

# Religious terrorism

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# Historical Perspectives on Religious Violence

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- Judeo-Christian Antiquity
- Christian Crusades
- The Assassins





# Religion and terrorism

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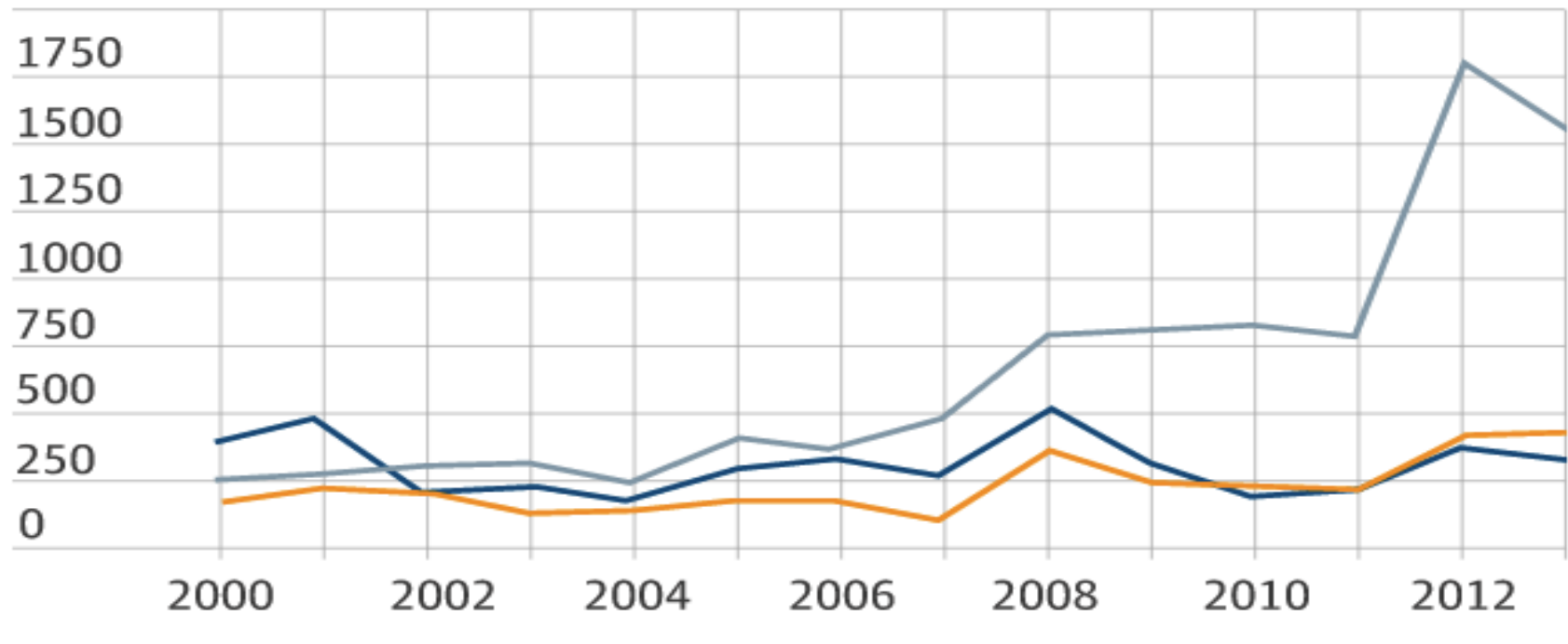
- ◉ Religion is not the problem, but.....
- ◉ Why ideology is different from religion?
- ◉ Violence is not only justified, but is also.....
- ◉ Gives the violence collective meaning
- ◉ Violence as proof of the faith

# Trends in terrorist group ideology

## Ideology

Trends in terrorist group ideology, hundreds of incidents

○ Religious    ○ Nationalist/separatist    ○ Political





# Comparison: Religious and Secular Terrorism

SOURCE : Bruce Hoffman, Inside Terrorism (New York: Columbia University Press, 1998), 94–95.

Environment	Activity Profile	Activity Profile	Activity Profile
Environment	Quality of Violence	Scope of Violence	Relationship to Existing System
Religious	Unconstrained scale of terrorist violence <b>Result:</b> Unconstrained choice of weapons and tactics	Expansive target definition <b>Result:</b> Indiscriminate use of violence	Alienated “true believers” <b>Result:</b> Completely reconfigured social order
Secular	Constrained scale of terrorist violence <b>Result:</b> Relative constraint in choice of weapons and tactics	Focused target definition <b>Result:</b> Relative discrimination in use of violence	Liberators <b>Result:</b> Restructured or rebuilt society

# Religious Foundation

## AL QAEDA

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- Holds no territory
- Has virtually no state sponsorship
- Does not support the aspirations of an ethno-national group
- Has vague political demands
- Has no top-down organizational structure
- Has a completely religious worldview

## ISLAMIC STATE

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- Holds territory
- Has no state sponsorship
- Does support Sunny religious group
- Has a clear political demands
- Has well 1 developed top-down organizational structure
- Has a completely religious worldview



# Al Qaeda vs. Islamic State

## the battle for the soul of jihad

### THE ISLAMIC STATE

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- Primary enemy are regimes in the Arab world -“near enemy”
- Controlling territory, consolidating and expanding its position.
- Use of social media to disseminate its propaganda

### AL QAEDA

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- Primary enemy is the United States - “far enemy”
- Dramatic attacks against strategic or symbolic targets
- Sending written statements and videos to news outlets such as Al Jazeera



# Groups with expressions of support

## TO ISLAMIC STATE

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- Boko Haram
- Banqsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters
- Jemaah Islamiyah
- Ansar al-Sharia (Tunis)
- Jund al-Khilafarah
- Abu Sayyaf
- Mujahideen Shura Council in the Envirions of Jerusalem
- Jamaah Ansharut Tauhid
- Ansar Bait al-Maqdis
- Islamic Movements of Uzbekistan
- Jundallah (Pakistan)

## TO AL QAEDA

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- Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb,
- Al Shabab in Somalia,
- Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula,
- Al-Nusra Front in Syria





Supposed Future Islamic State?



# List of nations by IS fighter origin (500 or more)

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○ Tunisia	3,000
○ Saudi Arabia	2,500
○ Russia	1,700
○ Jordan	1,500
○ Morocco	1,500
○ France	1,200
○ Turkey	1,000
○ Lebanon	900
○ Germany	650
○ Libya	600
○ United Kingdom	600
○ Uzbekistan	500
○ Pakistan	500



# Goals of American-led Coalition to counter the Islamic State

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- Supporting military operations, capacity building, and training;
- Stopping the flow of foreign terrorist fighters;
- Cutting off IS's access to financing and funding;
- Addressing associated humanitarian relief and crises;
- Exposing IS's true nature (ideological delegitimisation).



JUST MAKE SURE YOU DON'T PUT ANY  
"ENEMY-OF-MY-ENEMY"s NEXT TO ANY  
"FRIEND-OF-MY-FRIEND'S-ENEMY'S-ENEMY"....





# NATO approach towards religious terrorism

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- ◉ The Defense of NATO territory
- ◉ Capability building
- ◉ Monitoring of foreign fighters
- ◉ The Strengthening of Partnership



# Recomodations

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- Recognize the serious ideological threat  
Support moderate Islam
- Improve intelligence capabilities and coordination
- Address the social problems in Western societies that support radicalization.
- Promote international cooperation at each stage of the “chain of radicalization”



