics of violent extremism, the network seeks to connect local researchers, practitioners and policymakers so that they can collaborate to generate locally informed research in the field. It is envisioned that the network members will collectively curate the data and analysis produced, and that an on-line research laboratory will be used to post findings to further catalyze locally informed research on violent extremism to promote effective policy and practice.17

The UN Security Council’s Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) has also launched a global research network to engage and enhance its partnerships with international, regional and sub-regional organizations, civil society, academia and other entities in conducting research and information-gathering, and identifying good practices to promote the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005). The research network currently consists of 28 think tanks and research institutions from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, the Americas and Oceania.18 One of the key benefits of this network is that it connects researchers directly to UN policymakers, and creates a platform for communicating policy themes and priorities for which a deepened evidence-based would be useful.

These research networks are crucial in efforts to catalogue and coordinate CVE research and activities going forward, especially given the development of a burgeoning community of practice which includes actors from a range of disciplines and backgrounds working on CVE. A growing body of research and scholarship more specific to CVE policy and practice is beginning to emerge, especially with the establishment of research centres and networks. This includes research on transnational terrorist networks, individual actors, extremist narratives and ideology, and personal motivations, including from a gender perspective. There are also a number

16 Hedayah, CVE Research Conference 2014

17 See www.resolvenet.org

18 Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, “Launch of CTED global research network.”
of widely cited studies on global drivers of violent extremism and on the structural and proximate conditions associated with radicalisation and mobilization to violence. The visibility and influence of ISIL on the internet and the outflow of over 30,000 foreign fighters and supporters from over 100 countries traveling to ISIL-controlled territory as well as a number of “lone-wolf” or small-group attacks either inspired by ISIL or with their direct command and control, has turned international attention again to individual motivations and online recruitment. In this space, private sector technology firms have emerged as key interlocutors and while academic research has much to contribute, firms like social media companies and search engine platforms are under increased pressure to share trends, knowledge and early warnings with public sector actors.

REGIONAL CVE RESEARCH AND INITIATIVES

The following section provides a snapshot of CVE research and initiatives in different regions. More details about the research and entities referred to below can be found in the annex of this report.

AFRICA
East Africa and the Horn
The primary focus of most of the research in the region has been on the drivers of radicalisation and recruitment into violent extremist groups like al-Shabaab. Research to date has explored the evolution and impact of violent extremist groups in countries and the wider region, while little attention has been given to analyzing why individuals become radicalised. In addition, there is some analysis on recruitment strategies, such as the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR) research on the use of social media by al-Shabaab to recruit individuals beyond its borders. While there are some studies on “pull” factors, the predominant focus of research in East Africa has been on “push” factors. However, there are a number of organizations that are currently implementing CVE initiatives and may have the potential to carry out, support or assist with local research, as reflected in the Annex.

Notably, the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), which is headquartered in South Africa but has regional offices in Kenya, Ethiopia and Senegal, is a policy, research and capacity-building organization that has increased its focus on CVE in the region. ISS is also a Steering Committee member of RESOLVE. More recently, following the White House CVE Summit, the Horn and Eastern Africa Countering Violent Extremism Center of Excellence and Counter-Messaging Hub was announced. It is anticipated that the Center will help to support capacity building initiatives and coordinate regional efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism, and to serve as a regional research hub. In addition, a dedicated research center, the Tafiti Center for Research on Conflict and Violent Extremism (TCCVE), was recently established in Nairobi, Kenya to spearhead the Africa Policy Institute’s policy research and dialogue on countering violent extremism. The Africa Policy Institute is also a Steering Committee member of RESOLVE.

West Africa and the Sahel
CVE-relevant research has focused on the growth and increasing activity of violent Islamic groups such as al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and its affiliates, and Boko Haram in Nigeria, for example. In addition, a number of studies have looked at the factors/drivers of violent extremism in the region and sources of resilience for countries that have remained relatively stable in a volatile region. This type of research is particularly important given the transnational nature of the threat and vast porous borders, which could create spaces for increased recruitment and radicalization in the region.

The United Nations, through the Secretary-General’s Integrated Strategy for the Sahel, has generated research on particular dimensions of the challenge, such as radicalisation within cross-border communities in the Sahel. While the Integrated Strategy is also not specifically labeled “CVE” or “PVE”, it has been undertaken with a view to provide an evidence-base for multilateral efforts in the region to advance prevention through security and development.

To date, individual experts are undertaking the majority of the CVE work in the region, but there are an increasing number of organizations focusing on the topic, such as the Timbuktu Institute in Dakar. Nevertheless, as it is also the case in other parts of the world,


most of the organizations in this region do not have dedicated or CVE-specific areas of work or research, but have built on existing knowledge in their various fields of practice to inform their CVE-related activities. Many of these organizations were established as peace building or conflict resolution/mitigation organizations, and use their expertise and lessons learned to promote non-violent means of addressing grievances and other “push” factors that contribute to violent radicalization, like is the case of the West Africa Network for Peace-building (WANEP), founded in 1998 in response to civil wars in West Africa in the 1990s. WANEP is the civil society-implementing partner for the ECOWAS regional early warning and response system (ECOWARN), and has recently developed a set of early warning indicators for violent extremism in West Africa and efforts are underway to integrate these into the ECOWARN mechanism.24

**ASIA**

**Central Asia**

Research in the region has focused primarily on the regional dimensions of terrorism and violent extremism and the “push” factors contributing to radicalisation and heightened instability. Research has also looked at Islamist extremism and links with al-Qaeda and ISIL within the region. Additionally, for example, USAID conducted both regional and national risk assessments of violent extremism in Central Asia, including in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

There do not seem to be many national and local organizations in Central Asia currently undertaking research on CVE issues, but there seems to be potential among some of the organizations listed in the Annex to undertake such a task. Representatives from a number of organizations in the region listed in the Annex participated in a regional CVE conference for Central and South Asia in June 2015, and have gained greater awareness and knowledge about the peculiarities of the CVE field. The technical capabilities of several of these organizations could be further developed so that they could undertake more CVE-specific work in their respective countries, and as programmatic experiences increase there is greater scope for targeted research and lessons-learned exercises.

Regionally, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) is addressing issues related to violent extremism and radicalisation that lead to terrorism (VERTL), particularly on radicalisation of women and youth. The United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) also provides a valuable platform to further CVE efforts in the region. The Centre was established following the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in order to support countries in the region to build their capacities to respond to existing threats and emerging challenges. This regional organization would be well placed to support new and ongoing research initiatives in the CVE domain, especially in light of the recent launch of the UN Secretary General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

**South Asia**

Research in South Asia has for a long time focused on groups espousing a range of ideologies. Much of the research and analysis in South Asia regarding history, politics, governance and security in the region has been infused with discussions about political violence, the role of religion on politics, and weak governance. A range of groups including ethno-nationalist separatists, left and right wing groups and religiously motivated ones have also been studied extensively, including the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the Maoist movements in India, Nepal and throughout the region, as well as a number of regional separatist groups. While this research is not specifically focused on

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CVE, it is critical to develop an understanding of the drivers and dynamics in the region that may create an enabling environment for violent extremist groups, and therefore shape CVE efforts.

Recent research is beginning to look at the significant degree of terrorist violence over the years at the hands of violent extremist groups. Much of the research in Pakistan focuses on the role that religious institutions do or can play in relation to violent extremism, as well as other issues like the role of the media, state institutions and geopolitical dynamics. There is also a body of work in the region exploring Maoist/Communist inspired violence, though they have not yet been the focus of deliberately targeted CVE interventions and research. There are also interesting studies being conducted on persuasion and violence in inter-religious conflict environments. For instance, field experiments were conducted in India (among Sunni and Shi’a Muslims) to uncover factors that could explain individual-level variation in support for violence against members of a religious out-group, as well as to explore how individuals can be persuaded to exhibit higher political tolerance to that group.25

South Asia is also home to many regional research networks and think tanks that look at national and regional security issues. While many of the organizations do not have a dedicated CVE focus, a number of them regularly contribute to CVE research and programming and have also participated in conferences, workshops, and other events on CVE, contributing to a growing network and body of knowledge on CVE in the region.

Southeast Asia

Like South Asia, Southeast Asia has also been affected by extremist violence from nationalist, separatist, ideological, and religious groups. Much of the research has focused on these on-going conflicts and political tensions in the region that have contributed an additional dimension to extremism and conflict. Building on Singapore’s rich experience with DDR programmes, the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) recently launched The Strategies on Aftercare and Reintegration (SOAR) Network, which aims to explore emergent key challenges that have impacted the terrorism landscape, as well as on-going efforts at rehabilitation and social reintegration.

Regionally, studies have focused primarily on the evolution of Jemaah Islamiya (JI), a still active although weakened terrorist group with the ultimate goal of creating a cross-border caliphate (or Islamic state). Furthermore, a number of countries in the region are reportedly witnessing a new dimension to the threat given the emergence of ISIL and al-Qaeda affiliates like the al-Nusra Front. As a result, researchers are looking at the influence of these groups on existing terrorist networks like JI and the domestic and regional impact of foreign fighters and returnees. Nevertheless, a recent study by the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCCT), sponsored by the EU and UNODC, aims to deepen understanding on the phenomenon of ISIL radicalisation in Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines, and proposes possible frameworks to deal with this challenge both in the respective countries and at a regional level.26 While much of the research has explored “push” factors of violent extremism, there is increased focused on “pull” factors, especially given the high number of foreign fighters being recruited on the Internet by ISIL (it is estimated that there are at least 600 Southeast Asians fighting in Syria).27

Sharma, Kunaal. Presentation at International CVE Research Conference, December 2015, UAE.

EUROPE
A notable majority of CVE research and projects are coming out of Europe and North America, reflecting an interest among donors in developing a more comprehensive knowledge-base in the CVE field.

Within Europe, the bulk of research has for a long time focused on right-wing extremism and violence, as reflected in the “Exit” programmes in Germany and Sweden, for example, which have emerged to help individuals leave those movements. Research in this area is still ongoing, as is highlighted by the recent announcement of the Centre for Research on Extremism (C-REX): Right-Wing Extremism, Hate-Crime and Political Violence at the University of Oslo, for example. Studies also explore historical experiences of terrorism in the region, and a wealth of literature on the Irish Republican Army (IRA), Red Brigades, and other groups has informed critical analysis in this line of work.

As one of the regions to have a dedicated focus on prevention in its counterterrorism strategy, it is not surprising that Europe is also home to a number of research networks specifically related to CVE. Most notably, the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) was launched in 2011 by the European Commission, and serves as an EU-wide umbrella network of practitioners and local actors involved in countering violent radicalisation. The International Center for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR) partners with a number of research institutions - including the University of Pennsylvania, The Inter-disciplinary Center in Herzilya, Georgetown University and the Jordan Institute of Diplomacy - to foster cross-regional understanding and academic research. The Geneva Center for Security (GCSP) Policy in Switzerland has also increased focus on CVE and on generating better understanding about the intersection of challenges like CVE and addressing transnational organized crime, for example.

Additionally, a Balkans Regional CVE Initiative was also announced on the margins of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2015. It is anticipated that the Government of Albania will lead this Western Balkans regional CVE initiative to build regional capacity and cooperation on CVE issues, in particular through supporting front-line CVE practitioners, civil society and local communities, developing national CVE strategies, and promoting research, education, and counter-messaging.

CVE research in the region also looked at the “pull” factors attracting individuals to support or join and fight alongside violent extremist groups abroad, such as ISIL and al-Nusra Front. In particular, researchers are starting to look at the role of communication technologies in both enabling recruitment and promoting counter messages to prevent individuals from becoming radicalized.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA (MENA)
There is an extensive body of research and analysis on religion and politics in the region, which, though beyond the scope of this report, is useful to inform CVE approaches. The emergence of al-Qaeda and ISIL has prompted greater focus on the dynamics that have, and continue, to fuel their activities. Research and analysis have also focused on the experiences of deradicalisation, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts in places like Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Egypt, Libya and Morocco. An increasing number of think tanks and organizations have also begun focusing on CVE research and programming.

28 Ane Teksum Isbrenken, “Looking into right-wing extremism.” Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, 23 November 2015
29 The White House, “Fact Sheet: Leaders’ Summit to Counter ISIL and Violent Extremism,” 29 September 2015
for the MENA region. For example, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation’s Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), based in Ankara, Turkey, will be producing research to support CVE efforts of the OIC and its member states.\(^{30}\)

In addition, there are a number of emerging dedicated CVE organizations such as the Transnational Initiative Countering Violent Extremism (TICVE) in Morocco, which aims to work with local communities to break the cycle of radicalisation through research, training, education and micro-targeted development projects in order to build resilience to violent extremism. In addition, Levant\(^7\) is a research and communications firm based in Lebanon that has a CVE “laboratory” which brings together academics, practitioners, and local experts to improve their understanding of the efficiency of CVE programmes. Jordan is especially supportive of youth and youth organizations in their efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism. The Sawab Center, an online and social media initiative by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the United States, was recently launched in Abu Dhabi to support the Global Coalition against ISIL.

**NORTH AMERICA**

While there are many notable researchers and research institutions in Canada, the Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society (TSAS) provides a comprehensive network that focuses on terrorism research and engages with academic researchers working on these topics in Canada and between academic researchers and policy officials, as well as links with research on these topics in other countries. Much of their recent research has also focused on resilience to violence. The government invests in research on CVE through its Kanishka Project, which aims to improve understanding of terrorism and counter-terrorism.

There are a plethora of organizations and researchers from the United States that have a dedicated CVE focus or have been increasingly incorporating it into their portfolio. A key terrorism database for many researchers is the START programme at the University of Maryland. Individual researchers and organizations have also been supported by various agencies to produce innovative approaches to the prevention and response to violent extremism. Within the United States, a large number of think tanks and policy research organizations have also directed their focus towards understanding terrorism and violent extremism, and extrapolating from research the policy implications. A number of these organizations, while based in the US, conduct research and undertake programmes in different parts of the world, particularly in areas that may be more vulnerable to violent extremist recruitment and radicalisation. There has also been increasing research on home-grown radicalisation in the United States, including white supremacists and anti-government extremists.

30 See http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=1402
RECOMMENDATIONS

As reflected in this report and in its Annex, an increasing number of institutions and scholars focusing on CVE and related research has emerged in the recent past, which has in turn contributed to the establishment of a number of networks to help coordinate and facilitate these initiatives. Research has looked at local drivers of radicalisation and to ways of preventing individuals from joining violent extremist groups, including developing effective counter narratives and promoting the roles of families, women and the youth in these efforts. More recently, research has focused on foreign terrorist fighters: understanding why and how individuals travel abroad to join terrorist groups, how to prevent them from joining said groups, and how to deal with them upon their return. There is also an increased interest in the CVE field from non-traditional counterterrorism actors and practitioners, such as those involved in peacekeeping operations, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), conflict prevention, and importantly, traditional development actors.

In addition, there are a number of organizations that do not focus primarily on CVE, but who have done research in related fields like peace-building, gender and youth studies and diplomacy, that could potentially add valuable knowledge to CVE studies. Many of these research institutions have established networks and partnerships across national, regional, and even international levels. Stakeholders interested in promoting CVE research would do well in collaborate with and provide support to these institutions and networks, in order to help them further develop their CVE research capacities.

Furthermore, institutions that create a hub for researchers, such as the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism – The Hague (ICCT), Hedayah, and RESOLVE, for example, provide valuable opportunities to develop quality and timely research on CVE topics, which can help inform programming and initiatives on CVE, and create bridges between researchers and practitioners, as does the Global Center on Cooperative Security. While the proliferation of actors in this field creates a risk of duplication and competition, as mandates and projects are further clarified and resourced, the complementarity and wider outreach afforded by such actors can enhance the availability of high quality research and the development of good practices. The following practical recommendations highlight how stakeholders and partners could continue to support CVE research and networks, and how practitioners, policymakers and researchers can better leverage and combine their efforts to enhance CVE policy and programming going forward.

While this emphasis on CVE research and practice is important particularly as the nature of the threat is fast-moving, adaptable and increasingly unpredictable, uncoordinated efforts can exceed the absorption capabilities of local partners and fragment already relatively limited resources for CVE.

There are also a number of challenges in relating research to programming. For example, the timelines for research are often not aligned with the timelines for policymakers who may need to make decisions with shorter lead-times than researchers. Moreover, the presentation of research can make it difficult for government officials and practitioners to absorb, warranting a need to make research findings more easily accessible. To that end, linguistic limitations also pose a challenge, as many valuable research outputs are not available in other than their original language. Finally, sequencing is a key challenge – while a sound evidence-base is critical for policy and programming, there is not always an option to wait for research findings before initiating an intervention.

1. Invest in and support the development of technical capacity of local research institutions and researchers. This would include developing the capacity of local institutions to conduct and produce high quality and timely research. For instance,
RESOLVE could showcase and promote local research or help to connect local researchers by providing a platform for interaction and their research could be highlighted at Hedayah’s annual CVE research conference. In addition, researchers could be invited to attend the research conference and “pitch” their ideas for further studies. At the end of the conference, successful applicants could be selected for funding and their publications could be highlighted and promoted through RESOLVE. Researchers in related fields such as criminology, psychology, arts and communication, for example, may be supported in developing CVE-related research through their own institutions.

2. **Support regional research institutes and think tanks, and facilitate platforms for coordination.** There are a number of researchers and organizations whose work can inform CVE research, and it would be useful to support networks and hubs to link them together. A number of organizations mentioned in this document are already undertaking regional research and engagement; connecting them to international partners and practitioners would help strengthen their capabilities. An international hub - a network of networks - linking institutions to networks like RESOLVE, the UN CTED Research Network, RAN or regional partners like ISS, API or RSIS, for example, could promote greater exchange between regional research institutions and international partners. This could potentially be considered through the Hedayah International Center of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism.

3. **Translate relevant CVE research.** The translation of available CVE research into other languages would allow for wider access and utility of local research for an international or regional audience to help inform CVE research, policies, and programmes in other regions facing similar issues. When organizations like Hedayah, RESOLVE, or others supported by international actors work with local researchers, dedicated budget lines for translation should help facilitate broader access to the outputs.

4. **Invest in and facilitate more national-level assessments of drivers of violent extremism as well as resilience studies.** These can utilize a broad range of qualitative and quantitative methods and could include interviews, focus groups, research panels, surveys, etc. Assessment research could help to identify specific problems of violent extremism at the national and local levels and can inform CVE interventions. National-level assessments can also help to build the capacity of local institutions and researchers and inform CVE engagements by international partners. These efforts can also draw on other national-level CVE efforts, including CVE action plans, agendas, and strategies, national assessments done by international bodies like the UN, and field-based entities.

Additionally, few studies have looked at what make communities resist and even counter the appeal of violence and extremist ideologies. Support studies that focus on why some countries or communities appear more resilient in the face of violent extremism and how those factors might apply to different contexts. Hedayah or RESOLVE (together with its Steering Committee members, including Hedayah, ISS, GCSP), for example, could help identify priority countries for national level assessments and resilience studies. Linkages with the UNCTED research network and the public reports coming out of UN CTED could also help with the identification and engagement with priority countries.

5. **Support a broader spectrum of voices in CVE research.** Ensure that a wide range of communities’ perspectives and experiences, including those of women, young people,
minorities, and under-represented populations, are reflected in CVE research. This could be done, for example, by ensuring that a diversity of researchers are invited to regional and international conferences. It also means that mentorship programmes and capacity building exercises, such as those undertaken by RESOLVE, Hedayah, the Global Center, GCSP or ISS, for example, should dedicate efforts to facilitate access for women, the youth and minorities for developing research.

6. Increase opportunities for innovation and creativity and ensure a platform for critical debate on impact, effectiveness and lessons-learned. It will be important for donors and supporters to enhance opportunities for creativity and innovation in the CVE domain, which may require increasing risk-tolerance to potential for failure. Many local partners cannot absorb large grants or meet some of the bureaucratic and technical requirements imposed by donors, which also limits access to knowledge and understanding gathered through practice and experience. Facilitating small grants, such as the EU-funded initiative managed by Hedayah (STRIVE – Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism), to local researchers, and pairing them with an organization that can provide either administrative or analytical support, could expand access to local research while strengthening partners’ capacities. Partners should be encouraged to share lessons learned and experiences without prejudicing their future applications to ensure that donors are able to accurately understand what works and what does not in the CVE field, and how to address those issues.

7. Promote and support the development of CVE-related research in higher education institutions, including specialized CVE training for researchers. Work with partners like UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the UN Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to develop peace curricula that promote critical thinking, inclusive societies and strengthen local institutions, and ensure that women perspectives are sufficiently included in CVE research. Channelling resources through academic institutions and departments could enhance access to qualified researchers and also contribute to strengthening educational institutions, through which the positive impacts of research and scholarship support could be amplified. Establishing a specific platform like a journal or annual conference to bring together these departments or researchers could also help establish a cross-regional community of academics. Initiatives like the Hedayah Fellows programme, RESOLVE or GCERF can be vehicles to bring more academic institutions into the CVE space. Subsidizing or funding access to academic journals and research portals for educational institutions and researchers could also support this effort.

8. Create multi-stakeholder networks that bring together academics, policy-oriented organizations and practitioners. Pairing academic researchers with practitioners can help create opportunities for ensuring that policy and programmatic ideas are informed by current research. Including a range of stakeholders in networks can also help bridge some of the challenges associated to the timelines, presentation and sequencing of research and programmatic activities. RAN EUROPE and the UN CTED Research Network offer some models for this idea.

9. Enhance coordination and communication among donors and existing CVE-focused institutions and platforms. Many of the initiatives undertaken to foster research and knowledge development are directed at specific regions or communities of practice. It is therefore understandable that a range of networks and organizations will receive support to undertake CVE research.
However, there is at the same time a risk of duplication and saturation. To this end, it will be important to ensure mechanisms for coordination and communication among the various networks, donors and organizations. The annual Hedayah Research Conference could be expanded to include sessions dedicated to coordination; GCERF also provides an opportunity for coordination among donors, board members and partner countries to coordinate in order to avoid duplication; RESOLVE’s structure bringing in Strategic Network Partners or Honorary Partners could also help in this regard.

10. Create a consolidated and widely accessible platform on CVE research. Such a platform should cater to researchers, practitioners and governments alike, and serve as a network hub for existing research and practitioner networks. Each of the networks and institutions often creates their own portal or web-based platform, but it would be helpful to also have a consolidated platform that gathers key CVE research, researchers and institutions. One way to achieve this goal might be to ensure that the Hedayah and/or RESOLVE online portal are accessible to other networks and researchers; the research mapping annex that accompanies this report could also be converted into a web-based portal to create a living directory of those entities currently engaged or interested in conducting CVE research.

(Endnotes)
1 Hedayah, International CVE Research Conference 2014
ANNEX

MAPPING COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM (CVE) RESEARCH
AFRICA

EAST AFRICA AND THE HORN

REGIONAL ENTITIES

Centre for Human Rights and Policy Studies (CHRIPS) is an independent think tank, research and policy development centre. CHRIPS invests in the generation and dissemination of knowledge that facilitates the development of innovative and effective policy solutions to the pertinent security challenges in Africa. Through its work, CHRIPS seeks to advance rights and social justice. It conducts work in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Tanzania.

LOCATION: Nairobi, Kenya
Publication highlights:


Focal Point: Mutuma Ruteere, Director
Website: www.chrips.or.ke

Horn and Eastern Africa Countering Violent Extremism Center of Excellence and Counter-Messaging Hub was announced on the margins of the opening of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2015. The proposed Center will aim to support training and research related to CVE, and serve as a resource for governments and civil society from across the Horn and Eastern Africa.

LOCATION: Djibouti (proposed)

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is a regional organization focused on achieving peace, prosperity and regional integration in the IGAD region. One of its objectives is to promote peace and stability in the region and create mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of inter-State and intra-State conflicts through dialogue. IGAD’s Security Sector Programme (ISSP) helps to build national capacity to counter terrorism and promote regional security cooperation.

LOCATION(S): Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda
Publication highlights:

Busuri, A. (2014) “Message from the IGAD Executive Secretary H.E. Ambassador Mahboub Maalim on the occasion of the International Day of Peace.”

Focal Point: H.E. Ambassador Mahboub Maalim, Executive Secretary, IGAD
Website: igad.int/

Institute for Security Studies (ISS) is a regional organization supporting efforts to enhance peace and human security on the continent. It undertakes independent research, offers policy advice and training on conflict prevention and risk analysis, transnational threats and international crime, conflict management and peace-building.

LOCATION(S): Pretoria, South Africa (head office). Regional offices are located in: Nairobi, Kenya; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and Dakar, Senegal.
Publication highlights:


Focal Point: Anton Du Plessis, Managing Director

Website: www.issafrica.org

The Tafiti Center for Research on Conflict and Violent Extremism (TCCVE) was established in 2015 to spearhead the Africa Policy Institute’s policy research and dialogue on countering violent Extremism. The Africa Policy Institute is also a Steering Committee member of the RESOLVE Network. The Tafiti Center works to generate and share research knowledge and policy among scholars, experts and practitioners working on CVE in Africa and around the globe. The Center is building on a decade of research efforts by API researchers to address the complex challenges of transnational violence, including terrorism, violent crime, political/militia violence and conflict.

LOCATION: Nairobi, Kenya

Focal Point: Peter Kagwanga, Head, API

Website: tafiticenter.africapi.org/

YADEN East Africa is a civil and social organization for young people across the East African region. This organization engages youth in various entrepreneurial, art-related, and development programs to sensitize them about socio-cultural and eco-political development practices that will be beneficial for their communities.

LOCATION: Kenya; Tanzania; Uganda

Focal Point: Sami Gathii, Executive Director

Website: www.yadeneastafrica.org

NATIONAL ENTITIES

Ethiopia

Peace and Development Center is an NGO that aims to promote the culture of peace and development from the grassroots level. Its responsibilities include promoting a culture of peace, conflict prevention, mediation and resolution through dialogue and negotiations. PDC strives to ensure that conflict resolutions heavily feature the involvement of youth and community/tribal/religious elders and leaders in attaining peace and development. It maintains a vast...
multi-religious network of respected elders who could be dispatched at any time to help reconcile any warring groups. Its Sustained Dialogue Campus Network (SDCN) project with Jimma University explores how to improve relations among students and to create a shared community of inclusion and peace building on campuses across the country.

LOCATION: Addis Ababa
Publication Highlights:

Website: pdcethiopia.org

Kenya
HAKI Africa is a national NGO working to improve livelihoods and promote human rights in Kenya. Initiated in 2012, the organization promotes partnership between state and non-state actors to help improve the well-being of individuals and communities and ensure respect for human rights and rule of law by all.

LOCATION: Mombasa
Website: www.hakiafrica.org

Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK) is a coalition of all major faith communities in Kenya that works together to deepen interfaith dialogue and collaboration among members for a common endeavour to mobilize the unique moral and social resources of religious people and address shared concerns. Publications include code of conduct “manuals” for religious leaders and followers of Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh faiths for maternal and child healthcare that dispel myths, misconceptions and wrong practices that have been associated with current Kenyan healthcare practices.

LOCATION: Nairobi
Publication highlights:

Website: interreligiouscouncil.or.ke/

Kenya Muslim Youth Alliance (KMYA) is an independent national youth network founded in November 2003, with a mandate to empower young Muslims through constructive engagement and participation in nurturing democratic, healthy, and peaceful and just societies for all. KMYA’s works focuses on capacity-building, networking, dialogue, research and communication, health-related programmes, information sharing and advocacy.

LOCATION: Nairobi (head office), Mombasa, Nakuru
Website: www.kenyamuslims.org

Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organization (MYWO) is a voluntary women’s organization that works to improve the quality of life of rural Kenyan communities, especially women and youth. It addresses, inter alia, peace-building and conflict management, and gender and governance. Since 2013, MYWO has focused on countering violent extremism with the aim of empowering women to identify signs of violent extremism and engage with young people to discuss ways to build a cohesive community.

LOCATION: Nairobi
Focal Point: Sureya Roble Hersi, National Vice Chairperson
Website: mywokenya.org

Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM) focuses on building the capacity
of its member organizations to respond to emerging challenges confronting the Muslim community in Kenya. SUPKEM adopted a charter on CVE and is engaged in efforts to strengthen community resilience against violent extremism through initiatives that include engaging in interfaith dialogue and advocacy on human rights and governance. This initiative cooperation with stakeholders—including civil society groups, national and county governments, faith-based organizations, and international development partners—aimed at preventing and combating violent extremism within the Muslim community and beyond.

LOCATION: Kenya

Publication highlights

- Naado, H. O. (2015) "We Must Resist Hate Spread By Terrorists”. The Star Kenya

Focal Point: Hassan Ole Naado, Deputy Secretary General, SUPKEM

Website: supkem.com

Elman Peace and Human Rights Center promotes human rights, a peaceful co-existence, and works to create equal opportunities for the most vulnerable members of society. It conducts its work through awareness raising; educational workshops; and promoting alternative livelihood opportunities through vocational training.

LOCATION: Mogadishu

Focal Point: Fartuun Adan, Executive Director

Website: www.facebook.com/Elman-Peace-And-Human-Rights-Centre-217418651609963/

Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS) is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit policy research and analysis institute which aims to advance peace, the rule of law, and a culture of learning in Somalia. It strives to inform public policy by providing independent empirical research and analyses, and creating an enabling environment for inclusive dialogue.

LOCATION: Mogadishu

Focal Point: Abdirashid Hashi, Executive Director

Website: www.heritageinstitute.org

Observatory of Conflict and Violence Prevention (OCVP) is an independent organization working to improve the socio-economic conditions of Somali people through peace building, promoting community safety and sustainable development. Its activities include research, knowledge management, and training, drawing on the data collected at all levels and disseminating findings to various stakeholders at district, regional and national levels to inform policy-making and programming. OCVP has cultivated direct links with local communities and a growing number of Somali academic institutions while at the same time developed networks and partnerships with international academic research institutions involved in conflict resolution, peace building, and sustainable development.

LOCATION: Mogadishu

Focal Point: Mohamed Ali, Director

Website: ccasom.org
LOCATION: University of Hargeisa, Somaliland (HQ), Mogadishu, Garowe
Publication highlights

Focal Point: Ahmed Mohamed Musa, Head of Research and Data Analysis Department

Website: www.ocvp.org

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Anzalone, Christopher “Kenya’s Muslim Youth Center and Al-Shabaab’s East Africa Recruitment.” CTC Sentinel 5, no. 10 (October 2012).


Soufan Group
“Kenya: Bringing Terror Home,” TSG IntelBrief, 19 October 2012

USAID Mid-term evaluation of three countering violent extremism projects: Kenya
transition initiative–Eastleigh; Garissa youth project; Somali youth livelihoods program. 22 February 2013

Verhoeven, H. (2009)
WEST AFRICA AND THE SAHEL

REGIONAL ENTITIES

Africa Center for Strategic Studies aims to promote good governance and democratic values in the defense and security sectors around the globe, and to establish long-term active communications with African leaders across the continent, as well as deepening the discussion and debate on African security issues in order to see a more peaceful and prosperous continent. ACSS undertakes its work through seminars, symposia, conferences, research, and other academic programmes, as well as through a range of outreach activities and programmes in Africa, Europe, and the United States. The ACSS Regional Offices aims to strengthen relationships with African governments, international organizations, the African Union and sub-regional organizations, and other partner institutions across the continent. The Regional Offices build outreach programmes and provide support for ACSS community members and organized community chapters.

LOCATIONS: Virginia, USA (HQ), Regional Offices in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Dakar, Senegal

Publication Highlights


Focal Point: Benjamin Nickels, Associate Professor and Academic Chair, Transnational Threats and Counterterrorism

Website: africacenter.org

Centre des Stratégies pour la Sécurité du Sahel-Sahara (Centre 4s) addresses issues of defense and security of the Sahel, including armed violence and terrorism; competition for natural resources, irregular migrations within and outside the region, and human trafficking. The Centre’s main objective is to help the region and its international partners - public and private, as well as those from civil society organizations, universities, forums, and others Groups - to collaborate further in order to ensure security and prosperity of the Sahel.

LOCATION: Nouakchott, Mauritania

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: H.E. Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah

Website: www.centre4s.org

Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre builds capacity for international actors on African peace and security through training, education and research to foster peace and stability in Africa. The Research Unit is mandated to undertake research into international peace and security, conflict prevention and peacekeeping issues.

LOCATION: Accra, Ghana

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Ms. Horname Noagbesenu,
Director, Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

Website: www.kaiptc.org

Goree Institute is a Pan African civil society organization that promotes the establishment of peaceful, fair and self-sufficient societies in Africa, works to strengthen political dialogue for the peaceful resolution of conflicts, and contributes to the consolidation of democratic processes and institutions. Its activities include research, facilitation and intervention. It works in close collaboration with regional and sub-regional African organizations and African civil society organizations. The Institute developed the Centre for Research and Documentation which provides information for their training programmes.

LOCATION: Dakar, Senegal
Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: M. Doudou Dia, Executive Director
Website: www.kaiptc.org

Sahel Security College [Collège Sahélien de Sécurité] (CSS) aims to strengthen regional cooperation on counter terrorism and organized crime and currently focuses on Mauritania, Niger and Mali, with the possibility of expanding to other countries in the sub-region. It facilitates the exchange of experiences and lessons learned and translates them into action through training and capacity building for countries in the Sahel.

LOCATION: Niamey, Niger

West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) seeks to strengthen the institutional and operational capacities of civil society organisations through capacity strengthening programmes for increased and effective policy engagement, and the promotion of development, good governance and democratic values in West Africa. WACSI also serves as a resource center for training, research and documentation, experience sharing and political dialogue for CSOs in West Africa.

LOCATION: Accra, Ghana

Focal Point: Omolara Balogun, Head, Policy Advocacy Unit

Publication Highlights:

Website: www.wacsi.org

West Africa Network for Peace-building (WANEP) is a regional peace-building organization founded in 1998 in response to civil wars in West Africa in the 1990s. WANEP has established networks in every Member State of ECOWAS with over 500 member organizations across West Africa. WANEP focuses on collaborative approaches to conflict prevention, and peace-building, working with diverse actors from civil society, governments, intergovernmental bodies, women groups and other partners in a bid to establish a platform for dialogue, experience sharing and learning, to help ensure sustainable peace and development in West Africa and beyond. Additionally, WANEP is the civil society implementing partner for ECOWAS regional early warning and response system (ECOWARN). WANEP has developed a set of early warning indicators for violent extremism in West Africa and efforts are underway to integrate these into the ECOWARN mechanism.

LOCATION: Accra, Ghana
Publication Highlights:
West Africa Network for Peacebuilding “Stakeholders Meeting to Develop Early Warning Indicators on Violent Extremism in West Africa.” Summary of Proceedings, October 2014
Focal Point: Chukwuemeka B. Eze, Executive Director

Website: www.wanep.org/wanep

NATIONAL ENTITIES

Burkina Faso
Centre pour la Gouvernance Démocratique (CGD) [Center for Democratic Governance] is an independent NGO that aims to promote democratic governance in Burkina Faso and Africa through applied research, training, education and facilitation of democratic dialogue. CGD partnered with the Global Center on Cooperative Security in 2013-2014 on a CVE study (citation below). CGD is also responsible for Afrobarometer activities in Burkina Faso.

LOCATION: Ouaga 2000
Publication Highlights:

Website: www.cgd-igd.org

Cercle d’Études de Recherches et de Formation Islamiques (CERFI) [Islamic Center for Education, Research and Training] provides training workshops on human rights for religious leaders, produces and distributes leaflets about areas of convergence between the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Quranic dictates, and conducts educational lectures.

LOCATION: Ouagadougou
Focal Point: Mr. Moussa Nombo, President of CERFI

Niger

LOCATION: Niamey
Focal Point: Tijani Ould Mohamed El Kerim, Director

Website: http://infomauritania.org

Mauritania
Institut Mauritanien pour l’Acces a la Modernite [Mauritanian Institute for the Access to Modernity] aims to promote civic education, strengthen capacity of individuals and communities to effectively participate in public life and solve problems. It conducts research, training sessions, and awareness raising campaigns.

LOCATION: Nouakchott
Focal Point: Ousmane Abdoul Moumouni, Executive Secretary

Nigeria
Centre for Strategic Research and Studies, National Defence College is a research institute in Nigeria that conducts research on defence and security, peacekeeping, conflict, education, politics, and strategy.

LOCATION: Nigeria
Website: ndc.academia.edu

CLEEN Foundation (formerly known as Centre for Law Enforcement Education) is an NGO that promotes public safety, security and accessible justice through the strategies of empirical research, legislative advocacy, demonstration programmes and publications, in partnership with government and civil society.

LOCATION: Lagos, Abuja, and Owerri
Focal Point: Dr. Willie Eselebor, Executive Director

Website: www.cleen.org

Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) works is a research center under the supervision of Nigeria’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. IPCR focuses on the advancement of peace and conflict management and their
research is used by policy advisers to make informed decisions about democracy and security enhancement in Africa.

LOCATION: Abuja, Nigeria
Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Oshita O. Oshita, Director General, IPCR
Website: www.ipcr.gov.ng/

Institute of Governance and Social Research (IGSR) is a non-governmental, non-profit research institution that conducts research on the governance, socio-political, and economic factors that affect Nigeria and the greater African continent. Areas of research interest for IGSR include democratic processes, institutions, and culture; Afro-Arab relations; intergovernmental relations and federalism; regional integration and development; economic development and the politics of extraction and distribution of resources; civil-military relations, etc.

LOCATION: Jos, Nigeria
Focal Point: Celestine Ukatu, Senior Research Officer
Website: www.igsronline.com/

Senegal
Le Centre d’études des religions (CER) [The Center for Religious Studies] of the University Gaston Berger (UGB) is a multidisciplinary research center that focuses on religious history and social issues, from the humanities and social sciences. CER works through its observatories, networks and partnerships to develop its geopolitical expertise.

LOCATION: Dakar, Senegal
Focal Point: Rachid Id Yassine, Director
Website: www.cer-ugb.net

Le Conseil des organisations non gouvernementales d'appui au développement (CONGAD) coordinates the activities of diverse international and national NGOs working in Senegal, primarily focused toward social and economic development activities.

LOCATION: Dakar, Senegal
Focal Point: Mr. Amacodou Diouf, President DIOUF
Website: www.congad.org

Timbuktu Institute – African Center for Peace Studies aims to produce knowledge and research on Islamic civilization and universal values. It’s focus areas include terrorism and religious radicalism, security sector reform, peacekeeping training, and conflict analysis and resolution. The Institute is headed by Dr. Bakary Sambe who specialises in and conducts research on Islamic movements and ideologies and Islam’s compatibility with democratic values and principles. He advises international organisations and governments including representatives from France, Canada, and America on the threat from Islamic radicalisation in the Sahel. He also works closely with a European network of Muslim reformers, especially in France.

LOCATION: Dakar, Senegal
Focal Point: Dr. Bakary Sambe, Founder/Coordinator
Website: www.timbuktu-institute.org

Publication Highlights:
Sambe, Bakary (2014) “From Religious Radicalism to Terrorism in the Sahel and Sahara,” Regional Center for Strategic Studies – Cairo

CT MORSE COUNTER-TERRORISM MONITORING, REPORTING AND SUPPORT MECHANISM WEST AFRICA AND THE SAHEL
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


ASIA

CENTRAL ASIA

REGIONAL ENTITIES

United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) is a regional organization established in accordance with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the recommendations of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change on the need to strengthen the United Nations capacity for conflict prevention. The Centre assists and supports the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan in building their conflict prevention capacities through enhanced dialogue, confidence building measures and genuine partnership in order to respond to existing threats and emerging challenges in the Central Asian region.

LOCATION: Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

Publication highlights:
- UNRCCA, "Regional Cooperation as a Factor for Peace and Stability in Central Asia;"

Website: http://unrcca.unmissions.org

OSCE Centre in Bishkek is an OSCE field operation that aims to promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments to comprehensive and cooperative security. The Centre maintains contacts with central and local authorities, universities, research and policy institutes, representatives of civil society and non-governmental organizations. It helps arrange OSCE regional events, including regional seminars and OSCE delegation visits. The Centre also provides assistance to the government by facilitating an information exchange between OSCE institutions and relevant state agencies.

LOCATION: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Website: www.osce.org/bishkek

NATIONAL ENTITIES

Kazakhstan

Association of Religious Research Centers trains non-profit organizations, government, and law enforcement agencies on how they can prevent or disrupt extremist movements, and how they can rehabilitate former extremists.

LOCATION: Astana, Kazakhstan

Focal Point: Yuliya Denissenko, Director

Kazakhstan International Bureau of Human Rights (KIBHR) is a human rights organization that aims to promote civil and political rights and freedoms in Kazakhstan and other countries and development of democracy, the rule of law and civil society through education, monitoring (data collection, analysis and dissemination of information), advocacy activities, analysis of legislation and bringing it in compliance with international standards.

LOCATION: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Focal Point: Yevgeniy Zhovtis, Chairman of Bureau's Council

Website: www.bureau.kz/en

Kazakhstan Institute of Strategic Studies provides the president of the country with scientific analyses and background materials on the strategic dimensions of foreign policy, existing political and social processes in modern Kazakhstan, and economic security.

LOCATION: Astana, Kazakhstan

Focal Point: Yerlan Karin, Director

Website: kisi.kz/en

KIMEP University is an independent North American-styled academic institution that aims to develop well-educated citizens and to improve the quality of life in Kazakhstan and the Central Asian region through teaching, learning, community service and the advancement of knowledge in the fields of business administration and social sciences.
Kyrgyzstan

American University of Central Asia is an international, multi-disciplinary learning community in the American liberal arts tradition, providing research important to Central Asia. The Tian Shan Policy Center (TSPC) in particular is focused on research, analysis, and implementation of appropriate and effective public policy in the nations and communities of Central Asia.

LOCATION: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Website: www.auca.kg

Foundation for Tolerance International is a non-governmental organization (NGO) working for the prevention and nonviolent resolution of conflict. The Foundation is a founding member of the “Valley of Peace” network, that aims to bring together NGOs in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It is also a member of a number of other international networks and is the regional coordinator for Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) in Central Asia.

LOCATION: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Focal Point: Keneshbek Sainazarov, Country Director

Website: www.sfcg.org/tag/kyrgyzstan

Tajikistan

Javononi Peshsaf aims to enhance the role of women and youth for peace and security, prevention of domestic violence and violent extremism, in partnership with the police. The organization conducted research in 12 villages in Penjikent to find out why youth are joining violent extremist groups.

LOCATION: Penjikent, Tajikistan

Focal Point: Malika Dodoeva, Director

Website: eng.nansmit.tj

36 ASIA

LOCATION: Almaty, Kazakhstan
Website: www.kimep.kz/discover/en

Search for Common Ground – Kyrgyzstan aims to transform perceptions of conflict and support reconciliation through media, governance tools, and leadership dialogues. SFCG is using their global experience with intra-religious dialogue to establish a working group of key actors who can support ideals of religious tolerance and cooperation and coordinate messages about countering violent extremism in Kyrgyzstan. This project aims to bring together influential actors to form a cooperative working group focused on understanding violent extremism. The working group, The Research Institute for Islamic Studies, was established in May 2014. This is the first group in Kyrgyzstan created as a platform for members of government and law enforcement agencies, the Muslim community, and civil society leaders to discuss issues related to radicalisation in the religious sphere.

LOCATION: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Publication highlights:

Focal Point: Keneshbek Sainazarov, Country Director

Website: www.sfcg.org/tag/kyrgyzstan

National Association of Independent Mass Media in Tajikistan (NANSMIT) focuses on legal rights, freedoms and interests in the sphere of the mass media. It facilitates the formation of democratic institutions by developing independent mass media in Tajikistan. The Association’s main activities include the protection of its entities’ rights, representation of their interests among the State institutions, and coordination of activities among the independent media involved in creation and dissemination of TV and radio programmes, and printing outlets on the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Location: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Focal Point: Nuriddin Karshiboev, Chair

Website: eng.nansmit.tj
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Feldholm, Michael. 2010

“From the Ferghana Valley to Waziristan and Beyond: The Role of Uzbek Islamic Extremists in the Civil Wars of Tajikistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan” Monterey Terrorism Research and Education Program (MonTREP), August 25.


SOUTH ASIA

REGIONAL ENTITIES

Centre for South Asia Studies (CSAS) is an independent research think-tank and the convener of the Consortium of South Asian Think-tanks (COSATT). It organizes conferences and conducts research in areas of South Asian regional cooperation, peace and conflict in South Asia, small arms proliferation, trade and connectivity and strategic issues concerning South Asian countries as well as Nepal’s conduct of international relations. CSAS is also involved in research, dissemination and deliberation on Nepal’s current peace process and constitution drafting with several programmes on federalism and integration.

LOCATION: Kathmandu, Nepal

Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Nishchal N. Pandey, Director

Website: www.csas.org.np

Institute for Conflict Management (ICM) focuses evaluation, research, and resolution of problems of internal security in South Asia. Its activities include research on terrorism, low intensity warfare, sectarian and other conflict, developmental and economic policies in areas of widespread disorder and the effective civil administration of areas under threat of terrorism or other patterns of widespread strife. Its projects include the South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP), which creates the database and analytical context for research and analysis of extremist movements in South Asia.

LOCATION: New Delhi, India

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Ajai Sahni, Founding Member & Executive Director

Website: www.satp.org/satporgtp/icm/index.html

Institute of Peace & Conflict Studies (IPCS) is an independent think tank promoting alternative approaches to security issues. In addition to regular commentaries and essays, the Institute also hosts a monthly column for scholars from across South Asia. Research at the Institute is carried out through its six programmes, including the Centre for Internal and Regional Studies (iRes) and Armed Conflicts in South Asia (ACSA).

LOCATION: New Delhi, India

Publication Highlights:


Lanche, J. (2009) Suicide Terrorism in Pakistan. IPCS Special Report 84


Focal Point: Rajeshwari Krishnamurthy, Research Officer, IPCS

Website: www.ipcs.org

Women in Conflict Management and Peace (WISCOMP) is a South Asian research and training initiative, which facilitates the leadership of women in the areas of peace, security and international affairs. Initiated in 1999, WISCOMP positions its work at the confluence of peace-building, conflict transformation and security studies. The intersection of these with gender concerns provides the focus of its engagement and is the leitmotif that informs its programmes.

LOCATION: New Delhi, India

Publication Highlights:


Website: www.satp.org/satporgtp/icm/index.html

Focal Point: Meenakshi Gopinath, Founder, WISCOMP

Website: www.wiscomp.org

NATIONAL ENTITIES

Afghanistan
Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies (AISS) is an independent research institute that provides policy-oriented research, publication, translation of books/reports, professional training and policy advocacy with distinct focus on Afghanistan. Empowering and investing in the Afghan youth constitutes their cross-cutting priority. AISS aims to create an intellectual space for addressing strategic issues pertaining to Afghanistan in the wider regional and international contexts.

LOCATION: Kabul
Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Shahrbanou Tadjbakhsh, Chief Academic Adviser

Website: www.aiiss.af

Afghanistan Justice Organization (AGO) was founded in 2011 by a group of young activists with the goal of empowering and bringing together Afghan youths to lead their country toward a peaceful, progressive and democratic future. Their activities are developed with a special focus on creating community change at grassroots level. AGO's network of young activists represents different ethnic groups, languages, and regions of Afghanistan. Their interventions focuses on building skills, creating networks and engaging the youth in civic and volunteer initiatives.

LOCATION: Kabul
Focal Point: Najib Sharifi, Director

Website: ago.af

Centre for Conflict and Peace Studies (CAPS) is an independent research and advocacy centre that works towards peace and stability in Afghanistan. CAPS conducts research aimed at influencing policymakers in key areas such as state building, governance, narcotics, conflict resolution and peace-building. CAPS maintains a network throughout the country, which allows it to carry out assessments on topics - from evaluative assessments of development and programming efforts, needs assessments in local communities, and exploratory studies aimed at expanding knowledge and forming policies of complex, conflict-related issues.

LOCATION: Kabul
Focal Point: Zainab Sharifi, Director
Publication Highlights:

Website: www.afghanjustice.org

Afghanistan New Generation Organization (ANGO) was founded in 2011 by a group of young activists with the goal of empowering and bringing together Afghan youths to lead their country toward a peaceful, progressive and democratic future. Their activities are developed with a special focus on creating community change at grassroots level. ANGO's network of young activists represents different ethnic groups, languages, and regions of Afghanistan. Their interventions focuses on building skills, creating networks and engaging the youth in civic and volunteer initiatives.

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Focal Point: Halimullah Kousary, Head of Research and Legal Program Team Leader
Website: www.caps.af

Organization for Policy Research and Development Studies (DROPS) an interdisciplinary and independent research-oriented NGO that aims to facilitate and encourage Afghanistan’s transition to democratic governance. DROPS has conducted research in the following areas; Peace-building, Human Security, Security, Countering-Violent-Extremism. It has initiated, developed and published the first ever peer reviewed Public Policy Journal authored by Afghan women - the Women and Public Policy Journal - which was launched in October 2015. DROPS also provides training and capacity-building programmes on research methodologies to students, academics, CSOs and other professionals in Afghanistan. In March 2015, the first network of female researchers and academics in Afghanistan, called the ‘Afghanistan Network of Female Thinkers and Researchers,’ was launched to harness expertise in increasing women’s voices and presence in the policy discourse.

LOCATION: Kabul

Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Mariam Safi, Director, DROPS
Website: dropsafghanistan.org

Bangladesh

Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI) is an independent research centre that promotes issues of importance to the private sector and seeks to initiate measures and influence policy for the development of a market-oriented economy. BEI is currently developing a national counterradicalisation policy for Bangladesh and is engaged in EU-supported projects, including extensive field work. BEI has also been partners on numerous international CVE initiatives, including the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF).

LOCATION: Dhaka

Publication Highlights:

Bangladesh Enterprise Institute. (2014) The Role of Civil Society in Countering Radicalization in Bangladesh

Focal Point: Faiz Sobhan, Head of Research, BEI
Website: bei-bd.org

Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) conducts and promotes research and deliberation on international affairs, security, and developmental issues. The Institute also aims to advance knowledge and understanding of contemporary international and strategic issues in national, regional, and global perspectives. BIISS publishes a quarterly journal that provides a forum for debate and discussion on these issues.

Bangladesh Women's Coalition, the

stakeholders include the Women’s Affairs Commission of the Parliament (both houses), the Afghan Women’s Coalition, the Shelter’s Network in Afghanistan.

LOCATION: Kabul

Focal Point: Wazhma Frogh, Founder and Chair, RIWPS
Website: www.riwps-afghanistan.org
LOCATION: Dhaka
Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Munshi Faiz Ahmad, Chairman, Board of Directors, BIIS

Website: www.biiss.org

Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS) is an independent think tank that provides analysis of peace and security studies in the region and beyond. It facilitates a platform for the thinkers, academics, former members of the civil, foreign and armed services and media persons to discuss these issues. The research team is made up of researchers with varied social science background and BIPSS also maintains a pool of affiliated experts that they engage with frequently. BIPSS produces a quarterly journal that provides a forum for debate and discussion on peace, security and development issues in national, regional, and extra-regional perspectives. BIPSS launched the Centre for Terrorism Research (BCTR), a specialized centre dedicated to the study, data management and research on terrorism, radicalisation and extremism.

LOCATION: Dhaka
Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: ANM Muniruzzaman, President, BIPSS

Website: www.bipss.org.bd

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC) is a social and civic organization that provides youth leadership, strategic communication, and teamwork skills through workshops and after-school programmes for students aged 13-24 years of age. It runs its programmes for English, Bangla, and Madrasa education students with the aim on inculcating in them a strong sense of national identity and civic responsibility.

LOCATION: Dhaka

Focal Point: Ejaj Ahmad, President
Website: www.bylc.org/

India

Institute for Defence Studies & Analyses (IDSA) is a non-partisan, autonomous body dedicated to objective research and policy relevant studies on all aspects of defence and security. Its mission is to promote national and international security through the generation and dissemination of knowledge on defence and security-related issues. IDSA disseminates its research and analysis through monographs, briefs, and books, as well as through news media.

LOCATION: New Delhi, India
Publication Highlights:


Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. (2012) The Terror Challenge in South Asia and Prospect of Regional Cooperation

Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. (2012) Return from the Precipice: Bangladesh’s Fight Against Terrorism

Focal Point: Jayant Prasad, Director General, IDSA
**Website:** [www.idsa.in](http://www.idsa.in)

Observer Research Foundation (ORF) is an independent forum that brings together Indian policy makers and economists to co-produce policy non-partisan, independent, and researched analyses for India’s government authorities, business, academia, and civil society members to respond to India’s economic changes. The ORF produces information on the systemic economic challenges and opportunities on issues such as security, development strategy, politics, and energy.

**LOCATION:** New Delhi  
**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** C. Raja Mohan, Director  
**Strategic Studies and Distinguished Fellow**  
**Website:** [www.orfonline.org](http://www.orfonline.org)

**Maldives**

Maldivian Democracy Network is a non-partisan NGO which aims to promote human rights and the values and principles of democracy in the Maldives. Their activities include awareness raising, monitoring, reporting, lobbying and advocacy. Although based in the capital Male’, MDN is active across the country conducting workshops, trainings, monitoring and advocacy activities in various atolls.

**LOCATION:** Male, Maldives  
**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Shahindha Ismail, Executive Director  
**Website:** [www.ipcs.org](http://www.ipcs.org)

Maldives Institute for Psychological Services, Training and Research (MIPSTAR) provides a range of professional psychological services as well as conducts workshops across the country in the area of mental health. The MIPSTAR team is a group of registered psychologists with Degrees, Masters and PhD in the field of Psychology. Their mission is to offer psychological services, training and research in mental health, happiness, violence and aggression management for children, youth, adults and older adults of Maldives.

**LOCATION:** Male, Maldives  
**Focal Point:** Aishath Ali Naaz, Founder and Lead Consultant Clinical Psychologist  
**Website:** [mipstar.org](http://mipstar.org)

**Nepal**

Nepal Peace-building Initiative is a non-profit organization devoted to evidence-based policy and action on security and development issues. Their goal is to enhance local input on security and development interventions and strengthen the capacity of societies to build durable peace.

NPI works with government agencies, civil society organizations and community members to enhance their peace-building capability. NPI engages in research, analysis and dialogue, in order to improve local and national policies and practices that can help build lasting peace.

**LOCATION:** Kathmandu, Nepal  
**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Subindra Bogati, Chief Executive
SAMANATA-Institute for Social and Gender Equality has been working in the area of Women and Peace Building for several years in Nepal, in particular since the insurgency took place in the country. Over the years it has initiated alliances such as Women’s Alliance for Peace, Power, Democracy And Constituent Assembly (WAPDCA). SAMANATA has also has played an active role in conducting research focusing on impacts of conflict on women, conducting training on peace, as well as raising awareness of UN Resolution 1325 to various stakeholders.

LOCATION: Kathmandu, Nepal

Focal Point: Pinky Singh Rana, Founder

Pakistan Centre for Research and Security Studies (CRSS) is a think tank founded by civil society activists that focuses on independent research and analysis in a number of areas, including democracy, governance, rule of law, security, counter-radicalisation, and human rights.

LOCATION: Islamabad, Pakistan

Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Imtiaz Gul, Executive Director

Website: crss.pk

National Defence University (NDU) is a higher education institution and national think tank that focuses on national security and defence.

Location: Islamabad, Pakistan

Publication Highlights:

Website: www.ndu.edu.pk

PAIMAN Alumni Trust (PAIMAN) aims to reach out to youth and women to raise their awareness about the impact of radicalisation and violent extremism and their roles in combating these challenges. They operate mainly in the conflict-ridden region of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan and conflict affected and conflict-prone districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). PAIMAN conducts surveys and research studies regarding the socio-political and economic dimension of conflict, and the impact of conflict on youth and women in FATA and other parts of KP. PAIMAN’s Centre for Conflict Transformation & Peace-building serves as a resource centre and training institute on relevant subjects for South Asia and beyond.

LOCATION: Islamabad

Focal Point: Mossarat Qadeem, Founder and Executive Director

Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) is an independent research and advocacy think-tank. An initiative of Pakistani scholars, researchers and journalists, PIPS conducts research and analysis of political, social and religious conflicts that have a direct bearing on both national and international security. PIPS carries out and disseminates policy analysis and research studies on the regional and global strategic issues such as conflict and development, political violence, religious extremism, ethnic strife, terrorism, governance and democracy. It also conducts dialogues, trainings and other educational programmes to help strengthen partnerships and resolve inter- and intra-state conflicts. PIPS also publishes a periodic research journal Conflict and Peace Studies, which includes peer-reviewed research and analysis on issues related to conflict and peace in Pakistan and wider region in empirical and policy perspectives.

LOCATION: Islamabad, Pakistan

Publication Highlights:


**Focal Point: Muhammad Amir Rana, Director**

**Website: pakpips.com**

Peace and Education Foundation (PEF) works to prevent, mitigate and transform inter- and intra-religious conflicts through education and other non-violent means. PEF promotes pluralism, tolerance and peace through education in Pakistan and beyond. It runs capacity-building programmes, organizes cultural exchanges, and conducts research that helps promote peaceful coexistence. PEF efforts have included the publication and acceptance of a peace book into the curriculum of madrasas from all five Muslim sects, as well as the establishment of Professional Development Centers within major madrasas for imams.

**LOCATION: Islamabad, Pakistan**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Azhar Hussain, President and Founder**

**Website: www.peaceandeducationfoundation.org**

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**


Fink, N.C. and Barakat, R “Strengthening Community Resilience against Violence and Extremism: The Roles of Women in South Asia.” Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation, November 2013.


Lalwani, Sameer “India’s Approach to Counterinsurgency and the Naxalite Problem.” Combating Terrorism Center, 31 October, 2011.


Oxfam (2014) Behind Closed Doors: The risk of denying women a voice in determining Afghanistan’s future (Oxfam).


Rosand, Eric, Naureen Chowdhury Fink and Jason Ipe “Countering Terrorism in South Asia: Strengthening Multilateral Engagement International Peace Institute/Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation, May 2009.
Rosand, Eric, Naureen Chowdhury Fink and Jason Ipe “Countering Terrorism in South Asia: Strengthening Multilateral Engagement.” International Peace Institute/Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation, May 2009.

Roul, Animesh “The Threat from Rising Extremism in the Maldives.” Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, 27 March 2013.


SOUTHEAST ASIA

REGIONAL ENTITIES

ASEAN Counter Terrorism Network (ACTN) is a network spearheaded by the International Association for Counterterrorism and Security Professionals (IACSP) and Stratad Asia-Pacific Strategic Centre. It is a network of experts, researchers, consultants, institutions and non-government organizations in the field to study, educate and counter the threats of political violence, terrorism and extremism in the ASEAN Region.

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Lt. Col. Sani Royan, Academic Director

Website: www.iacspsea.com/asean-counter-terrorism-network/

Southeast Asia Regional Center for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCCT) works to train and enhance the capacity of law enforcement, security, and government officials on counter-terrorism issues in collaboration with established think-tank institutions and international organisations. The Centre also serves to promote Malaysia’s perspective on how best to deal with terrorism in particular its comprehensive approach to counter-terrorism. SEARCCCT has also utilised various training courses, seminars, workshops, conferences, and forums to discuss and promote a multi-pronged and multi-faceted approach in countering terrorism. In implementing its mission, SEARCCCT has identified seven flagships to work on, including Cyber Terrorism, Prevention and Rehabilitation, Terrorism Financing, and Youth and Terrorism.

LOCATION: Malaysia

Publication Highlights:


SOUTHEAST ASIA

NATIONAL ENTITIES

Australia

Australian Intervention Support Hub (AISH) was launched in 2015 and includes a range of experts who will provide support to government agencies, law enforcement and community groups who are tasked with preventing people from becoming radicalised. It is anticipated that the expert hub will also develop evidence-based research to assist in the development of intervention programmes.

LOCATION: Canberra (Australian National University), Melbourne (Deakin University)

Focal Point: Greg Barton

Website: www.deakin.edu.au/alfred-deakin-institute/research/aish

Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) is an independent, non-partisan think tank that produces advice for Australia’s strategic and defence leaders. The institute aims to help foster strategic expertise in Australia through dialogue, research and its contribution to public debate. ASPI has a number of programmes, including the Counter-Terrorism Policy Centre (CTPC), and the Resilience Programme. The CTPC undertakes research across the spectrum of counter-terrorism topics, facilitates dialogue and discussion amongst stakeholders, and provides advice to government, community and industry stakeholders, with a particular focus on what can be done to counter terrorism.

LOCATION: Canberra

Publication Highlights:

**Focal Point: Anthony Bergin, Deputy Director**

**Website: [www.aspi.org.au](http://www.aspi.org.au)**

Centre for Culture and Technology, Curtin University hosts the Countering Online Violent Extremism Research (COVER) Programme. COVER is a hub of multi-disciplinary research activity dedicated to understanding the phenomenon of radicalisation - online and in other forms. They are developing effective ways to counter the process and aim for practical outcomes from their research. They focus on social media as a tool for radicalisation and CVE. They also research in the area of civil society movements and their roles in CVE. The use of victim/survivor and former terrorist narratives bring these research interests together.

**LOCATION: Perth (main campus), Malaysia, Singapore**

**Focal Point: Anne Aly, Adjunct Professor**

**Website: [oasisapps.curtin.edu.au](http://oasisapps.curtin.edu.au)**

Global Terrorism Research Centre (GTRC) at Monash University emerged from the multidisciplinary Global Terrorism Research Unit, which formed in 2002. The Centre’s network of Adjunct Research Associates includes counter-terrorism practitioners within the Victoria Police; and scholars based in the US, New Zealand and elsewhere in Australia. GTRC’s staff members’ research interests straddle Australia, South East Asia, the US, East Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, and Russia. The researchers possess language competence in Arabic, French, Indonesian, Malay, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, Thai and Turkish. GTRC leads the Monash Radicalisation Project, which examines how multiple factors lead individuals to become radicalised and conduct terrorist acts.

**LOCATION: Victoria**

**Website: [artsonline.monash.edu.au/gtrec](http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/gtrec)**

Lowy Institute for International Policy is a think tank that provides research and perspectives on the international trends shaping Australia and the world. The Lowy Institute hosts speeches by national and international figures and holds conferences to discuss key global issues; research programmes and publications with independent perspectives on Australian foreign policy options and ‘on the ground’ expertise for nations interacting with the Asia Pacific region. The Institute is also home to the magazine ‘The Interpreter’.

**LOCATION: Sydney, Australia**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Dr. Euan Graham, Director, International Security Program, Lowy Institute**

**Website: [www.lowyinstitute.org/](http://www.lowyinstitute.org/)**

**Indonesia**

**Institute of Peace Analysis Centre (IPAC)**

works to provide analysis as a first step to preventing violent conflict. Their primary focus is Indonesia, but have recently began reporting on Timor-Leste and the Philippines.

**LOCATION(S): Indonesia**

**Publications Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Sidney Jones, Director**

**Website: www.understandingconflict.org/**

**Malaysia**

Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) is a research organization that focuses on diverse topics including economics, foreign policy, security studies, nation-building, social policy, technology, innovation and environmental studies. It also undertakes research collaboration with national and international organizations in areas such as national development and international affairs. The Institute has also played a role in fostering closer regional integration and international cooperation. It is a founding member of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP) and manages the Council’s Secretariat.

**LOCATION(S): Kuala Lumpur**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Dato’ Steven CM Wong, Deputy Chief Executive**

**Website: www.isis.org.my**

**Singapore**

Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS) is a centre within the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at Nanyang Technological University that aspires to be an international research and thought leader in the multidisciplinary study of the concept of resilience and its policy-relevant application to promote security within and beyond Singapore. Through academic publications such as books and in refereed journals, policy reports and policy-oriented analytical commentaries, CENS promotes greater awareness of emerging threats as well as global best practices in responding to those threats. In addition, CENS organises courses, seminars and workshops for local and foreign national security officials to facilitate networking and exposure to leading ideas on the prevention of, and response to, national and homeland security threats. To engage with the wider public and draw them into discussions on national security matters, analysts at CENS regularly author opinion editorials in leading newspapers. Radio and television interviews have allowed CENS to partake in and shape public debates on critical issues such as radicalisation and counterterrorism, multiculturalism and social resilience, as well as crisis and strategic communications.

**LOCATION: Singapore**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Website: www.rsis.edu.sg/**

The International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) is a specialist centre within the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at...
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. ICPVTR conducts research, training, and outreach programmes aimed at reducing the threat of politically motivated violence and at mitigating its effects on the international system. The Centre seeks to integrate academic theory with practical knowledge, which is essential for a complete and comprehensive understanding of threats from politically-motivated groups. The Centre is staffed by academic specialists, religious scholars, and others. The Centre is culturally and linguistically diverse, comprising of functional and regional analysts as well as Muslim religious scholars from Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe and North America. The Strategies on Aftercare and Reintegration (SOAR) Network, which will be managed by ICPVTR, was launched in April 2015 at the East Asia Summit Symposium on Religious Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration. SOAR is a network primarily for scholars and practitioners and aims to explore emergent key challenges that have impacted the terrorism landscape, as well as on-going efforts at rehabilitation and social reintegration.

LOCATION(S): Singapore

Focal Point: Rohan Gunaratna, Head

Publication Highlights:


Website: www.rsis.edu.sg/research/icpvtr

Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) is an independent research institute at the National University of Singapore that strives to gain contemporary research insight into the evolving economic and political structures of South Asia. ISAS communicates their research findings to policy makers, the business community, academia, and civil society in Singapore and beyond.

LOCATION: Singapore

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Johnson Paul, Senior Associate Director

Website: www.isas.nus.edu.sg/

The Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) - Yusof Ishak Institute is an autonomous organization within the National University of Singapore. It conducts research related to the study of socio-political, security, and economic trends and developments in Southeast Asia and its wider geostrategic and economic environment. Its aim is to stimulate research and debate within scholarly circles, enhance public awareness of the region, and facilitate the search for viable solutions to the varied problems confronting the region. The Institute conducts a range of research programmes; holds conferences, workshops, lectures and seminars; publishes briefs, research journals and books; and generally provides a range of research support facilities. Research activities are carried out by a core group of researchers grouped under three research programmes — Regional Economic Studies (RES), Regional Social and Cultural Studies (RSCS), and Regional Strategic and Political Studies (RSPS).

LOCATION: Singapore
Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Daljit Singh, Senior Research Fellow; Coordinator, Regional Strategic and Political Studies Programme; Editor Southeast Asian Affairs

Website: www.iseas.edu.sg/

Thailand
German-Southeast Asian Center of Excellence for Public Policy and Good Governance | Hanns Seidel Foundation was recently launched with the aim of promoting the rule of law and civil society by capacity building activities in Laos and Thailand. Its focus will be on human rights protection in military and police operations and regional conflict prevention and mediation.

LOCATION(S): Thailand and Laos

Publication Highlights:

Website: www.hss.de/southeastasia/


SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Australian Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet “Review of Australia’s Counter-Terrorism Machinery.”

Australian Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet “Review of Australia’s Counter-Terrorism Machinery,” p. 31.


Hassan, M. H. (2007) Singapore’s Muslim community-based initiatives against JI. Perspectives on Terrorism, 1(5).

Hussein Tahiri and Michele Grossman “Community and Radicalisation: An Examination of Perceptions, Ideas, Beliefs and Solutions Throughout Australia,” Victoria Police, September 2013


Roslyn Richardson “Fighting Fire With Fire: Target Audience Responses to Online Anti-Violence Campaigns,” Australian Strategic Policy Institute, December 2013

EUROPE

REGIONAL ENTITIES

Balkans Regional CVE Initiative was announced on the margins of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2015. It is anticipated that the Government of Albania will lead this Western Balkans regional CVE initiative to build regional capacity and cooperation on CVE issues, in particular through supporting front-line CVE practitioners, civil society, and local communities, developing national CVE strategies, and promoting research, education, and counter-messaging. No relevant publications or organizational structure has been put in place yet. For more information, see whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/09/29/fact-sheet-leaders-summit-counter-isil-and-violent-extremism

Counter-Terrorism Monitoring, Reporting, and Support Mechanism (CT-MORSE) was established in January 2015 in recognition of the growing importance placed on the EU’s engagement to counter terrorism. The specific objective of CT MORSE is to strengthen the global delivery, coordination and coherence among the various CT projects financed by the European Union through the Instrument Countering Stability and Peace (IcSP), as well as to reinforce the EU engagement within the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) framework. The project is implemented by a consortium of four independent institutes focused on transitional security: the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, the Global Center on Cooperative Security, and the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism – the Hague (ICCT).

LOCATION: Brussels

Focal Point: Tuesday Reitano, Team Leader
Website: ct-morse.eu

European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) is a consortium comprising the Catalan Government, the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Barcelona City Council. It incorporates civil society through its Board of Trustees and its Advisory Council formed by Mediterranean universities, companies, organisations and personalities of renowned prestige. It aims to foster actions and projects which contribute to mutual understanding, exchange and cooperation between the different Mediterranean countries, societies and cultures as well as to promote the progressive construction of a space of peace and stability, shared prosperity and dialogue between cultures and civilisations in the Mediterranean.

LOCATION: Barcelona, Spain

Publication highlights:

Website: www.iemed.org

European Union’s Regional Preventing Violent Extremism Programme [Programme de Prévention Régionale de l’Extrémisme Violent de l’Union européenne - PPREV-UE] aim to provide a comprehensive response to the regional challenges of violent extremism by strengthening the knowledge of all stakeholders in the countries covered - governments, local authorities, civil society, international organisations and other donors, including the European Union (EU delegations) and its Member States.

FREE Initiative is a pan-European resource offering practical guidance on countering far-right extremism across Europe. It aims to inspire and promote cross-border learning among those working against violent far-right extremism by showcasing the work that is being done across Europe to prevent, intervene and respond to the threat. The FREE initiative has to date worked across 10 countries: Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden and the United Kingdom.
Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Vidhya Ramalingam, Director

Website: http://thefreeinitiative.com

FRIDE is a European think tank that provides analysis of key debates in international relations. Central to FRIDE’s work is Europe’s role in the changing global environment. Their mission is to inform policy and practice in order to ensure that the European Union (EU) plays a more effective role in supporting multilateralism, democratic values, security and sustainable development. FRIDE seeks to enhance the southern European perspective within EU debates and the European perspective within Spain.

LOCATION: Madrid (Spain) and Brussels (Belgium)

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Anouar Boukhars, Associate Fellow

Website: http://fride.org

Organization for Security Cooperation in European (OSCE) is a regional security organization that focuses on a wide range of security-related concerns, including combating terrorism. The OSCE’s comprehensive view of security covers three “dimensions”: the politico-military; the economic and environmental; and the human. The OSCE’s activities cover all three of these areas, from “hard” security issues such as conflict prevention to fostering economic development, ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources, and promoting the full respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

LOCATION: Vienna

Publication Highlights:

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. (2015) “OSCE activities to counter violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism”. Osce.org


Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. (2013) “Countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism: the OSCE’s unique regional blue-print”. Osce.org


Focal Point: Thomas Wuchte, Head, Anti-terrorism Issues, Transnational Threats Department, ATU

Website: http://www.osce.org
Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) was launched in 2011 by the European Commission as an EU-wide umbrella network of practitioners and local actors involved in countering violent radicalisation. RAN is organised across eight thematic working groups, including groups focusing on community policing, victims, counter-messaging, prevention, and deradicalisation. Guided by the RAN Centre of Excellence (CoE), working groups exchange experiences, knowledge and good practices.

**LOCATION: Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

**Publication Highlights:**

**Focal Point:** Omar Ramadan, Head, RAN CoE

**Website:** ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/radicalisation_awareness_network/

TERRA (Terrorism and Radicalisation) is a European project supported by the European Commission DG Home Affairs. The objective of TERRA is to reinforce the positive role victims and former terrorists can play in relation to the prevention of radicalisation and providing practical guidance to specific target groups. Target groups and beneficiaries include victims, (potential) terrorists, EU member states and frontline-workers in the field of law-enforcement, rehabilitation, teaching, welfare and social workers, journalists, policy makers, and religious leaders. TERRA aims to stimulate knowledge synthesis and exchange throughout the European Union, between groups and between member states. The project builds on the work of the Network of Victims of Terrorism (NAVt) and is complementary to and provides input for the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN).

**LOCATION: The Netherlands**

**Publication Highlights:**
- Young, H., Holsappel, J., etc “A Review of Literature on Radicalisation; and What it Means for TerRa,” TerRa

**Focal Point:** Magda Rooze, Project Leader

**Website:** www.terra-net.eu

**NATIONAL ENTITIES**

**Austria**

Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES) is a private non-partisan research institute that works towards the enhancement of the knowledge and awareness of European and international policies and security issues in Austria.

**LOCATION: Vienna**

**Publication highlights:**

**Focal Point:** Arnold Kammel, Director

**Women Without Borders/Sisters Against Violent Extremism** is an advocacy and research organization for women around the globe. It brings together women with the aim of creating a new female security paradigm and encourages women to become active participants in their communities. Its global campaign, SAVE, is a research-based female counter-terrorism platform. SAVE has developed the Mothers School model to empower women to take an active role in safeguarding their families against the threat of violent extremism.

**LOCATION: Vienna**

**Publication highlights:**

**Focal Point:** Edit Schlaffer, Founder and Executive Director
Website:  http://www.women-without-borders.org

**Denmark**

Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) is a state-funded research institution that conducts multidisciplinary research on security, foreign policy, development, and globalization for policy development and public debate purposes. DIIS's mission is to continuously assess the country's foreign and political situation and advise the Danish media, politicians, and public about the organization's analyses and updates.

**Location:** Copenhagen

**Publication highlights:**
- Taylor, M. (2012) "Conflict Resolution and Counter Radicalization: Where do we go from here?"

**Focal Point:** Rens van Munster, Research Coordinator, Senior Researcher, Peace, Risk and Violence; Lars Erslev Andersen, Research Coordinator, Senior Researcher, International Security

**Website:** www.diis.dk/en

**France**

Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique (FRS) advises French ministries and agencies, European institutions, international organizations, and businesses on defense, strategy, and security issues.

**LOCATION:** Paris

**Publication highlights:**

**Germany**

The Berlin Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF) focuses on strengthening civilian capacities for crisis prevention, conflict resolution, and peace-building. Its activities include training, recruitment and support of civilian personnel for international peace operations and election monitoring missions, and providing information, analysis, and policy guidance in the field of peace operations.

**LOCATION:** Berlin
**Focal Point: Wibke Hansen, Head, Analysis**

**Website: www.zif-berlin.org/en**

**EXIT-Germany** is a social organization that helps individuals previously involved in extreme right wing groups in Germany to detach themselves from such groups and start anew. EXIT-Germany since works to help individuals from all backgrounds, but mainly from highly radicalised milieus (group leaders, terrorists, party leaders) to leave the movement and to develop methods and programmes in the field. They also offer opportunities for research and education. They facilitate interviews with former right-wing extremists, which allows them to get primary data on right-wing extremism in Germany. They also have experience in coaching institutions and communities in creating individual solutions for de-radicalisation projects, dropout programmes and anti-extremism strategies.

**LOCATION: Berlin**

**Publication Highlights**


**Focal Point: Bernd Wagner, Founder, EXIT-Germany**

**Website: http://www.exit-deutschland.de/**

The **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)** is a non-profit German foundation funded by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. FES focuses on the advancement of both socio-political and economic development in the spirit of social democracy, through civic education, research, and international cooperation. Their work includes strengthening political and educational programmes in Germany, developing strategies on economic, social, and educational policies through think tanks, and promoting democratic, social, and constitutional structures and a strong civil society.

**LOCATION: Bonn and Berlin (Headquarters)**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Website: www.fesdc.org**

The **German Institute for International and Security Affairs of the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)** is an independent scientific establishment that conducts research on the basis of which it then advises the Bundestag (the German parliament) and the federal government on foreign and security policy issues. While the SWP initially dealt primarily with issues of disarmament, today there is a broad spectrum of analysis ranging from classic security policy issues to aspects of climate protection and the political challenges associated with resource scarcity.

**LOCATION: Berlin**

**Publication Highlights:**


Regionalization of Terrorism, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP), German Institute for International and Security Affairs, SWP Comments 21

Focal Point: Steffen Angenendt, Global Issues (head of Research Division)

Website: http://www.swp-berlin.org/en

Violence Prevention Network is a group of experienced specialists engaged in anti-violence work and the prevention of extremism, as well as in the de-radicalisation of extremist-motivated criminals. Since 2001, the VPN team has been working to reduce ideologically motivated and religiously-motivated, serious crime and extreme acts of violence committed by youths.

LOCATION: Berlin

Publication Highlights:
Violence Prevention Network
Deradicalisation, Intervention, Prevention

Focal Point: Julia Reimelt, Head of International Cooperation

Website: www.violence-prevention-network.de/en

The Netherlands
Clingendael (Netherlands Institute of International Relations) is a think tank and diplomatic academy on international affairs. It provides public and private sector organisations with analysis of global developments in the fields of economic diplomacy, international security, and conflict management. The Institute’s research department focuses on Europe, security and conflict issues, diplomacy and the changing geopolitical landscape, with particular attention for Asia and the Middle East. The Conflict Research Unit (CRU) conducts research on the nexus between security and development with a special focus on integrated/comprehensive approaches on conflict prevention, stabilisation and reconstruction in fragile and conflict-affected situations. The Institute also houses the editorial board of a Dutch language magazine on international relations, the Internationale Spectator, and is the home to the secretariat of the Dutch Association for International Affairs (het Nederlands Genootschap voor Internationale Zaken) - NGIZ.

LOCATION: The Hague

Publication Highlights

Focal Point: Ko Colijn, General Director

Website: www.clingendael.nl/

Cordaid is a development organization that works to provide entrepreneurship, leadership, food security, children’s education, disaster response, security and justice, as well as healthcare programmes to people in fragile and conflict-affected areas. Cordaid’s areas of operation include Latin America, Africa, South, and Southeast Asia.

LOCATION: The Hague

Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Hetty Burgman, Director of Security and Justice

Website: https://www.cordaid.org

The Hague Academic Coalition (HAC) is a
network of academic institutions that work in the fields of peace, justice and security. With ten academic members, HAC aims to be a platform where both stakeholders and target audiences meet and share their thoughts and innovative solutions for their specific field of work. HAC members share their joint efforts of reaching out to a worldwide community of students, scholars and professionals. The academic infrastructure benefits from and supports this international profile based on the work of the various international organizations, courts and tribunals based in The Hague.

**LOCATION:** The Hague

**Focal Point:** Steven van Hoogstraten, Chair

**Website:** [http://haguecoalition.org](http://haguecoalition.org)

The Hague Institute for Global Justice is an independent organisation established to conduct interdisciplinary research, develop practitioner tools, and convene experts, practitioners and policymakers to facilitate knowledge sharing. Through its work, the Institute aims to contribute to, and further strengthen, the global framework for preventing and resolving conflict and promoting international peace. One of its current programmes includes a 30-month research project that aims to assess and measure how formal and non-formal education can mitigate and prevent the escalation of violent conflict in fragile and conflict-affected states.

**LOCATION:** The Hague

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** David Connolly, Head of Conflict Prevention

**Website:** [www.thehagueinstituteforglobaljustice.org](http://www.thehagueinstituteforglobaljustice.org)

Human Security Collective is a foundation that has a background in development, conflict transformation and security. They operate worldwide on issues of security and the involvement of citizens in their communities. Some of their focus areas include the nexus between security, development and human rights, as well as terrorism financing and the enabling environment for civil society. The organization maintains partnerships with civil society, academia, and governments in the MENA-region, West Africa, South and Southeast Asia, Latin America, as well as Europe and the USA. HSC facilitates, in collaboration with the UN, dialogue processes between governments and civil society on security and CVE.

**LOCATION:** The Hague

**Focal Point:** Lia van Broekhoven, Executive Director

**Website:** [http://www.hscollective.org](http://www.hscollective.org)

The Knowledge Platform for Security and Rule of Law (KPSRL) brings together a network of relevant communities of practice comprising experts, policymakers, practitioners, researchers and the business sector on the topic of security and rule of law in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. It provides for a meeting space - offline as well as online - for its network to share experiences, exchange lessons learned and discuss insights. The Platform aims to inform...
the Netherlands development policy and its implementation in fragile and conflict-affected settings. The Secretariat of the Knowledge Platform is administered jointly by The Hague Institute for Global Justice and the Conflict Research Unit of Clingendael.

LOCATION: The Hague

Focal Point: Anna Gouwenberg, Head of Office

Website: www.kpsrl.org

Norway

Centre for Research on Extremism (C-REX): Right-Wing Extremism, Hate-Crime and Political Violence is a cross-disciplinary center for the study of right-wing extremism, hate crime and political violence. It is a joint collaboration with five of the leading Norwegian institutions on extremism research. The Centre will be a collaborative undertaking, with partners from the Norwegian Police University College (PHS), the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI), the Centre for Studies of Holocaust and Religious Minorities, the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI). The Center’s main objectives include developing empirical and theoretical knowledge on right-wing extremism, hate crime and political violence in Norway and the Nordic region in particular, and in Europe more generally. In addition, it will contribute to the international scholarly research on extremism in general and right-wing extremism in particular and disseminate research-based knowledge to stakeholders, policy makers, the public, civil society organization, schools, and media.

LOCATION: Oslo

Focal Point: Tore Bjørgo, Director

Minotenk is a think-tank that works primarily on issues concerning the minority population in Norway, but also minority challenges in a global perspective. Minotenk emphasizes engagement with young adults to strengthen their autonomy, resources, and self-confidence through facilitation of open discussions and dialogue. They hold lectures and organize dialogue about radicalization and violent extremism, and on the prevention and mitigation in Norway.

LOCATION: Oslo

Publication highlights


Focal Point: Linda Noor, CEO

Website: minotenk.no

Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) is a Norwegian research institution on international affairs, spanning issues on war and peace, economy and development, as well as diplomacy and global governance. NUPI offers services in the field of research, analysis and reporting, as well as educational services directed at Norwegian schools.

LOCATION: Oslo

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Tore Bjørgo, Professor/Research Director

Website: www.nupi.no/en/

The Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) conducts research on the conditions for peaceful relations between states, groups and people. Researchers at PRIO seek to understand the processes that bring societies together or split them apart. They explore how conflicts erupt and how they can be resolved; investigate how different kinds of violence affect people; and examine how societies tackle crises – and the threat of crisis.
LOCATION: Oslo
Publication Highlights:
Kaufmann, Mareile. (2015) Resilience 2.0: Social Media and Use and (Self-)Care During the 2011 Norway Attacks. Media, Culture & Society: 1-16

Focal Point: Ragnhild Nordás, Research Director, Senior Researcher & Deputy Editor, Journal of Peace Research

Website: www.prio.org

Spain
International Observatory for Terrorism Studies (OIET) is a spinoff organization from Victims of Terrorism Collective (COVITE), and OIET’s research specialty is preventing violent radicalisation and extremism as well as expanding democratic principles. OIET’s management comprises of researchers, universities, as well as public and private universities that work towards the disintegration of terrorist activities.

LOCATION: Spain
Publication Highlights

Focal Point: Javier Lesaca, Expert, OIET
Website: observatoriotorremismo.com/

Sweden
Center for Asymmetric Threat Studies (CATS) at the Swedish Defence University is a national research center with the task to develop and disseminate scientific and policy-relevant knowledge of asymmetric threats.

LOCATION: Stockholm
Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Magnus Ranstorp, Research Director
Website: www.fhs.se/en

EXIT-Sweden is a project within the non-profit organization Fryshuset aimed at supporting those who wish to leave nationalistic/racist/nazi oriented groups and movements. They also aim to prevent recruitment to such groups. Their preventative work is mainly
focused on information towards and dialog with Swedish schools and governmental authorities. They also aim to contribute to the understanding of the mechanisms behind involvement in racist groups, for example, through lectures, seminars and workshops.

**LOCATION: Sweden**

**Focal Point: Robert Örell**

**Website: exit.fryshuset.se/**

Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation works to strengthen the organisation of women in conflict regions through collaboration with women’s organisations and supporting their work to promote women’s rights and peace. It supports over 130 women’s organisations in five regions afflicted by conflict: Central and Western Africa, the Middle East, the South Caucasus and the Western Balkans. Their work includes providing information about the situation facing women in conflict zones, advocacy to increase women’s representation in peace processes, and research development by working with individual researchers and research institutes.

**LOCATION: Stockholm.** Field offices are located in Central and Western Africa, the Middle East, the South Caucasus and the Western Balkans

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Lovisa Strand, Project Manager, Research**

**Website: kvinnatillkvinna.se**

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament. Established in 1966, SIPRI provides data, analysis and recommendations, based on open sources, to policymakers, researchers, media and the interested public. SIPRI undertakes research and activities on security, conflict and peace, provides policy analysis and recommendations, facilitates dialogue and build capacities; promotes transparency and accountability; and delivers information to global audiences.

**LOCATION: Solna**

**Publication Highlights**

Daalgard-Nielsen, A. Muddling through: how the EU is countering new threats to the homeland. SIPRI


**Focal Point: Dan Smith, Director**

**Website: www.sipri.org/**

**Switzerland**

The Center for Security Studies (CSS) at ETH Zurich is a center of competence for Swiss and international security policy. It offers security policy expertise in research, teaching, and consultancy and operates the International Relations and Security Network (ISN), a global open-source information platform in the field of international relations and security policy. The CSS combines research and policy consultancy and, as such, functions as a bridge between academia and practice. It trains highly qualified junior researchers and serves as a point of contact and information for the interested public.

**LOCATION: Zurich**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Andreas Wenger, Director**

**Website: www.css.ethz.ch/en**
ICT For Peace (ICT4Peace) Foundation uses information and communication technology (ICT) to create “wikis” for the purposes of humanitarian crisis management and peace-building with information gathered from a multitude of NGOs, the World Bank, mapping data, GIS, etc.

LOCATION: Geneva, Switzerland

Publication Highlights


Focal Point: Daniel Stauffacher, President, ICT4Peace

Website: ict4peace.org/

Geneva Center for Security Policy is an international foundation dedicated to the promotion of peace, security and stability through training, research and dialogue. GCSP facilitates the co-creation of knowledge and understanding by bringing together leading scholars, practitioners and participants from around the world. Besides Geneva, GCSP also conduct courses in cities around the world, including Addis Ababa, Amman, Baku, Bogota, Dakar and Sarajevo. GCSP has developed a CVE course that examines UN Security Council Resolution 2178 and its implications for states and actors in developing national plans to counter violent extremism.

LOCATION: Geneva

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Christina Schori Liang, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow, Emerging Security Challenges Programme; Course Director, New Issues in Security Course (NISC)

Website: www.gcsp.ch

Turkey

International Center for Terrorism and Transnational Crime (UTSAM) merges theory with practice and generates information particularly for policy-makers, decision-makers and practitioners in various fields of security such as terrorism, transnational crime, human trafficking, migrant smuggling, drug trafficking, organized crime and cybercrimes. UTSAM has improved cooperation with national and international research centers and security actors and organized several seminars, workshops, conferences and symposia.

LOCATION: Ankara

Publication Highlights


Focal Point: Mehmet Ozkan, Executive Director, UTSM

Website: utgam.org

Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) was founded as a subsidiary body of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to collect and analyse socio-economic data, provide research and evaluate economic and social developments, and organise training programmes for OIC member countries. The Centre prepares short outlook reports on various socio-economic development topics (OIC Outlook Series) and publishes the Journal of Economic Cooperation and
Development, which is a quarterly journal of applied research in development economics and aims at enhancing cooperation among the members of the OIC. SESRIC will be developing research that aims to have practical implications in supporting the efforts of OIC member countries in combating radicalism and violent extremism.

**LOCATION: Ankara, Turkey**

**Website:** [www.sesric.org](http://www.sesric.org)

The Centre of Excellence Defence Against Terrorism (COE-DAT) provides subject matter expertise on defence against terrorism to NATO’s Headquarters Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (HQ SACT), provides defence against terrorism training and education at the strategic and operational level, assists HQ SACT in testing and validating terrorism related NATO concepts through experimentation, assists in doctrine validation, and assists in doctrine development by contributing knowledge and lessons identified, and contribute to NATO standardization and the improvement of capabilities and interoperability.

**LOCATION: Ankara, Turkey**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** General Hulusi Akar, Turkish Military

**Website:** [www.tmm.mtsk.tr](http://www.tmm.mtsk.tr)

**United Kingdom**

Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict (CRIC) was established at Harris Manchester College in 2013 to facilitate research, teaching and training, seminars and conferences, and direct engagement in situations of political violence and long-standing community conflict in various parts of the world. CRIC is guided by the principles that theoretical advancement must be based on the evidence emerging from direct involvement with communities in conflict, and that resolving conflicts can be assisted by the thoughtful application of lessons learned from studying the experiences of other communities that have suffered similarly. CRIC is also a recognized Centre of the Department of Politics and International Relations in the University of Oxford and is a partner with the Centre for International Studies.

**LOCATION: Oxford**

**Publication highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Scott Atran, Founding Fellow

**Website:** [cric.hmc.ox.ac.uk](http://cric.hmc.ox.ac.uk)

Chatham House, The Royal Institute of International Affairs, is an independent policy institute that engages governments, the private sector, civil society and its members in open debate and confidential discussion on significant developments in international affairs. The institute runs private and public events - conferences, workshops and roundtables - in London and internationally with partners. Chatham House carries out independent analysis of critical global, regional and country-specific challenges and opportunities. Policy recommendations are developed in collaboration with policymakers, experts and stakeholders in each area.

**LOCATION: London**

**Publication Highlights:**

- Richards, A. (2015) “From Terrorism to ‘Radicalization’ to ‘Extremism: Counterterrorism Imperative or Loss of Focus?’.” International Affairs, 91(2)


Focal Point: Hannah Bryce, Assistant Head, International Security, Chatham House

Website: www.chathamhouse.org

Connect Justice is an independent social enterprise that focuses on building trust and collaboration between civil society, state agencies, and the private sector around extremism and exploitation. Their research includes international publications through academic peer-review, policy, practitioner, and community publication. Topics include state-community relations, community tensions, mediation, conflict management, child sexual exploitation, trust and confidence, community leadership, victim impact and engagement.

LOCATION(S): Birmingham

Focal Point: Zubeda Limbada

Website: www.connectjustice.org

Demos is a cross-party think-tank that conducts quantitative research. Demos partnered with the University of Sussex to establish the Centre for the Analysis of Social Media (CASM) to study how the rise of the digital world affects politics, policy and decision-making. The Center serves as both a research hub and technology lab, building new ways of exploring the role of social media in social life, from democracy, participation and counter-terrorism to hate crime, health, and disaster response.

LOCATION(S): England and Wales

Publication Highlights


Focal Point: Duncan O’Leary, Research Director

Website: www.demos.co.uk/

The Handa Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence, University of St. Andrews focuses on the study of the causes, dynamics, characteristics and consequences of terrorism and related forms of political violence. The Center offers an e-learning based MLitt in Terrorism and Political Violence as well as Certificate in Terrorism Studies.

LOCATION: Scotland

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Richard English, Director

Website: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~cstpv/

Moonshot CVE is a social enterprise specialising in data-driven innovation in responses to extremism and community violence.

LOCATION: London
Focal Point: Ross Frenett and Vidhya Ramalingam, Co-Founders

Website: www.moonshotcve.com

Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) is an independent think tank engaged in defence and security research. RUSI publications offers policy analysis of UK and international defence and security issues.

LOCATION(S): London, Qatar, Japan, Brussels

Publication Highlights


Focal Point: Andrew Glazard, Senior Research Fellow; Director, National Security and Resilience Studies, RUSI

Website: rusi.org

The International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR) is an independent institute that undertakes research to educate the public and help policymakers and practitioners find solutions in dealing with radicalisation and political violence. ICSR partners with five great academic institutions: King’s College London; the University of Pennsylvania; the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya (Israel); the Jordan Institute of Diplomacy; and Georgetown University. It is affiliated with TRENDS Research and Advisory in Abu Dhabi, the Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi and the Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies in Islamabad.

LOCATION: London, England, UK

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Peter R. Neumann, Director, ICSR

Website: icrinfo/

Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD) works with governments, businesses, civil society and academia to develop cross-border responses to the major geo-strategic, social and security challenges of our time. Combining research and policy advisory work, with delivery programmes, specialised task forces, cross-sector partnerships and networks, ISD works to counter global extremism, bridge inter-communal divides and enhance Europe’s capacity to act effectively in the global arena. ISD manages a number of initiatives related to CVE, including:

Counterextremism.org is one part of a wider European Commission-funded project to support the dissemination and exchange
of best practice in the field of counter-radicalisation work across Europe.

**FREE Initiative (Far-Right Extremism in Europe Initiative),** an online resource aiming to inspire and promote cross-border learning among those working against violent far-right extremism.

**Against Violent Extremism (AVE) Network**, a global network of former violent extremists ('formers') and survivors of violent extremism working together to push back extremist narratives and prevent the recruitment of ‘at risk’ youths.

**Strong Cities Network**, a global network of cities and other sub-national entities working together to build social cohesion and resilience to prevent violent extremism in all its forms. It provides a global platform to support local authorities to systematically share lessons learned, pool resources and build a community that can mobilize local action on a global scale.

**Youth Civil Activism Network (YouthCAN)** brings together youth activists, artists and tech entrepreneurs to amplify efforts to counter violent extremism.

**LOCATION: London**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Jonathan Birdwell, Head of Policy and Research**

**Website: www.strategicdialogue.org**

The Quilliam Foundation is a counter-extremism think tank that addresses issues such as citizenship, identity, and belonging in a globalized world. It aims to generate discussions to counter the ideological underpinnings of terrorism and to provide evidence-based recommendations to governments for related policy measures.

**LOCATION: London**

**Publication Highlights:**


Focal Point: Jonathan Russell, Head of Policy

Website: www.quilliamfoundation.org/

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Terrorism and Political Aggression, 6(3), 163-182. doi


MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

REGIONAL ENTITIES

African Center for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSR/CAERT) was established by the African Union in 2004 with the objective of preventing and combating terrorism. The Center aims to complement international efforts by strengthening cooperation among African countries to prevent and combat terrorism; to assist in the full implementation of the AU’s conventions related to terrorism; and to be a monitoring and alert tool to help in the prevention of terrorism.

**LOCATION: Algiers, Algeria**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Idriss Mounir Lallali, Interim Deputy
**Website:** caert.org.dz

West Asia-North Africa (WANA) Institute is a non-profit policy think tank that works to promote a transition to evidence-based policy and programming to combat the development and humanitarian challenges facing West Asia and North Africa. The WANA Institute aspires to be a trusted source of knowledge, evidence and opinion, and to provide a forum for open debate for leading researchers and policy makers in the region. WANA Institute undertakes research, hosts conferences and conducts training workshops in the areas of social justice, green economy and human security.

**LOCATION: Amman, Jordan**

**Focal Point:** Adel Elsayed Sparr, Senior Research Fellow

Website: wanainstitute.org

NATIONAL ENTITIES

**Algeria**

Institut national d'études de stratégies globales (INESG) [National Institute of Global Strategic Studies] aims to promote Algeria’s capacity to analyse international and strategic issues to provide research and guidance for policymakers. INESG research focuses on issues such as international relations, defense politics, and internal security. The institute also provides a platform for interaction and exchange among institutes.

**LOCATION: Algiers**

**Focal Point:** Lies Boukraa, Director

Website: wanainstitute.org

**Egypt**

American University in Cairo (AUC) is an English-language University that offers liberal arts and professional education in a cross-cultural environment. Its students and faculty members represent more than 60 countries. The School of Global Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) at AUC produces a quarterly journal – the Cairo Review of Global Affairs – aimed at providing perspectives from the region for policymakers, officials, academics, experts, journalists, students, and others in the Middle East region.

**LOCATION: Cairo**

**Publication Highlights:**


Website: new.aucegypt.edu

**Israel**

The Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) engages in research to help shape
the public discourse of issues on Israel’s national security agenda, and provides policy analysis and recommendations to decision makers, public leaders, and the strategic community, both in Israel and abroad. Books written by INSS associates are published by university presses and commercial publishers. The Strategic Survey for Israel series is an annual survey of major developments that impact on Israel’s strategic environment. INSS publishes two journals: the quarterly Strategic Assessment, and Military and Strategic Affairs, published three times a year. INSS Insight is a quick response to timely events, and The Middle East is the New Media, a bi-weekly survey of issues featured in the Arab media, are distributed as e-publications.

LOCATION: Tel Aviv
Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Yoram Schweitzer, Terrorism and Low Intensity Conflict Program Head
Website: www.inss.org.il

International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) is an independent think tank located at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) providing expertise in terrorism, counter-terrorism, homeland security, threat vulnerability, risk assessment, intelligence analysis, national security and defense policy. It also serves as a joint forum for international policymakers and scholars to share information and expertise through research papers, situation reports and academic publications. 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. ICT also administers a research database on the Internet encompassing global terrorist attacks, terrorist organizations and activists in addition to statistical reports.

LOCATION: Herzliya

Focal Point: Boaz Gaor, Founder & Executive Director
Website: www.ict.org.il

Jordan
Abu Thought Forum is a non-governmental Intellectual organization that seeks to discuss and analyse issues related to development, national security, and freedom in the Arab world. It also works to develop practical solutions to these issues and provide a platform for dialogue.

Location: Amman
Website: www.atf.org.jo

Generations for Peace is a coalition of volunteers that provides training on youth leadership and active citizenship specifically for the purposes of conflict prevention, behavioural change and empowerment through sports, arts, advocacy, and dialogue.

LOCATION: Amman, Jordan
Publication Highlights:

Hillyer, S., etc. (2013) “Sport & Peace: Mapping the Field”. Generations for Peace

Focal Point: Maira Seeley, Programmes Research and Development Officer
Website: www.generationsforpeace.org/

Lebanon
Levant7 is a research and communications firm specializing in strategy and research
solutions for complex problems afflicting societies in transition. It builds and trains field networks in transitioning societies to conduct research ranging from large-scale systematic data collection to localized qualitative research. Levant 7 also has a countering violent extremism (CVE) lab that brings together academics, practitioners, and local experts to improve their understanding of the efficiency of CVE programmes.

LOCATION: Beirut, Lebanon; Washington, D.C., USA; Afghanistan

Publication Highlights

Levant7. (2014) The Impact of the Syrian Crisis in Lebanon

Focal Point: Haroon Rasheed, Country Director of Research Division

Website: levant7.com/

Libya

Libyan Women’s Platform for Peace (LWPP) is an organization that stands for women’s inclusive involvement in political and economic processes as well as constitutional reform of Libya, particularly in the post-Gaddafi era. LWPP has played an active role in incorporating the role of women as parliamentarians into the new Constitution of Libya.

LOCATION: Tripoli

Publication Highlights:


Libyan Women’s Platform for Peace. (2014)

“Human Rights & Women in Libya: LWPP’s UPR submitted to the UN OHCHR”. LWPP

Website: lwpp.org/

Morocco

Forum des Alternatives Maroc (FMAS) [The Forum of Alternatives, Morocco] is an NGO aimed to protecting and promoting economic, social, cultural and environmental rights. It is an umbrella for NGOs acting in different fields, such as women’s rights, children, migrants, education, development, and the environment.

LOCATION: Rabat

Focal Point: Houssni Almoukhlis

Website: www.forumalternatives.org/fr

Transnational Initiative Countering Violent Extremism (TICVE) is an independent think tank established to counter violent extremism and build peace. TICVE aims to work with local communities to break the cycle of radicalisation through research, training, education and micro targeted development projects in order to build resilience to violent extremism. Their approach includes education-based projects are to enhance youth’s resilience to violent-extremism and engaging with individuals in vulnerable communities targeted by extremist groups.

LOCATION: Casablanca

Focal Point: Zineb Benalla, Director

Website: ticve.org

Saudi Arabia

Assakina Campaign for Dialogue seeks to publish unique translations, research and news about issues related to jihad, political violence and radicalisation. It is hoped that, through the course of these publications and open discussions, extremist ideologies will be challenged, exposed and refuted, while the moderate and authentic image of Islam will be faithfully represented and championed.

LOCATION: Riyadh
Focal Point: Sheikh Ahmad Mun'am al-Mushawwah
Website: www.assakina.com

King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies (KFCRIS) aims to support and develop research and studies that spread King Faisal’s vision and expand knowledge on topics such as Islamic studies, politics, sociology and heritage. Inside the KFCRIS, research units with researchers in various fields of study come together to contribute to knowledge creation and expansion. Visiting fellows and students are also encouraged to partake in research through easy access to the center’s library and resources such as its multiple titles and databases as well as its special collections. Knowledge dissemination is also one of the center’s core aims and this can be seen through the varied lectures, workshops and exhibitions that are being held each year.

LOCATION: Riyadh
Website: www.kff.com/en

Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS) is an educational institution that undertakes programmes and research related to security, including counter-terrorism, drugs, human trafficking, border security, criminal justice, rehabilitation of offenders, prison management, security training and education. The University is one of the 13 centers around the world that are collectively part of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network. It also undertakes security conferences, seminars and exhibitions to spread awareness about security and aims to develop the skills and knowledge of those working in its field.

LOCATION: Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Website: www.nauss.edu.sa

Tunisia
Mobdiun – Creative Youth is a non-profit cultural association which aims to promote social inclusion and transformation through art, culture and sports. It aims to empower and inspire young people living in marginalized communities & areas by giving them tools and skills to stimulate their creativity as builders of the new Tunisian democracy.

LOCATION: Tunis
Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Omezzine Khelifa, Director

National Youth Initiative against Terrorism INJCT based in Tunisia is a youth-run enterprise that aims to increase awareness of terrorist practices in Tunisia by educating the Tunisian youth through a multitude of workshops, radio shows, symposiums, writing competitions, etc.

LOCATION: Tunis
Website: www.en-injct.tn/

Zitouna University is one of the oldest universities in the Arab world and was established as a school for Islamic Studies. It specializes in the teaching of Islamic theology, jurisprudence, and Sharia sciences.

LOCATION: Tunis
Website: www.uz.rnu.tn/en

Qatar
Brookings Doha Center (BDC) is a center of the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. As a hub for Brookings scholarship in the region, the BDC advances research and policy analysis on the Middle East and North Africa. The BDC provides a platform for the exchange of ideas between the Middle East and the global community. It hosts fellows from different countries, organizes events on topical policy issues facing the region, and publishes policy briefs and papers based on field research into the socioeconomic and geopolitical issues facing the broader Middle East, including relations with the United States. Together with the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World, housed within the Center for Middle East
Policy at Brookings in Washington, D.C., the Doha Center sponsors a range of events, research projects and publications with the aim to educate, encourage dialogue and build partnerships between the United States and the Muslim world.

**LOCATION: Doha**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Sultan Barakat, Director of Research**

**Website:** [www.brookings.edu/about/centers/doha](http://www.brookings.edu/about/centers/doha)

Qatar International Academy for Security Studies (QIASS) is a professional institute that aims to raise security standards, knowledge, and cooperation within the Gulf Region and across the globe. Their research projects include a broad range of subjects directed towards government and private sector leaders. They also collaborate with other academic and research institutes on specific topics.

**LOCATION: Doha**

**Publication highlights:**


**Focal Point: Ali Soufan, Executive Director**

**Website:** [qiass.org](http://qiass.org)

**United Arab Emirates**

Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR) conducts research, community service, conferences, workshops, lectures, book fairs, symposiums, and exhibitions based on economic, political, social, and military developments that affect the Arab Gulf region and the Middle East. The research and information that ECSSR gathers helps to inform researchers at research centers and universities as well as policymakers.

**LOCATION: Abu Dhabi**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Website:** [www.ecssr.com](http://www.ecssr.com)

**Kalam Research & Media (KRM)** is a collegial think tank and training center focusing on research, education, content development, and capacity building in the following core areas: Islamic Theology (Kalam); Islamic Philosophy & Wisdom; Islamic Philosophy of Science, Technology, & the Environment; Inter-Faith Engagement; Inter-Faith Conflict Prevention & Resolution; Scriptural Reasoning & Hermeneutics; Islamic Professional & Business Ethics; Creative & Critical Thinking; Compassion Architecture.

**LOCATION: Dubai**
Publication Highlights:


Nayed, A. (2013) "Beyond Fascism New Libya Actualized". Kalam Research & Media

Focal Point: Aref Ali Nayed, Founder and Director
Website: www.kalamresearch.com/

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Brooke, S. (2015) Islamic Groups’ Social Service Provision and Attitudinal Change in Egypt. Combating Terrorism Center at West Point


Malka, Haim “Can We Stop Violent Extremism FromGoingMainstream in NorthAfrica.”Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2014


MercyCorps "From Jordan to Jihad: The Lure of Syria's Violent Extremist Groups," Policy Brief


NORTH AMERICA

CANADA

NATIONAL ENTITIES

Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society (TSAS) engages in policy-relevant research and dissemination in terrorism, security, and society. The TSAS Network is designed to foster communication and collaboration between academic researchers working on these topics in Canada and between academic researchers and policy officials in these subject fields as well as links with research on these topics in other countries.

LOCATION: Vancouver, Canada (Admin office)
Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Daniel Hiebert, Co-Director and Lorne Dawson, Co-Director
Website: www.tsas.ca

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL ENTITIES

Alliance for Peace-building leads a community of 100 organizations building peaceful and just societies around the world. In this integrated field, AfP amplifies the strengths of its members through collaboration, tackling a spectrum of issues too large for any one organization to address alone.

LOCATION: Washington, D.C.
Publication Highlights:

Miller, E. (2015). “Egypt through the Lens of the State Department’s Terrorism Reports,” The Atlantic Council


Focal Point: Marri Janeka, Assistant Director, The Atlantic Council
Website: www.atlanticcouncil.org

Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law is a nonpartisan law and policy institute that seeks to improve systems of democracy and justice. The Center’s work ranges from voting rights to campaign finance reform, from ending mass incarceration to preserving
Constitutional protection in the fight against terrorism.

**LOCATION: New York and Washington, D.C.**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Faiza Patel, Co-Director, Liberty & National Security Program**

**Website: www.brennancenter.org**

Brookings Institution conducts independent research and provides policy solutions through practical recommendations for policymakers and the public. Brookings has a number of research programmes and policy centres. For example, the Center for Middle East Policy brings together experts working on the region, and provides policymakers and the public with research and analysis. The Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World, housed within the Center for Middle East Policy, conducts public policy research and convenes briefings, panel discussions and international conferences focusing on critical issues facing the United States and the Muslim world.

**LOCATION: Washington, D.C.**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: William McCants, Fellow and Director - Project on U.S Relations with the Islamic World, Brookings Institution - Center for Middle East Policy**

**Website: www.brookings.edu**

Center for Democracy and Technology (CDT) is a non-profit organization that aims to keep the internet content production and consumption free for use by limiting government surveillance, improving global freedom of expression, protecting privacy rights. CDT’s research focuses on advising policy developments in the use of the internet.

**LOCATION: Washington, D.C.; San Francisco, California**

**Publication Highlights:**


Craig, S., & Llansó, E. (2015) “Pressuring Platforms to Censor Content is Wrong Approach to Combatting Terrorism”. CDT


**Focal Point: Emma Llansó, Director of Free Expression Project**

**Website: cdt.org**

The Center for Terrorism and Security Studies (CTSS) was established at the University of Massachusetts Lowell in 2013 to bring together faculty from several colleges throughout UMass Lowell (and from other institutions and organizations in the Commonwealth) to work on a variety of collaborative research projects addressing the evolution, convergence and complexity of such domestic and foreign security challenges as terrorism, cyber-security, transnational crime, and weapons of mass destruction (among many other topics).
CTSS produces academic books, journal articles and textbooks for undergraduate and graduate programmes; writes blog posts and record educational podcasts for the general public; and deliver technical reports, policy briefs and notes for policy considerations for practitioners.

**LOCATION: Lowell, Massachusetts**

**Focal Point: Neil Shortland, Program Manager**

**Website: www.uml.edu/Research/CTSS**

The Center on International Cooperation (CIC) at New York University (NYU) aims to promote ideas, analysis and policies to help transform international cooperation on leading global challenges, such as increasing peace and security, strengthening fragile states, securing strategic resources and tackling climate change. CIC works to provide expert advice on global conflict and crises, redefine the international community’s engagement with fragile states, and shape the debate on a new approach to global development.

**Location: New York, NY**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Hanny Megally, Senior Fellow**

**Website: cic.nyu.edu/**

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) is a bipartisan, nonprofit organization with a large network of affiliated scholars who conduct research and analysis and develop policy initiatives that look to the future and anticipate change. While headquartered in Washington, D.C., CSIS focuses on various regions, including East Asia and the Pacific, South Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Middle East.

**Location: Washington, D.C**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Website: csis.org**

Combatting Terrorism Center at West Point (CTC) studies the terrorist threat and provides policy guidance. The CTC has a network of scholars, international experts, and access to senior U.S. government leadership that contribute to their research. The CTC Sentinel is a monthly, independent publication that leverages the Center’s global network of scholars and practitioners to understand and confront contemporary threats posed by terrorism and other forms of political violence.

**LOCATION: West Point, New York**

**Publication Highlights:**

- *CTC Sentinel* (2015) Special Issue: *The Global Threat from the Islamic State*, Vol. 8, Iss. 11


**Focal Point: Lieutenant Colonel Bryan Price, Director, CTC**

**Website: www.ctc.usma.edu**
Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) is an independent, nonpartisan membership organization, think tank, and publisher that aims to be a resource for its members, government officials, business executives, journalists, educators and students, civic and religious leaders, and other interested citizens in order to help them better understand the world and the foreign policy choices facing the United States and other countries. The David Rockefeller Studies Programme—CFR’s “think tank”—comprises more than seventy full-time, part-time, and visiting scholars and practitioners. Fellows monitor developments in the major regions and countries around the world and study topics such as defense policy, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, global governance, energy, trade, international economics and finance, climate change, development, global health, and cyber and digital policy.

**LOCATION: New York**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Website: www.cfr.org/**

Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) is a policy institute focusing on foreign policy and national security. FDD combines policy research, democracy and counterterrorism education, strategic communications and investigative journalism in support of its mission to promote pluralism, defend democratic values and fight the ideologies that drive terrorism.

**LOCATION: Washington, D.C.**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Jonathan Schanzer, Vice President for Research**

**Website: www.defenddemocracy.org/**

The Heritage Foundation is a research and educational institution whose mission is to formulate and promote conservative public policies based on the principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense.

**LOCATION: Washington, D.C.**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Steven P. Bucci, Director**

**Website: www.heritage.org/**

Henry L. Stimson Center (Stimson Center) provides policy guidance on transnational challenges, including conflict, climate, weapons, etc. The Center’s research and analysis focuses on: (i) Reducing nuclear, environmental and other transnational threats to global, regional, and national security; (ii) Enhancing policymakers’ and the public’s understanding of the changing global security agenda; (iii) Engaging civil society
and industry in problem-solving to help fill gaps in existing governance structures.

**LOCATION: Washington, D.C.**  
**Publication Highlights:**  

**Focal Point:** Brian Finlay, President and CEO  
**Website:** [www.stimson.org/](http://www.stimson.org/)

**Human Rights First** is an independent advocacy and action organization that works to promote and prectect fundamental international human rights. HRF believes American leadership is essential in the global struggle for human rights, so they press the U.S. government and private companies to respect human rights and the rule of law.

**LOCATION: New York, Washington, D.C., and Houston**  
**Publication Highlights:**  

**Focal Point:** Neil Hicks, Director, Human Rights Promotion  
**Website:** [www.humanrightsfirst.org](http://www.humanrightsfirst.org)

**Institute for Inclusive Security** aims to promote the inclusion and participation of all stakeholders – particularly women – in groups in the prevention and transformation of violent conflict. The organization provides research, connect different stakeholders, and make recommendations and offer advice to policymakers.

**LOCATION: Washington D.C.**  
**Publication Highlights:**  

**Middle East Institute (MEI)** aims to increase knowledge of the Middle East among the citizens of the United States and to promote a better understanding between the people of these two areas. MEI has established two research centers - the Turkish Studies Center and Pakistan Center. Its publications include the Middle East Journal and several online publications, such as Policy Briefs, Viewpoints, and Encounters.

**LOCATION: Washington, D.C.**  
**Publication Highlights:**  
Middle East Institute and Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique. (2015) *Understanding Deradicalization: Pathways to Enhance Transatlantic Common Perceptions and Practices*  
Ramakrishna, K. (2014) *The Role of Civil Society in Countering Violent Extremism in Indonesia. Middle East Institute*  
Clutterbuck, L. (2015) Deradicalization Programs and Counterterrorism: A Perspective on the Challenges and Benefits. *Middle East Institute*  
Keiswetter, A. (2012) *The Arab Spring: Implications for US Policy and Interests. Middle East Institute*  

**Focal Point:** Paul Salem, Vice President for Policy and Research, MEI  
**Website:** [www.mei.edu/](http://www.mei.edu/)

**Muflehun** is an independent, non-profit institution that provides countering violent
extremism (CVE) related services such as CVE awareness and training workshops, ideological disengagement and spiritual dialogues, law enforcement training, as well as de-radicalisation and reintegration practices. Their programmes focus on building awareness and skills in youth, women, clergy and law enforcement to design their own local solutions. Muflehun has run programmes in Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and the USA.

LOCATION: Washington, D.C.

Focal Point: Humera Khan, Executive Director

Publication Highlights:

Website: muflehun.org/

National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) is a university-based research and education center comprised of an international network of scholars committed to the scientific study of the causes and human consequences of terrorism in the United States and around the world.

LOCATION: Maryland, USA

Publication Highlights:


Simi, Pete, and Bryan Bubolz, Hillary McNeel, Karyn Sporer, Steven Windisch. 2015 “Trauma as a Precursor to Violent Extremism: How non-ideological factors can influence joining an extremist group.” START


FOCAL POINT: Gary LaFree, Director

Website: www.start.umd.edu

New America Foundation is a public policy institute provides a platform for individuals and groups working to address emerging challenges. Their work includes identifying and promoting new and diverse thinkers, researchers and writers and helping them join the public conversation and developing and implementing ideas and policies to address public problems at the local, state, federal, and international level. New America also works toward bridging the worlds of technology, policy, politics, and academia, both by creating, testing, and piloting new technologies and integrating existing technologies into policy solution.

LOCATION: Washington, D.C., New York, NY

Publication Highlights:

Sims, A. (2015) Are We Catching or Manufacturing Terrorists? New America
Fishman, B. (2014) The Islamic State - A Persistent Threat. Prepared Testimony to the House Armed Services Committee

Focal Point: Peter Bergen, Director, International Security, Future of War, and Fellows Programs

Website: www.newamerica.org

The Soufan Group provides strategic security intelligence services to governments and multinational organizations. Their training programmes, security services, and research insights arm provide knowledge and skills to prepare for, manage and respond to constantly evolving security needs. Members of their team have led foreign and domestic investigations in recent history, and developed methods to address some of today’s most challenging international issues.

LOCATION: New York

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Richard Barrett, Senior Vice President

Website: http://soufangroup.com/

United States Institute of Peace (USIP) works to prevent, mitigate, and resolve violent conflict around the world. USIP engages directly in conflict zones and by providing analysis, education, and resources to those working for peace. Created by the United States Congress in 1984 as an independent, nonpartisan, federally funded organization, USIP’s more than 300 staff work at the Institute’s D.C. headquarters, and on the ground.

LOCATION: Washington, D.C.

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Georgia Holmer, Director, CVE, Rule of Law & Peacebuilding

Website: www.usip.org

Washington Institute for Near East Policy aims to advance the understanding of American interests in the Middle East and to promote the policies that secure them. The Washington Institute’s senior research staff includes experts on a wide array of political, military, security, and economic issues that cover every corner of the Middle East. Since 9/11, the Institute has dedicated new resources to assist the U.S. government in understanding and countering Islamist extremism, terrorism, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction -- particularly nuclear weapons.

LOCATION: Washington, D.C.

Publication Highlights:


**Focal Point: Patrick Clawson, Director of Research**

**Website: www.washingtoninstitute.org**

The Women’s Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality (WISE) is a global programme, social network and grassroots social justice movement led by Muslim women. WISE aims to empower Muslim women to fully participate in their communities and nations and amplifying their collective voices. The WISE programme builds on the collective strengths, talents, expertise and experiences of its members to foster collaboration and support the diverse work of these Muslim women leaders worldwide. WISE is developing a community guide for use by Muslim communities to inform and support community leaders in their efforts to challenge ISIL narratives, drawing primarily on religious scriptures and scholarship. The guide is anticipated to be released in March 2016 and will be translated into a number of different languages.

**LOCATION: New York, USA**

**Publication Highlights:**
- WISE (2009) “Jihad Against Violence: Muslim Women’s Struggle for Peace.” The Digest

**Focal Point: Daisy Khan, Founder and Executive Director**

**Website: www.wisemuslimwomen.org/**

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars focuses on research topics of national and international relevance. The Wilson Center aims to build a bridge between the worlds of academia and public policy, to inform and develop solutions to the nation’s problems and challenges. The Wilson Center facilitates the sharing of ideas through public meetings and events, broadcast media and social media, publications in print and online, and a wide range of outreach activities.

**LOCATION: Washington, D.C.**

**Publication Highlights:**

**Website: www.wilsoncenter.org**

World Organization for Resource Development and Education [WORDE] is a nonprofit, educational organization whose mission is to enhance communication and understanding between communities to mitigate social and political conflict. WORDE aims to shape public policy by cultivating a better understanding of ideologies that promote pluralism and service to humanity—while exposing the roots of extremism that disrupt the peaceful coexistence of societies everywhere. Their specialists are academics, theologians, development experts, and policy analysts who develop effective, long-term solutions in the key areas of educational reform, resource development, and international security.

**LOCATION: Maryland, USA**

**Publication Highlights:**


Focal Point: Hedieh Mirahmadi, President

Website: www.worde.org

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


INTERNATIONAL ENTITIES

Adam Smith International is a professional services business that works in over 100 countries and delivers projects supporting economic growth and government reform internationally.

LOCATIONS: Headquarters are in London with regional corporate offices in Africa (Nairobi), Asia Pacific (Sydney) and South Asia (Delhi). Project offices are located in Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Jordan, Libya, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Turkey, among others.

Publications Highlights:


Focal Point: William Morrison, Managing Director, Adam Smith International

Website: www.adamsmithinternational.com/

Amnesty International is a human rights organization that works to investigate and expose abuses, educate and mobilize the public, and help transform societies to create a safer, more just world. It achieves its mission through research, campaigns and long-term casework, and advocacy (high-level legislative work, media outreach, and grassroots mobilization).

LOCATIONS: New York (HQ), Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Oakland

Publication Highlights:

Website: www.amnestyusa.org

ARTIS Research is a multi-disciplinary research institution which aims to improve the understanding of cognitive and behavioral science related to politically motivated violence through science-based field research. The institution was born out of a collaboration of scientists and policy makers with RTI International, a North Carolina based research institution. ARTIS Research is organized into three main centers of operation: the Center for Conflict Studies and Field Research, the Center for Energy and Natural Resources, and the Cyber Behavior and Defense Institute.

Location: ARTIS has worked with research entities in Chile, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Morocco, the Netherlands, Palestine, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Focal Point: Scott Atran, Director of Research & Senior Fellow Chair, Center for Conflict Studies and Field Research

Website: artisresearch.com

The Counter Extremism Project (CEP) is an international policy organization that is led by former world leaders and diplomats and aims to create an extensive research database on terrorist financing, disrupt terrorist networks and their recruitment processes through social media, expose threats, and provide various forms of counter-narratives.

LOCATION: New York

Publication Highlights:


Counter Extremism Project. (2015)

**Website:** [www.counterextremism.com/](http://www.counterextremism.com/)

Global Center on Cooperative Security works with governments, international organizations, and civil society to develop and implement comprehensive and sustainable responses to complex international security challenges through collaborative policy research, context-sensitive programming, and capacity development. In collaboration with a global network of expert practitioners and partner organizations, the Global Center fosters stronger multilateral partnerships and convenes key stakeholders to support integrated and inclusive security policies across national, regional, and global levels.

**LOCATION:** New York, Washington, D.C., London

**Publication Highlights:**

Global Center on Cooperative Security

Violent Extremism and Instability in the Greater Horn of Africa: An Examination of Drivers and Responses. Forthcoming.


**Focal Point:** Naureen Chowdhury Fink, Head of Research and Analysis

**Website:** [www.globalcenter.org](http://www.globalcenter.org)

Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime is a network of prominent law enforcement, governance and development practitioners who are dedicated to seeking new and innovative strategies and responses to organized crime. The Global Initiative comprises a network of close to 100 independent global and regional experts working on human rights, democracy, governance and development issues where organized crime has become increasingly pertinent.

**LOCATION:** Geneva, Switzerland

**Publication Highlights:**


Agendas, New Opportunities. Conference Report

**Focal Point:** Tuesday Reitano, Head, Global Initiative Secretariat

**Website:** www.globalinitiative.net

Hedayah was established to serve as the premier international institution for training, dialogue, collaboration, and research to counter violent extremism in all of its forms and manifestations, in support of long-term, global efforts to prevent and counter terrorism. In addition to dialogue and training, Hedayah focuses on cataloguing existing CVE research as well as conducting and commissioning new research to gain a deeper understanding of the drivers of violent extremism, and which approaches are effective in countering it.

**LOCATION:** Abu Dhabi, UAE

**Publication Highlights:**


*Hedayah, & International Centre for Counter-Terrorism The Hague. (2014) Developing Effective Counter-Narrative Frameworks for Countering Violent Extremism*


**Focal Point:** Cemil Kilinc, Director of Research

**Website:** www.hedayah.ae

The Hollis Center for International Dialogue is an NGO that aims to foster dialogue between the United States and countries with predominantly Muslim populations in the Middle East, North Africa, South Asia, Eurasia and Europe. The Hollings Center convenes dialogue conferences that generate new thinking on important international issues and deepen channels of communication across opinion leaders and experts. The Center issues public Dialogue Snapshot reports highlighting the major conclusions and policy recommendations from conferences.

**LOCATION:** Washington, D.C. (USA), Istanbul (Turkey)

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Michael Carroll, Executive Director

**Website:** www.hollingscenter.org

Human Rights Watch is a human rights
organizations that publishes reports and briefings on human rights conditions in some 90 countries. Human Rights Watch meets with governments, the United Nations, regional groups like the African Union and the European Union, financial institutions, and corporations to press for changes in policy and practice that promote human rights and justice around the world.

**LOCATION: Worldwide**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Letta Taylor, Senior Researcher, Terrorism/Counterterrorism and Sarah Taylor, Women, Peace and Security Advocate, Women's Rights Division

**Website:** www.hrw.org

**Institute for Economics and Peace** develops metrics to analyse peace and to quantify its economic value. It does this by developing global and national indices, calculating the economic cost of violence, analysing country level risk and understanding positive peace. The research is used extensively by governments, academic institutions, think tanks, non-governmental organisations and by intergovernmental institutions such as the OECD, The Commonwealth Secretariat, the World Bank and the United Nations.

**LOCATION: Sydney, New York, and Mexico City**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Aubrey Fox, Executive Director

**Website:** economicsandpeace.org

**Interpeace** is an independent, international peace-building organization. They were initially established in 1994 by the United Nations to develop innovative solutions to build peace. Their aim is to strengthen the capacities of societies to manage conflict in non-violent, non-coercive ways by assisting national actors in their efforts to develop social and political cohesion. They also assist the international community (particularly the UN) to play a more effective role in support peace-building efforts around the world.

**Location:** Headquartered in Geneva with regional offices in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire), Nairobi (Kenya) and Guatemala City (Guatemala), and representation offices in Brussels (Belgium), New York (USA) and Stockholm (Sweden).

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Sarah Noble, Director of Global Engagement

**Website:** www.interpeace.org

**International Centre for Counter-Terrorism – The Hague (ICCT)** is an independent think tank and knowledge hub that focuses on information creation, collation and dissemination pertaining to the preventative and international legal aspects of counter-terrorism. ICCT’s work focuses on themes at the intersection of preventing and countering violent extremism and human
rights and rule of law related aspects of counter-terrorism. ICCT’s works on de- and counter-radicalisation, the rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders, the promotion of civil society actors and victims’ voices in countering violent extremism, preventing and countering incitement to terrorism, and rule of law based approaches in terrorism court cases.

**LOCATION: The Hague**

**Publication highlights:**


**Focal Point: Mark Singleton, Director**

**Website:** [http://icct.nl/](http://icct.nl/)

**International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN)** is a non-profit whose mission is to support civil society activism in promoting women’s rights, peace and human security in countries affected by conflict, transition and closed political space. ICAN aims to support women’s efforts through bridging the divisions between activists and the policy community, elevating the voices and experiences of women activists, building skills, and ensuring the exchange of knowledge and resources. ICAN spearheaded the launched the Women’s Alliance for Security and Leadership (WASL) to bring together existing women’s networks, practitioners, and organizations with long-standing experience in addressing extremism and promoting peace, rights, and pluralism.

**LOCATION: Washington, D.C. and New York**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Sanam Naraghi Anderlini, Co-Founder and Executive Director**

**Website:** [www.icanpeacework.org](http://www.icanpeacework.org)

**International Crisis Group (ICG)** is an NGO committed to preventing and resolving deadly conflict. Crisis Group focuses on field-based research. Their analysts are based in or near many of the world’s trouble spots, where there is concern about the possible outbreak of conflict, its escalation or recurrence. They identify the underlying political, social and economic factors creating the conditions for conflict, as well as the more immediate causes of tension.

**Location: Brussels (HQ), New York, Washington, D.C.**

**Publication Highlights:**

ICG. (2016) Exploiting Disorder: al-Qaeda and the Islamic State


**Focal Point: Richard Atwood, Director of Multilateral Affairs & Head of New York Office**

**Website:** [www.crisisgroup.org](http://www.crisisgroup.org)

**International Center for Religion and Diplomacy (ICRD)** is an NGO whose mission is to prevent and resolve identity-based conflicts that exceed the reach of traditional diplomacy by incorporating religion as part of the solution. Many ethnic, tribal and religious conflicts do not lend themselves to government-to-government intervention. To
complement those efforts, ICRD employs its unique capabilities in the areas where it can have a value-added impact by: (i) decreasing religion’s role as a driver of conflict; (ii) increasing the role of religious clergy and laity in peacemaking; (iii) increasing the capacity of religious peacemakers; (iv) increasing policy-makers’ awareness of and receptivity to the potential contributions of religious peacemakers.

**LOCATION:** Washington, D.C.

**Publication Highlights:**

Johnston, D. (2014) Madrasa Reform in Pakistan: Challenges and Lessons Learned. ICRD


**Focal Point:** Rebecca Cataldi, Program Manager

**Website:** icrd.org

**Independent Commission on Multilateralism (ICM)** will analyse the multilateral system over the next two years through the lens of sixteen issue areas, including new and emerging threats, terrorism, and women, peace, and security, and armed conflict. The ICM is chaired by former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, with former Indian ambassador to the UN Hardeep Singh Puri functioning as the Secretary-General. The work of the Commission will be conducted under the supervision of the chair and the co-chairs and supported by the International Peace Institute (IPI), a global think tank, which serves as the Secretariat.

**LOCATION:** New York

**Publication Highlights:**


**Website:** www.icm2016.org/

**InterAction** is a body of international NGOs that aims to rally its members collectively toward international development, humanitarian action, as well as policy and advocacy issues. These issues range from aid effectiveness, gender equality, global health, leadership development, results-based protection, shelter, food aid reform, among several others.

**Location:** Washington, D.C.

**Website:** www.interaction.org/


**Focal Point:** Hardeep Singh Puri, Secretary-General, ICM

**International Peace Institute (IPI)** is an independent, international think tank dedicated to managing risk and building resilience to promote peace, security, and sustainable development. To achieve its purpose, IPI employs a mix of policy research, strategic analysis, publishing, and convening.

**LOCATION:** New York, Vienna, Manama

**Publication Highlights:**


Focal Point: Adam Lupel, Director of Research and Publications
Website: www.ipinst.org

International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) is an international organization that aims to enable local individuals and institutions to build key elements of a vibrant society: quality education, independent media, and strong communities. Their activities also include conflict resolution, technology for development, gender, and youth.

LOCATION: Washington, D.C.
Publication Highlights:


Borbieva, N. (2009) «Religiosity and the international presence in the Kyrgyz Republic: Diversification or Normalization?». IREX

Website: www.irex.org/

Mercy Corps is an international development organization that aims to help people around the world to survive and thrive after conflict, crisis, and natural disasters. Mercy Corps’ work across the world is carried out through the lens of various technical sectors and they share best practices and lessons learned with the broader NGO community through case studies, evaluations, reports and other technical documents about their programmes.

LOCATION: USA (Oregon, Massachusetts, Washington, D.C.) and UK (Edinburgh, London)
Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Andrea Koppel, VP of Global Engagement and Policy
Website: https://www.mercycorps.org

The RAND Corporation is a global research organization that works to develop solutions to public policy challenges to contribute to a more secure world. RAND research is conducted on a broad front for clients around the globe that include both the public and private sectors. Research and analysis is carried out by five programmes that address social and economic policy issues.

Location: RAND’s North American locations include Santa Monica, California (Headquarters) and the Pardee RAND Graduate School; Arlington, Virginia; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Boston, Massachusetts. The RAND Gulf States Policy Institute is in New Orleans, Louisiana. RAND Europe is located in Cambridge, United Kingdom, and Brussels, Belgium. RAND Australia is located in Canberra.

Publication Highlights:


Focal Point: Andrew R. Hoehn, Senior Vice President, Research and Analysis
Website: http://www.rand.org

RESOLVE (Researching Solutions to Violent Extremism Network) was launched by international stakeholders in September 2015 during an international summit held on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The primary goal of the Network is to generate, facilitate, aggregate, and synthesize methodologically sound, locally informed research on the dynamics of violent extremism. The Network seeks to connect local researchers, practitioners, and policymakers so that they can collaborate to generate locally informed research in the field. Leveraging their partnerships with local research organizations and relationships with individual researchers the Network aims to capture fresh, locally informed data and analysis generated by collaborative research efforts supported by the Network on its online Knowledge Platform. Working across multiple borders and in regions affected by violent extremism, Network members will seek to collectively curate the data and analysis produced from collective research in thematic areas. It is intended that research will be posted on an online research laboratory to help further catalyze locally informed research on violent extremism to promote effective policy and practice. The Network is primarily governed through several constituent bodies which includes a Steering Committee and a Secretariat. The Steering Committee includes the Africa Policy Institute (API), Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP), Hedayah, Institute for Security Studies (ISS), Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), and the United States Institute of Peace (USIP).

LOCATION: Washington, D.C. (based within USIP)
Focal Point: Georgia Holmer, Director, CVE, Rule of Law & Peacebuilding, USIP

Sawab is a joint initiative by the Governments of the United Arab Emirates and the United States in support of the Global Coalition against ISIL. It works with members of the Global Coalition around the world, as well as many other engaged individuals and organizations in order to counter ISIL propaganda and reveal its true criminal nature and intent. Sawab uses online communication and social media tools to put things in the right perspective and to amplify those many moderate voices that too often get drowned out by the noise of the extremists.

LOCATION: United Arab Emirates
Focal Point: Alia Al Dhaheri & Ali Baskey
Website: sawabcenter.org

Search for Common Ground is a conflict prevention and conflict resolution NGO that aims to transform conflict into cooperative action — away from adversarial approaches and towards collaborative problem solving. They do this by working at all levels of society through three main avenues - dialogue, media, and the community.

LOCATION: Washington, D.C. (USA), Brussels (Belgium)
Publication Highlights:

Focal Point: Lena Slachmijlde, Vice President of Programmes
Website: www.sfcg.org

The Society for Terrorism Research (STR) is an international, multi-disciplinary organization of theoretical and empirical researchers in such behavioral sciences as anthropology, biology, economics, political science, psychology, psychiatry, sociology, and others. Its mission is to enhance knowledge and understanding of terrorism and political violence. STR publishes three issues a year of its journal Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression.
**LOCATION: Newton, Massachusetts**

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point: Rachel Monaghan, President**

**Website: www.societyforterrorismresearch.org**

**Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI)** is a consortium of 16 research institutions and over 120 individual scholars from more than 30 countries in its ranks. Founded in 2007, TRI’s mission is to enhance security through collaborative research. It does so by facilitating cooperative efforts among scholars from a broad range of disciplines and backgrounds. The Initiative brings together individual and institutional research efforts, enabling knowledge accumulation in order to suggest policy-relevant courses of action on security issues related to terrorism. TRI produces Perspectives on Terrorism (PT), a peer-reviewed online journal published six times per year by their Editorial Team.

**Location:** Its European offices are in Vienna, Austria, while its American headquarters are at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell Campus.

**Publication Highlights:**

**Focal Point: Alex P. Schmid, Director**

**Website: www.terrorism-research.org**

**TRENDS Research & Advisory** is an independent research center that works to build a global network of research associates. TRENDS aims to help improve policies and decision-making processes through its research and analysis on global, regional, and country-specific matters. One of their objectives includes conducting empirical research to uncover global risks and challenges.

**LOCATION: Abu Dhabi, UAE**

**Relevant Publications:**


**Focal Point: Richard Burchill, Director of Research and Engagement**

**Website: trendsinstitution.org/**

**United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)** launched a global research network pursuant to paragraph 19 of Security Council resolution 2129 (2013), in which the Council requests
CTED to “further engage and enhance its partnerships with international, regional and subregional organizations, civil society, academia and other entities in conducting research and information-gathering, and identifying good practices, and in that context to support the CTC’s efforts to promote the implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005).” In the same resolution, the Council requests CTED to identify emerging issues, trends and developments related to the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005). The new network currently consists of 28 leading think tanks and research institutions from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, the Americas and Oceania. For more information.

**Location:** United Nations HQ, New York

**Focal Point:** Maria del Valle


United Nations University Center for Policy Research (UNU-CPR) works to generate policy research that speaks to major debates in the wider UN community as well as the Secretary-General’s priorities in these areas. UNU-CPR has two core programmes. The first focuses on the changing nature of violence and provides concrete insights into how humanitarian, development, and security actors need to adapt to reduce violence and its impact on society in the context of organized crime, terrorism, criminal violence, and rapid urbanization. The second core programme focuses on securing developmental outcomes in fragile contexts. It draws from UNU-CPR’s engagement on development, peace-building and humanitarian response to understand the particular challenges of operating in the most challenging environments, as well as on how to build the right systems to measure progress and ensure accountability.

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Publication Highlights:**


**Focal Point:** Siobhan O’Neil, DDR Project Manager

**Website:** [cpr.unu.edu](http://cpr.unu.edu)

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) is a United Nations entity established in 1967 to support countries worldwide in preventing crime and facilitating criminal justice. UNICRI supports governments and the international community at large in tackling criminal threats to social peace, development and political stability. It produces the Freedom From Fear Magazine which aims to contribute to the advancement of knowledge and awareness of the international community’s priority issues in the field of justice, crime prevention and human rights.

**Location:** Turin, Italy (HQ), Rome, Geneva, Lisbon

**Publication Highlights:**


*Freedom From Fear Magazine “Not in our Name: The Lost Generation of Violent Extremists.”*

**Website:** [www.unicri.it](http://www.unicri.it)

World Bank Group provides financial and technical assistance to developing countries around the world. Additionally, the WBG also offers support to developing countries through policy advice, and research and analysis. The Bank’s Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group, established in July 2014, works to catalyze and advocate for the implementation and monitoring of the FCV agenda, strengthening support in countries affected by FCV by improving collaboration and knowledge flow across the institution.

**Location:** Washington, D.C. (Headquarters).

WBG has more than 100 offices around the world.

**Publication Highlights:**

Ianchovichina, E.; Mottaghi, L.; Devarajan, S. (2015) “Inequality, uprisings, and conflict in the Arab World.” Middle East...

Website: https://www.worldvision.org