

# Preface

The available textbooks on terrorism and counterterrorism focus extensively on al-Qaeda at the expense of other domestic terrorist groups and responses to them worldwide. To fully comprehend the evolution and current state of terrorism, students must look at its history on a global scale. This global perspective enables students to think sensibly about terrorism and better understand what works and what does not work in counterterrorism. This text seeks to fill this void in available literature by focusing on domestic terrorist groups from Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, South America, and North America. It will also critically evaluate the counterterrorism measures implemented in response to these terrorist groups. Finally, and most importantly, this text compares terrorist groups; assesses the factors that are conducive to certain groups' sustainability and those that led to other groups' demise; notes counterterrorism measures that were successfully used in the past to combat terrorists and terrorist groups worldwide; and incorporates efficient policies into a counterterrorism strategy that can be used to effectively deal with the current threat of terrorism by al-Qaeda operatives, affiliates, and homegrown terrorists inspired by al-Qaeda's cause.

This text is intended to serve as a comprehensive resource for terrorism and counterterrorism graduate courses. It can also be used for upper-level undergraduate students. This text will also appeal to a wide range of different groups. By steering away from an exclusive focus on al-Qaeda and terrorism after the September 11, 2001 attacks, it will be of interest to a much broader audience of writers and researchers working on terrorism and counterterrorism. Moreover, by providing a detailed account of the most significant terrorist groups and counterterrorism practices and their implications for a number of different fields such as law, public policy and administration, security, and criminology, it is likely to be an extremely useful resource for academicians, practitioners, and graduate and undergraduate students in these areas. Criminal justice, socio-legal, history, and political science scholars and professionals should also find food for thought in this work.

Given that this textbook covers global terrorism and counterterrorism practices, it will be of interest to law enforcement agencies, terrorism and counterterrorism officials, and researchers in the field. Specifically, this text is intended for:

- law enforcement agents seeking to expand their knowledge of who terrorists are and what terrorists can do;
- students and professionals seeking a career in counterterrorism
- counterterrorism specialists seeking to expand their knowledge of terrorism beyond al-Qaeda;
- law students and legal professionals seeking to understand counterterrorism legislation and its implications on human rights; and
- students, academicians, researchers, and practitioners seeking a firmer grasp on the nature and extent of terrorism and what can be done to effectively combat the threat posed by terrorists and terrorist groups.

Probable users of the book also include security, government, and intelligence agencies. Anyone interested in learning about terrorism and counterterrorism will also benefit from this book.

Moreover, this field has gained prominence because of the attacks on September 11, 2001, and current global media coverage of terrorism and measures governments use to combat terrorists. Accordingly, this book will also be relevant to civil liberties groups and professional associations as the extradition of suspected terrorists, their torture in foreign and U.S. military prisons, and indefinite detention around the globe are becoming more of a common practice.

## **SUPPLEMENTS**

This book is accompanied by a series of valuable supplements. An Instructor's Manual, PowerPoint Lecture Outlines, and a Test Bank are available to assist instructors in teaching terrorism and counterterrorism courses. The Instructor's Manual also includes case studies, discussion questions, and recommended topics for student research papers.