



ICT
International Institute
for Counter-Terrorism



ICT Newsletter, spring 2008

Welcome to the spring 2008 edition of The International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) E-Newsletter. We have recently begun the preparations for ICT's 8th Annual International Conference, which will deal with new and contemporary issues on the counter-terrorism agenda. It seems this year's conference will probably be the largest and most professional yet, and we look forward to a successful conference. In the meantime we invite you to review a unique set of projects that ICT has been involved with, covering different aspects of the battle against terrorism, from a Homeland Security ministerial-level conference, through new insights from the Argentina Attacks, to a special tour to the mind of a terrorist. Please visit our website at www.ict.org.il for more updates.

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Save The Date for the World Counter-Terrorism Summit!

ICT's 8th International Conference **Terrorism's Global Impact** September 8-11, 2008



The International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) at IDC Herzliya is pleased to announce its 8th Annual International Conference on Global Terrorism, which will take place in Herzliya, Israel, on September 8–11, 2008. ICT's Annual International Conference has become **one of the most influential annual events in the field of counter-terrorism**. It has achieved international recognition for its **high-powered environment** in which counter-terror experts, security professionals and leading academic scholars from around the world network, establish essential cooperation mechanisms, and exchange views on best practices.



Homeland Security Ministerial-Level Conference



A two-day ministerial level Homeland Security conference will be held in Israel from May 29 to the 30. The aim of the conference is to provide a forum for joint discussion on the primary challenges facing the ministries in this field and their heads within participating countries, while emphasizing the changing nature of the threat facing decision-makers. On the agenda will be intelligence and operational coordination, homegrown terrorism and illegal immigration, securing critical infrastructure and countering cyber-terrorism, new technologies and the "Democratic dilemma" of Homeland Security. We consider this event to be the first in a series of events that will create a forum for Homeland Security ministers for dialog, consultations, discussions and exchange of experiences. The first day will be conducted in closed-doors with the participation of Ministers of Internal Security from Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, the Palestinian Authority, Poland, Singapore, Spain, the U.K. and the U.S. The second day will be open to the public and press, and will include presentations by the ministers on challenges in respective countries. Participation by invitation only.

EU's 7th Framework Programme on the State of Radicalization in the Middle East and Europe



ICT, together with esteemed Universities and national law enforcement agencies from across Europe, have come together in an EU's FP7 to discuss the growing security threat of Islamic Radicalization. Researchers representing fields varying from History to Social Sciences, Economics to Political Affairs will join in order to synthesize a more complete picture of the state of Radicalization within the Middle East and Europe. The breadth of fields represented coupled with the geographic scope of the consortium will no doubt be fruitful platform to generate a more complete report of this growing threat. Topics to be discussed in this framework will include the growing Radicalization within European prisons, the pervasiveness of Radical Islamism through the Internet and other media, regional Radicalization at the community level, and many others.

Remembering: symposium on Bereavement, Terrorism and Decision Making

The Israeli society has dealt - and continues to deal - with a perpetual threat of terror. Terrorism has become Israel's dominant and most tangible existential threat. This fact has many political, security, cultural and psychosocial implications. The symptoms caused by living under this threat can be found within multiple civilian arenas: public media, civil society, the judicial arena as well as in the public memory and bereavement. In honor of the State of Israel's 60th Independence Day, ICT, together with Remembering Organization conducted an open discussion on the subject of terrorism, bereavement and decision-making in Israel. The symposium focused on the civilian arenas, and dealt mainly with the influence of the threat of terror on public resilience, political strength and national psychology. For a summary of the event, [click here](#)



Dr. Boaz Ganor's visit to the People's Republic of China

Dr. Boaz Ganor completed a one week visit to Shanghai and Beijing during which he met with leading research institutes and had numerous interviews for the public media. For example, Dr. Ganor was interviewed by the satellite news channel, "The Phoenix", viewed in Asia, the Pacific and Chinese communities in the USA, and other leading newspapers, which all gave extensive coverage to Dr. Ganor's lectures. During his visit he lectured at the Social Sciences Academy to students and representatives of different government agencies; at the Middle East Research Institute at Shanghai University International School; the Shanghai International Relations Institute (SIIS) and was honored by the presence of the Institute's head. In

The Mind of a Terrorist: the Psychology of Terrorism from the IRA to Al-Qaeda

A symposium, held at the IDC Herzliya, with the participation of: Dr. Jerrold M Post, Director, Political Psychology Program, Professor of Psychiatry, Political Psychology, and International Affairs, Elliott School of International Affairs, The George Washington University; Prof. Ariel Merari, Member and Former Chairman of the Department of Psychology at the Tel-Aviv University and Director of the Political Violence Research Unit; Dr. Boaz Ganor, Founder and Executive Director of ICT. The lectures were followed by a discussion with the audience and ICT's research fellows and associates.



First International Conference on Radicalization and Political Violence

The first international conference by The International Centre for the Study of Radicalization and Political Violence (ICSR) took place in London, 17-18 January 2008. The conference demarcated the establishment of ICSR, which is a joint project of four institutions and figures: Prof. Sir Lawrence Freedman from Kings Collage, London; Dr. Harvey Rubin from The University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Boaz Ganor from ICT; and Yasar Qatarneh from The Regional Centre on Conflict Prevention, Amman. ICSR's main objectives are to improve public policy, initiate outcome-driven dialogues and create a greenhouse for ideas. It recently determined its platform of activity with a common goal to prevent radicalization and political violence. All participants and members took upon themselves a risk, based on the belief that there is an essential and immediate need to stop these trends. The conference was held under the auspices of Club de Madrid and kept to especially high standards. hosting



Hezbollah Modus Operandi in the Int' Arena: Insights from the Argentina Attacks

In the first half of the 1990s, Hezbollah perpetrated two terrorist attacks in Argentina. The first targeted the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires in March 1992, resulting in the deaths of 29 people. The second, and far deadlier of the attacks, targeted the AMIA Jewish Community Center (JCC) in July 1994, killing 85 civilians and wounding 230 others. On November 9th of this year, Argentina's special prosecution, which has been investigating the AMIA JCC attack, announced for the first time the existence of solid evidence proving that the perpetrator of the attack was a 21-year-old Hezbollah operative. In late 2002, Argentina's State Intelligence Service issued a detailed report that identified Hezbollah and Iran (including leader Khamenei and former Intelligence Minister Ali Fallahian) as directly responsible for the terrorist attack at the Jewish Community Center. The prosecution's latest announcement is seen as a meaningful development in the ongoing investigation of the terrorist attack, providing legal evidence of the Intelligence Service's prior conclusion that it was Iran, through Hezbollah, that backed the planning and perpetration of the terrorist act. The announcement by the Argentinean prosecution reveals once more the nature of Hezbollah as an international terrorist organization that stands behind, among other activities, these two deadly suicide bombings in Argentina.



On December 18, a special symposium on this matter was held in IDC by ICT, with the cooperation of the

Beijing he participated in a "Round Table" debate with the leading researchers of the CICIR research institute about the nature of Global Jihad, the relevant threats to the Olympic Games and operative recommendations for coping with them. Dr. Ganor also had a successful meeting with the head of the American Studies Institute and the Counter-Terrorism Department at Fudan University, in order to initiate further cooperation with ICT.



The visit was very fruitful, with all universities and research institutes expressing their will to expand and strengthen relations with ICT and take part in its special studies programs (MA, CTStudies and internships). Another outcome of the visit will be a special workshop at ICT's annual international conference on the global impact of terrorism that will take place in September and will deal with lessons learned from the Olympic Games in China and the threat of Xingjian Islamists.

New MA program in Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security

A new MA program with a specialization in Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security is nearing the conclusion of its first year. 34 students have been accepted to this program, which received a lot of attention as a unique program in Israel as well as worldwide. Most of the students participating in this program have backgrounds in related fields.

around 100 esteemed academicians, religious leaders and decision-makers in the past and present, from Bosnia, Canada, Colombia, Ireland, Norway, Sudan, the U.K., the U.S. and more. Participants were divided into seven panels, discussing different topics such as: Radicalization and De-radicalization; Negotiations and Peace Processes; Civil Resistance and Alternatives to Violent Struggle; The Economics of Radicalization; The Use and Abuse of Religion; Security, Intelligence and Terrorist Financing; The Role of the Media and the Internet.

Red Team Simulation Game

During winter 2008-2007 ICT's expert team conducted a simulation game, focusing on al-Qaeda's preparation for an attack in a specific country. The simulation methodology included the team's activity in two groups: one played the organization's leadership and another played the operative team. During the simulation decision-making processes and operation patterns in the organization were examined. It is appropriate to emphasize that in the last two years, ICT has developed the ability and accumulated experience in conducting simulation games in different fields and arenas.

ICT's Internship Program

During the summer months there is an influx of new interns at the institute. ICT is preparing to host these young professionals and we find it a privilege to be part of their development process. Coming from different countries around the globe, ICT interns get to work in a young, dynamic environment, participate actively in our conferences and events as well as network with peers and experts.

ICT associates conference

In April 2008 ICT Associates were gathered for a special conference summarizing ICT activity during 2007. A special guest, Colonel Ronen Cohen, participated and presented a unique theoretical model for combined counter-terrorism activity.

Hadar Institute. The symposium dealt with the Buenos Aires attacks, led by a presentation by Dr. Alberto Nisman, the General Prosecutor responsible for the special investigating project on the attacks. Other speakers were Dr. Eitan Azani of ICT and Dr. Gustavo Perednik from the Hadar Institute. The event took place following a statement by the investigation team regarding firm evidences that the executers were Hezbollah's operatives. Investigation reports point clearly to the fact that Iran, through Hezbollah, supported the planning and execution of the attack.

Executive Certificate Program in Counter-Terrorism Studies

The last CTStudies program was successfully held in January-February 2008. 19 participants took part in it, representing a wide range of countries – Australia, Bahamas, Denmark, India, Israel, Italy, Nigeria, Poland, South Africa, Turkey, USA and Venezuela. Among them were Police commanders, University lecturers, Military personnel, Medical doctors, Intelligence officers and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) representatives. The programs' courses include theories in Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Research, Radicalization Processes, Negotiation with Terrorists and more, and it is already known as a leading program in this field. The next term will be held from 22 June – 11 July 2008.

