

# **Terrorism, Counter Terrorism and the Role of United Nations to Attain Global Peace**

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**ABSTRACT:** *Terrorism is understood as coercion that threatens to utilize violence to spread fear and thereby attain political or ideological goals. Contemporary terrorism is violence by the classic action and organized crime: attacks to convince or coerce to change the current position regarding some action or policy. The attack spreads fear as the violence is directed, unexpectedly, against innocent victims, which in turn puts pressure on third parties such as governments to change their policy or position. Contemporary terrorists utilize many forms of violence, and indiscriminately target civilians, military facilities and State officials among others. The challenges of countering terrorism are not new; these have a long chequered history. The term “terrorism” was initially coined to describe the Reign of Terror, the period of the French, during which the Revolutionary Government directed violence and harsh measures against citizens suspected of being enemies of the Revolution. Resistance to Napoleon’s invasion of the Spanish Peninsula led to a new form of fighter—the “guerrilla”, originating from the Spanish word guerra, meaning “little war”. As a weapon of politics and warfare, however, the use of terrorism by groups can be traced back to ancient times, and “in various forms, terrorism is as old as government and armed struggle, and as pervasive”. This paper deals with whole terrorist violence and the threats carried out by non-State groups and the response of the international community, especially States, regional organizations and the United Nations system. Needless to say that terrorism in any form is completely against the Global Peace.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Terrorism, Counter Terrorism, Violence, Sanctions, Politics, Government, United Nations, Global Peace.*

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this paper is to introduce readers to the key concepts and principles that are adopted by international instrument systems and institutions concerned with the complex topics of terrorism and how to counter terrorism, as well as any hard, security-based, responses adopted by States when confronted with acts of terrorism. Apart from the concept of terrorism, it is important to note that as yet, there is no global consensus regarding an agreed definition of the term “terrorism” for legal purposes. Modern terrorism and its implications for the international community is far from being clearly understood. Regarding the prosecution of the perpetrators of acts of terrorism, it is vital to understand how, why and to what extent, the impact of a lack of a universally agreed global legal definition of the term may have had on the effective investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences. Principally, prosecuting chargeable crimes must rely on the judicial forums available. A decision to prosecute a “terrorist” offence will depend, among other factors, on legal and non-legal considerations. Furthermore, the State of custody must justifiably decide either to prosecute as a “terrorist” or an ordinary crime or to extradite elsewhere for prosecution of the persons accused of serious, transboundary terrorist crimes. Choosing between prosecuting on the grounds of “terrorist” or of ordinary crimes also involves wider issues such as the distinction between armed and non-armed conflict, the State use of counter-terrorist force and the return of “terrorists” who have been fighting abroad.

An effective and prevention-focused international response to terrorism is highly desirable. The core principles of the rule of law, due process and respect for human rights are most important in this regard. Many international and regional legal instruments already exist which are dedicated to countering and deterring terrorism primarily through the investigation and prosecution of those suspected of committing related crimes by means of State criminal justice processes. Hostage-taking, the hijacking of planes or ships, terrorist bombings and the funding of terrorism are unpardonable offenses against Human Rights. The myopic selfish interest of national chauvinism is of no use. Statespersons are required to see the things in the Global Perspective and in this sense, United Nations can be of Providential Help, given the non-use of Veto Power by any State is exercised by all means of Diplomatic Channel. Extending the Vision is essentially required. The time has come

when it is essential to look seriously into the future of the Planet Earth. One must understand that any major faulty action and human decision would be ruthlessly corrected by the NATURE Herself.

## **II. KEY ISSUES**

Criminal justice responses and outcomes in investigating and prosecuting terrorism-related crimes may vary between States. Since the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, international support for more effective counter-terrorism measures and responses has led to greater international cooperation in counter-terrorist matters, and there is certainly evidence of a widespread hardening of approaches to the prosecution of “terrorists”. This is important in a context that is witnessing the increased export and globalization of terrorism by groups. States are utilizing a range of counter-terrorism measures,

Mechanisms should represent the usual response, including as a means of terrorism prevention to “harder” security-based measures. Although, escalating the military expenses is widely accepted as entirely appropriate measure where the requisite legal criteria are met, such as the threshold of violence necessary to constitute an armed conflict, these are also accompanied by increased complexities. Humankind has to realize, the sooner the better, that use of military power begets more and more violence rather than solving the problem. History of terrorism has to be understood. In doing so, time has come when it has to be understood that all terrorist groups are to be handled with iron hand since the impact of their criminal activities does harm some areas or the other. It is reflective of some of the legal and political complexities underlying many of the issues. Without this, it is often not possible to reach universal agreement, for instance, regarding the designation of “terrorist” groups. For similar reasons, since matters of “terrorist” motivations can be politically sensitive. .

## **III. THE UNITED NATIONS, DESIGNATED TERRORIST GROUPS, TERRORISM AND APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS**

United Nations are dealing with issues related to terror-violence caused by so-called “liberation fighters” claiming to be utilizing “direct action” to pursue their right to the self-determination. The UN Charter contextualizes the Organization’s obligation to “develop friendly relations” among nations (not “States”) based on the principles of equal rights and the self-determination of “peoples”. Here proper interpretation of Sections and By-Laws are extremely important. The United Nations seeks to provide an impartial commentary on legal and interdisciplinary approaches to terrorism and counter-terrorism. The related conundrum associated with self-interest, religious bigotry of all kinds and the terrorism must be solved across the table by diplomatic channels and by no means of taking recourse to the wars and skirmishes. In the latter case Humanity itself gets worst affected and Global Disturbance mars any possibility of Global Peace. In terms of the use of violence and force by terrorists, this also ranges across a wide spectrum, from individuals with military training and experience, to those who are effectively sent untrained on suicide missions. Their use of violence also demonstrates the slow evolution of terrorist tactics and strategies, including traditional assassination, bombings, arson, hostage-taking, hijacking, kidnapping, sabotage, the perpetration of hoaxes and suicide bombings. The evolution and substantive content of United Nations anti-terrorism instruments in the Charter is very important and honored scrupulously by all parties. Sanctions of any kind against any group/Nation are often imposed without any permanent solution. Rather it crops and instigates long-term deep-seated problems which are destined to be far more detrimental to the Global Health. Global Peace can be expected to occur only if the spirit of Universal Brotherhood and Protection of Human Rights are honored.

## **IV. CONCLUSION**

The problems and related issues of terrorism and counter terrorism have been dealt with in this paper. The root cause of this problem is embedded in the false idea that one can live peacefully with the exclusion of others. This is not only impossible but the very idea of such utter selfishness is untenable in the present-day world. The world has become a village where the information diffuses through the human society all over the world in a lightning speed. To usher and ensure the Global Peace, economic disparity has to be minimized. Equity is needed throughout the world as far as the security of all sorts like food and energy security, water and health security, housing and environment security is ensured. Sustainable Development of the world demands that. The human psychology is inherently inclined to tilt toward the violence and crime if the basic necessities are not provided by the society. Let us not live in the Fool’s Paradise that ensuring and fulfilling only ingrained selfish interests could solve the plaguing global problem. Let us use the United Nations more judiciously without jeopardizing the interests of all by exercising VETO POWER accorded to some mighty nations. Let the Good Sense prevail. The readers are being directed to the references below.

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