Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Making Headlines Today -Foreign Fighters

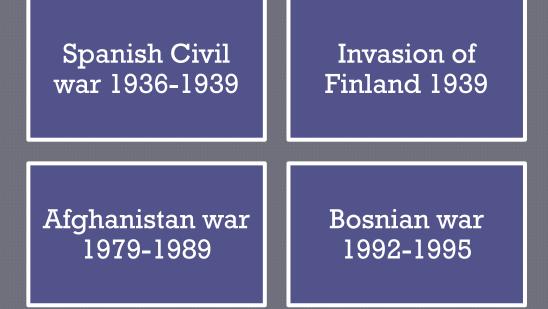
Why it`s making Headlines today?

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
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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»