Modern Terrorism: Consequences And Solutions

Oleg Duma

Administrative and Financial Management Department, Lviv Polytechnic National University, UKRAINE, Lviv, S. Bandery street 12, E-mail: OlegDuma@lubin.in.ua

Abstract – International terrorism has become one of the major threat to the humanity. Sharing this opinion I have made research dedicated to this topic as a step forward to develop tools of resistance to this threat.

Keywords – international relations, modern terrorism, global challenges, peacemaking, economic prosperity, social and economic freedom, human rights.

I. Introduction

Research of terrorism is not an easy task for the common researcher because this phenomenon combines different aspects of human experience in such areas as politics, economy, history, psychology, civil security, human rights, military strategy and even philosophy. Researchers Schmid and Jongman noted once that 90 percent of the literature on terrorism had been written since 1969. After 9/11 this phenomenon becomes even more «popular». In the introduction, I want to mention that terrorism has been changed during the years since its emergence. My research is dedicated to the transformation of terrorism to its modernity and solutions which may be taken into account while dealing with modern terrorism.

II. Purpose of the article

The key purposes of the article are the research of the modern terrorism in its core, define reasons and background on international terrorism and provide solutions, which might be applied by the national governments or international organizations to decrease the risk of terrorism worldwide.

III. Research results

Terrorism, as a social phenomenon, is familiar to the society of the civilized world everywhere and is associated with terrorist attacks, the Middle East, Muslims and terrorist organizations, for example, Hezbollah or Al-Qaeda. In the last 30 years, this phenomenon has become so significant that it is placed in the top five challenges of humanity, peace and security in the world. From 1970 to 2014, there were 141,966 terrorist incidents worldwide. Just over 23,000 occurred in North America and Europe. In 2014 alone, 13,463 terrorist attacks occurred around the world, causing at least 32,700 deaths and more than 34,700 injuries [1].

«Terrorism» the term of the everyday life are widely known through the news in the TV or newspaper articles. Nevertheless, the term is interpreted in different ways because of the numerous approaches and the spectrum of appearances during its history. By the opinion of Brian Jenkins, an expert in international terrorism, terrorism is the use or threatened use of force designed to bring about political change. As we may see, terrorism is about changing the political system in a violent way by the Brian Jenkins. Quite close opinion made by Walter Laqueur, who define terrorism as the illegitimate use of force to achieve a political objective. Both definitions tend to the origin reasons for terrorism. A lot of people who was claimed as a terrorist in the past became national heroes in the countries they were fighting for many years ago. Modern terrorism is different. Terrorism is the unlawful use of force or violence against person or property to intimidate or coerce on government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives by the FBI approach. Official definition provided by US Department of Defence looks at the terrorism as the unlawful use of, or threatened use of force or violence against individuals or property to coerce and intimidate government or societies, often to achieve political, religious or ideological objectives. My own opinion is very close to the definition of C. J. M. Drake, terrorism is defined as the recurrent use or threatened use of politically motivated and clandestinely organized violence, by a group whose aim is to influence a psychological target in order to make it behave in a way which the group desires.

I want to add, that "politically motivated" in my opinion means not only fighting for the independence or change the government approaches, but based on the foreign policy of countries, geopolitics or policy of local governments, transnational corporations and international organizations. Majority of terrorist attacks of the last five years does not follow purposes related to achieving independence and changing own government policies. Terrorist organizations now have their own offices, representatives, negotiators, connections in the governments and politicians.

Despite terrorism are politically motivated, it has basic reasons which are the force and source of terrorism around the globe. Here are most relevant due to the research done:

1. Social and political injustice. People get offended and hurt by the injustice system that they choose to resort to acts of violence in order to protest the ongoing injustice. Groups of people apply terrorism methods when they are trying to right what they perceive to be a social, political or historical wrong – when they have been stripped of their land or rights. For instance, the Irish Republican Army (IRA) bombed English target in the 1980s to make the point they felt their land was colonised by the British empire.

2. The belief that violence or its threat will be effective. It is the belief that violence at the beginning will turns in the justice in the end. Many terrorists in history said sincerely that they choose violence after long deliberation because they felt they had no choice.

3. Illiteracy. Lack of education amongst the people has been put forward as a prime reason for terrorism. Uneducated person are easy to be persuaded to

commit the crime because they have no high ability of thinking. Many terrorists believe crazy things, they are more likely to do crazy things.

4. Instrument in geopolitics applied by the governments. Application of armed forces as terrorists to achieve geopolitical goals and tasks in cases, where application of "official" armed forces are impossible or inappropriate. In 21st century terrorism are widely used by governments as a tool to support of implementation of own policy abroad in the violent way. For instance, Donetsk people republic and Luhansk people republic in Ukraine created by Russian government using forces which can be defined as terrorists by the international law. Managed through Federal Security Service of Russian Federation and Chief Directorate of Intelligence of the Ministry of defense of Russian Federation their task is to create tools of influence to the independent state in international decision making by the Ukrainian government (i.e. EU integrations, joining to NATO etc.). Other cases: terrorist funded by the king of Quatar to save influence in the Israel, ISIS is also a tool to shape the policy in the Middle East and, might be, set up the influence onto the Iran or Israel.

5. The accidental guerrilla [2]. There is the theory developed by David Kilcullen which relies on the explanation that weakly governed areas are tend to support terrorists as their "protectors", who in fact are the reason of violence on the streets. Here is example by David Kilcullen. Kilcullen describes it as such: A terrorist organization moves into an area with poor government or that is conflict ridden (he uses Al Qaeda specifically), then uses this safe haven to spread their ideologies to other areas and as a base to carry out violent acts. When outside forces then intervene to deal with the threat posed to them by this group, this causes the local population to reject the 'foreign invaders' and ally with the terrorist group, thus creating more terrorists and popular support for terrorist movements.

6. Socioeconomic [3]. Different forms of deprivation may drive people to terrorism. For instance, poverty, lack of education, or lack of political freedom etc. The group Shining Path carried out a years-long campaign of violence against Peru's government in the 1980s and early '90s in an attempt to create a Marxist state.

7. Religious reasons. Perhaps the most commonly held belief today is that terrorism is caused by the religion. Thought it is not the main cause of terrorism, religion does play a significant role in driving some forms of it. Many terrorist get wrong understanding about religion.

Terrorism has its impact on the political, social and economic life of the country or region where it takes place. Here are the directions of the considerable impact of terrorism:

1. Economic impact: loss of life, spending to restore the infrastructures, destruction of business assets, losing workplaces, reduction of business activity and economic growth. Government spending on security are increasing versus spending to innovations, public needs and social purposes.

2. Business environment impact. Dramatic depreciation of assets, real estate, currency, economic instability, even crises (in case country or region are exposed to terrorist attacks during a long time). Business activity are falling, investment climate becomes unacceptable for the investors, who do not invest funds to the country. Trade decrease due to the huge risks. Business falls down around the region.

3. Society impact: create an atmosphere of suspicion, fear and panic all around. Terrorism poses a serious law and order problem and leads to the disintegration of society. The incident of murder, torture, mutilation, kidnapping, arson and extortion create an atmosphere of suspicion, fear and panic all around. Life becomes uncertain. The terrorist kill unnamed civilians including women and children

4. Politic impact. Terrorism makes world politics more complicated and difficult. This is because terrorism may cause important problems even through terrorist groups are not clearly linked to states. The presence of non-states actors who can have a real impact on the world makes world politics more difficult.

5. Demographic/migration impact. People are leaving the country to find safer place to live in, making a flows of refugees to the neighboring countries or other regions.

Terrorism may appear in those states and territories where the stability of the public administration institutions activity or fundamental law of the organization of the habitat of a certain ethnic group is violated, whether a humanitarian catastrophe or a food crisis takes place. This is in general conditions for the emergence of terrorism, which may be taken into consideration while analyzing the appearance of terrorism around the world. However, the causes of such a phenomenon are much deeper and more fundamental. Actually, understanding the causes of terrorism is the key to solving the problem of terrorism. N.Machiavelli has been compared the weakness of state governance with pulmonary tuberculosis. At the beginning, it is very difficult to detect, but it is very easy to cure such kind of illness. When the disease progresses in the body it can be very easily detected and identified, but it is extremely difficult to cure it. I think the same comparison may be provided to terrorism. If we will identify the causes of terrorism and eliminate them, it will prevent terrorist attacks, shootings and social collapse in the territories where conditions for terrorism has emerged.

Modern terrorism has increased dramatically during last decade. That is why governments and international institutions have to focus on this threat and deal with it in a complex. Making a research let me figure out key solutions have to be made in order to reduce the risk of terrorism and eliminate building blocks of terrorism.

There are several solutions for terrorism elimination, and here are they:

1. Education: education is a primary solution to terrorism. The government should educate the people to understand the differences in culture, religion, belief, and human behaviors. All people should think of the peace, freedom and equality of all human beings, not just "their group of people".

2. Redirect funding of international aid programs on education, healthcare and lifting people out of poverty. Solving the problem of access to fresh water and famine cases in extremely poor countries. Support people in different regions from humanitarian collapse are the efficient way to hit the root of terrorism.

3. Promote and support democratic transformations, human rights, rule of law and civil liberties as the keystone for the sustainable societies. For this purpose, support of democracy movements are crucial to start changes in the violent societies. Terrorists thrive best where there are chaos and instability. Nurturing democratic institutions and non-violent civil society are key to thwarting the growth of extremist movements.

4. Setting up a guaranteed penalty for the government and the country which support or has relation to terrorism. The same penalty should be applicable to the stakeholders who discourage and hinder ceasefire, support hostility by funding or provision terrorists. Existence of a guaranteed penalty as a "sanctions pack" for the country and business will prevent support of terrorists in many cases. Sanctions pack have to include political, diplomatic, economic, technological, military, trade, financial and migration components. As much country are involved in international trade, globalization and technology transfer as greater impact "sanctions pack" will provide.

5. Eliminate the root of terrorism by analyzing every particular case: killing terrorists by the government forces is inefficient way to destruct terrorism, behind each terrorist act are some reasons, motivation and techniques of how terrorists recruit new members. Finding out fundamental reasons of terrorism in each particular case are the key to solve the problem.

6. Enhance international information-sharing efforts. Efforts to increase information sharing between countries while improving interagency communication between anti-terrorist institutions and agencies are vital to protecting civilized world from the continued threat of terrorism. One of the central failures leading up to the attempted terrorist attack was the lack of sufficient information sharing between entities [4].

7. Think of the peace, freedom and equality of all human beings, not just "one group of people": The solution is to find out the problem why a terrorist does not feel guilty and why he was forced to be a terrorist. It may be some injustice done to him [5].

8. Monitoring of illegal money flows and international market of illegal weapon trade. If to apply the system approach to terrorist organizations, they have inbound resources and outbound consequences. Key inbound resources are manpower, financial resources, weapon and terrorist-intelligence. In other words, the terrorist organization has to have terrorist under control, finances to buy provision, weapon and own sources of information to know when and how to attack in order to achieve goals of the organization. Monitoring of money flows and weapon trade will help to resist more effectively to terrorism challenges.

Conclusion

International terrorism is a global threat to the peace, prosperity and security of nations around the world. That is why it is a need for governments and international institutions to be more systematic in fighting terrorism and do it step-by-step through analysis deep reasons of it. Monitoring such indicators as GDP p.c., poverty rate, unemployment, inflation, literacy, school attainment, political rights and civil liberties, economic freedom, property rights protection, incidences of conflict or crisis, ethnic or linguistic fractionalization, frozen conflicts among the states, temporal proximity to terrorism, government spending, regime stability will be the guide to societies which are under the risk of terrorism appearance. It will create a time lag option for international institution and government to eliminate roots of terrorism and to set effective policy worldwide to resist modern terrorism.

References

[1] Bruce Hoffman Inside Terrorism (Columbia Studies in Terrorism and Irregular Warfare), Columbia University Press, 2006,- 456p

[2] David Kilcullen, The Accidental Guerrilla: Fighting Small Wars in the Midst of a Big One, Oxford University Press, 2009,- 384p.

[3] Coll, Steve (2004). Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden, from the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001. Penguin Press. pp. 695 pages

[4] Marc Sageman, Understanding terror networks, Philadelphia : University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004.-232p.

[5] "Black Flags: The Rise of ISIS, by Joby Warrick (Doubleday)". Retrieved August 24, 2016