



THE EVOLVING GLOBAL TERRORISM THREAT: A VIEW FROM SPAIN (AND ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN)

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I. GLOBAL TERRORISM: PHENOMENON AND THREAT

I.1. Post 9/11: polimorphous phenomenon based on a shared ideology (Salafist Jihadism) and common ultimate goals (new worldwide hegemonic Caliphate).

I.2. Three broad components: (1) Al Qaeda as a global terrorism structure; (2) its associated and related entities; and (3) independent actors (local cells or individuals).

I.3. Evolving global terrorism threat: differences across countries and regions; diversity of sources, often composite. What trends after the *Arab Spring*?

II. GLOBAL TERRORISM THREAT: EUROPEAN UNION

II.1. Global terrorism threat, not uniformly distributed: comparatively and relatively higher for some European Union member states. Which ones?

II.2. Post 9/11 sources of global terrorism threat to European societies, diverse and often composite: recent attacks and foiled plots.

II.3. Reproduction of the global terrorism threat inside European Union societies: support bases, processes of radicalization and recruitment.

III. DEVELOPMENTS ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN

III.1. Recent formation of a Jihadist condominium in Northern Mali: major focus of terrorist threat to the Maghreb and Sahel regions, and beyond.

III.2. Ongoing civil war in Syria: opportunities for jihadist organizations to mobilize radicalized Muslims, also in Western European countries.

III.3. Other countries of concern around the Mediterranean (unstable conditions from Morocco to Lybia, from Egypt to Lebanon; Turkey; still Bosnia).

IV. GLOBAL TERRORISM THREAT: FOCUS ON SPAIN

IV.1. Jihadist terrorist actors established in the country since the early 1990s (cells related to Al Qaeda and the GIA); threat increased as from 2001.

IV.2. The 2004 Madrid train bombings: manifestation of Al Qaeda capabilities in Western Europe after 9/11; 2008 suicide bomb plot foiled in Barcelona.

IV.3. Significant mobilization potential among Muslims in Spain. Since 2001, 83 individuals convicted or dead as a result of jihadist terrorism activities.

V. JIHADIST TERRORISTS IN SPAIN (2001-2011)

V.1. Involved in cells linked to organizations based abroad (66%); in cells belonging to organizations based abroad (15%); in independent cells (19%).

V.2. Men, between 25 and 39 years old when arrested or immolated; foreigners, first generation legal immigrants born in Morocco, Algeria, Pakistan and Syria.

V.3. Very often married; variety with respect to educational levels and occupational categories; 20% with previous record as ordinary delinquents.

VI. THREAT PERCEPTION AMONG SPANIARDS

Just released survey data from BRIE (November 2012):

83% view 'International Terrorism' as an 'extremely important' or 'important' 'threat to the vital interests of Spain'.

(November 2008: 94%; November 2010: 94%)

**THANK YOU
GRACIAS**