

David M. Jones, Paul Schulte, Carl Ungerer, and M.L. R. Smith (Eds.), *Handbook of Terrorism and Counter Terrorism Post 9/11*. (Cheltenham, Glos., UK: Edward Elgar, 2019), 447 pp., £ 185.-/US \$ 243.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-1-7864-3801-0;/ £ 166.50 .00 [Web Edition], ISBN: 978-1-7864-3802-7.

Reviewed by Alex P. Schmid

As most of those interested in terrorism and counter-terrorism find themselves unable to absorb the thousands of new papers, reports, articles, book chapters and monographs that become available every year, there has been a growing demand for handbooks on these subjects, driven by the hope that they would separate wheat from chaff. Recent handbooks include *The Oxford Handbook of Terrorism*, edited by Erica Chenoweth et al (Oxford: OUP, 2019, 795 pp.), *The Palgrave Handbook of Global Counterterrorism Policy*, edited by Scott N. Romaniuk et al (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017, 1098 pp.), and *The Routledge Handbook of Terrorism and Counterterrorism*, edited by Andrew Silke (Abingdon: Routledge, 2019, 694 pp.). The most recent addition is the *Handbook of Terrorism and Counter Terrorism Post 9/11* by two Australia-based (D.M. Jones & C. Ungerer) and two UK-based editors (P. Schulte & M.L.R. Smith), published in December 2019. One third of the authors are associated with London's King's College while one fifth are from various Australian universities. Some of the contributors (e.g. Rajan Basra, Michele Groppi, Annamaria Kiss and Gina Vale) are promising newcomers to the field of terrorism studies while others (e.g. William Rosenau, Seamus Hughes and Andrew T.H. Tan) are old hands. The volume contains 13 chapters in Part I, focusing on general themes, and 18 chapters in Part II, focusing on regional and country studies, plus one introductory and two concluding chapters.

The editors admit that the contributors to this volume cannot "...resolve any of the extant theoretical, definitional and practical policy dilemmas that they highlight". Rather, they seek to "...outline the various directions in which informed scholarship and research is advancing" (p.9). This book addresses relatively underexplored topics like 'Counter-terrorism with Chinese characteristics' (chapter 28 by Rosita Dellios) and 'Future war, AI, drones, terrorism and counterterror' (chapter 34 by Paul Schulte), but is largely silent on new developments in Africa (except for John Maska's 'A tale of two strategies: the enduring African legacies of Hassan al-Banna and Sayyid Qutb – chapter 21). Latin America also receives scant attention, except for Markus-Michael Müller's chapter 30 'Terrorism and insurgency in post-9/11 Latin America'. South Asia also has only one chapter (Prem Mahadevan's chapter 26 'South Asia: from terrorism to radicalism'). There is, however, another chapter (chapt. 27) on Southeast Asia from the hand of Andrew T.H. Tan. On the other hand, there is plenty of attention for the communicative aspects of terrorism: Tim Stevens has a chapter (chapt. 4) on 'Strategic cyberterrorism: problems of ends, ways and means', while Jonathan R. Woodier and Andreas Zingerle focus in chapter 6 on 'The Internet and cybersecurity: taking the virtual fight to cybercrime and cyberwarfare'. Joshua Rovner addresses his chapter 9 on 'Intelligence in the age of Twitter', while Jonathan R. Woodier is the author of 'The media and terror: undermining information asymmetry' (chapter 8).

The authors of this volume represent mainstream, and mostly realist, perspectives on terrorism rather than the critical terrorism studies school. About the latter, two of the four editors of the volume, D. M. Jones and M.L.R. Smith, in chapter 10, titled 'Critical theory and terrorism', note that '...critical terrorism studies requires no research into the history, ideology, or strategic thinking of transnational non-state actors like al-Qaeda or its regional affiliates. Instead, critical engagement is a euphemism for an assault on the Australian, British and US government responses to terrorism...' (p.117). This is not to say that the editors themselves are not critical in their own way about US and UK government responses to terrorism after 9/11. Indeed, in their introductory chapter 1, they take issue with "...the incoherence that characterized the Western response to 9/11" (p.1). They also refer to '[t]he intellectual confusion surrounding how to think about what the events of 9/11 signified...' (p.1).

However, in their attempt to cut through the Gordian knot of existing confusions, in one of the final chapters (chapt. 33 - 'Strategy and terrorism: discourse and analysis'), M.L.R. Smith and David Martin Jones come up with a dozen items some of which are themselves, at least to this reviewer, debatable or confusing: "1. Terrorism is not hard to define; 2. Terrorism is not an independent social reality; 3. Terrorism has no causes; 4. Terrorism can only be a practice (a tactic); 5. Terrorism is a rational tool of policy; 6. Terrorism is not indicative of behavioural or mental problems; 7. Terrorism is not a coherent means of applying moral judgment; 8. Terrorism does not possess any intrinsic link with non-state actors; 9. Terrorism is not a weapon of the weak; 10. There are no such things as terrorist organizations; 11. The notion of a 'terrorist' is equally erroneous; 12. One person's terrorist is not another person's freedom fighter" (pp. 409-411). The editors try to make their case for these propositions in some detail which, however, cannot be reproduced here in the framework of a book review.

All in all, this *Handbook of Terrorism and Counter Terrorism Post 9/11* is a welcome addition to existing efforts to survey the field of (counter-)terrorism studies. No university library should be without it.

About the Reviewer: Alex P. Schmid is Editor-in-Chief of 'Perspectives on Terrorism'.

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288) is a unique global instrument to enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism. Through its adoption by consensus in 2006, all UN Member States agreed the first time to a common strategic and operational approach to fighting terrorism. The Strategy does not only send a clear message that terrorism is unacceptable in all its forms and manifestations but it also resolves to take practical steps, individually and collectively, to prevent and combat terrorism. The UN General Assembly reviews the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy every two years, making it a living document attuned to Member States' counter-terrorism priorities. The Sixth Review of the Strategy took place on 26 June 2018.

Preventing terrorism and countering radicalisation. Countering terrorist financing. Counter-terrorism partnerships and cooperation. Department of State, Bureau of Counterterrorism. Partnerships with social media and technology companies. US-EU cooperation. BRIEFING. US counter-terrorism since 9/11. Trends under the Trump administration. SUMMARY. The fight against terrorism has dominated the national security agenda in the United States since Al Qaeda's terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 (9/11). To improve the country's intelligence and homeland security apparatus, the presidentia Daniela PISOIU and Sandra HAIN, *Theories of Terrorism: An Introduction* (New York, NY: Routledge, 2018), 200 pp., US \$ 128.00 [Hardcover], US \$ 36.76 [Paperback], ISBN: 978-0-4158-2608-2. This textbook presents a multi-disciplinary theoretical and methodological overview of terrorism studies. Mathieu Deflem (Ed.), *Terrorism and Counterterrorism Today* (Bingley, UK: Emerald Publishing Limited, 2015), 280 pp., US \$ 157.99 [Paperback], ISBN: 978-1-7856-0191-0. The contributors to this volume apply multiple theoretical approaches and methodological orientations to the examination of the relation between crime, criminal justice, law, and social control, and terrorism and counter-terrorism. The volume is divided into three parts. The Handbook of Terrorism and Counter Terrorism Post 9/11 represents an impressive intellectual balance between presenting a global overview of the subject and providing insightful regional analyses of how different terrorist movements actually operate. It is surely the most comprehensive single volume currently available in the field of terrorism studies and is highly recommended. Michael Evans, Australian Defence College. The paper authored by Anthony Bergin, David Martin Jones and Carl Ungerer, examines the strategies employed by Dutch, British and Singaporean agencies to counter radicalisation. It suggests five measures that should be undertaken to prevent the type of violent extremism that has evolved in Europe and elsewhere from establishing itself in Australia. Please Forward the GR I-Book far and wide. Post it on Facebook. This text first published in August 2012. It was reposted on September 11, 2016 in the context of the 15 years commemoration of the tragic events of 9/11, September 11, 2016. (and reposted on September 4, 2017 and September 11, 2019). It provides a detailed introduction and overview as well as a collection of articles by Global Research authors on 9/11 and the "Global War on Terrorism". Note: Apart from minor edits, this text including the selection of articles has not been modified since its publication in August 2012. [scroll do