### Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Making Headlines Today -Foreign Fighters

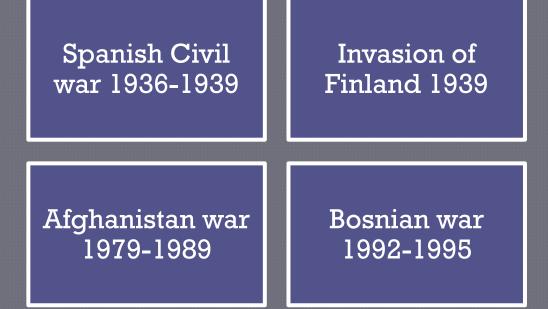
#### Why it`s making Headlines today?

## Syrian Uprising 81 countries joined this civil war in 2014



### Foreign Fighters

By Malet "non-citizens of conflict states who join insurgencies during civil war"



331 civil conflicts where over 70 ones with foreign fighters

# What do we know about foreign fighters?

ts

#### We know that

We know little

Foreign fighters have ideological reasons
They are organized
They are mainly young men

#### Worries on the individual level

- Further radicalisation
- Combat training and experience
- Professional international jihadi networks
- Abour
  On re
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- Being sent home to stage an attack
- Propaganda and recruitment
- Traumatised individuals (PTSS)

n terrorism terterrorism program

## Foreign Fighters in Syria. Who are they and why do they go there?

- 12000 fighters
  60-70 % are from the Middle
  East
- 20-25 % are from European
   or Western countries
- In case of EU they are mostly nationals
- Many ethnic background
  Relatively many converts
  Mainly young men



#### Foreign fighters - numbers

- Peter Neumann (ICSR - 2014)

3,000 1,200 - 2,500 1,500 700 500 400 300 130 100 Tunisia Saudi Arabia Morocco and Jordan France Britain Germany Belgium The Netherlands United States

#### Why do people want to leave Europe FOR SYRIA???

Pull factors

**Push** factors

- Purpose in life/do smth good , somehow help people
- Religious motivation as their duty
- Comradeship
- Experience smth exciting by committing attacks and inflicting pain
- Personal problems
- Troubles with authorities
- Socio-economic and political climate ( discrimination as well)

### Fighting groups in Syria

- Between 75000 and 115000 rebels fighting in Syria
   Free Syrian Army
- Jabhat al-Nusra
- Islamic State

## Free Syrian Army ounded in Action

in su

It was founded in 2011 by defectors from Assad regime Secular outlook International support Its goal is to bring down regime

#### Jabhat al-Nusra

The Support Front for the People of Sham 2012 Linked to AL-Qaeda Fighting the Assad regime on religious/ideological base They want to create an Islamic state in Syria and a caliphate in the Levant





- **Transnational Sunni** Islamist insurgent and terrorist group
- Controls large swathes of territory
- Delvers some social services
- Many foreign fighters, also local fighters Global outreach by
  - propaganda

### **Islamic State** لإلهإلاالله

الله رسور محد

#### **Islamic State**

- Tried to merge with Jabhat al-Nusra
   Goal: Establish an Islamic caliphate
- Fighting Assad, Iraqi forces and other groups in region
- Many atrocities
- Challenge to Al Qaeda and countries in the region
- Fighting against international coalition



Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi

# What people joined these organizations do there?

- Waiting for actions
- Trainings
- Guard duties
- Actual fighting
- War crimes ( suicide is also a part of this point)
- Propaganda (including MONEY DONATION on terror attacks)

#### Foreign fighters. Are they a threat?

 Germany's Minister of the Interior feared that Syrian Jihadist veterans returning to Europe, after being trained in «deadly handwork», will be «ticking time bombs»



#### Threat posed abroad

- Financing the Jihadi, propaganda
- Further radicalization , intimidation and acceptance of violence
- Aggression against infidels
- Polarization within society



## I.Measures to address the conditions conductive to the spread of terrorism

- I. To promote dialogue and tolerance and prevent defamation of religion, religious values, beliefs and cultures
- 2. To ensure the realization of the development goals (the Millennium Development Goals)
- 3. To scale up cooperation and assistance in the fields of rule of law, human rights

# II. Measures to prevent and combat terrorism

I. Refrain from facilitating and financing or tolerating terrorist activities • 2. To ensure that territories are not used for terrorist training camps or the preparation of terrorist acts 3. To ensure the apprehension and prosecution or extradition of perpetrators of terrorist acts • 4. To combat illicit arms trade

### Measures to build states` capacity and strenghen UN role

- I.To contribute to capacity building programs in the area of port and civil aviation security
- 2. To encourage frequent exchanges of information and technical assistance among bodies dealing with counterterrorism
- 3. To cooperate with other organizations such as the world Bank and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime

### Measures to ensure respect for human rights and the rule of law

- I. Effective counterterrorism measures and protection of human rights are not conflicting goals, but complementary and mutually enforcing
- 2. Counterterrorism measures need to comply with international law
   3. perpetrators need to be «brought to
  - justice»