

Exploring the legal and social dimensions of radicalization

In our next TSAS workshop, to be held on December 3rd, 2014, we will concentrate on two major research projects that are being established through funding provided by the Canadian Safety and Security Program. The first investigates the processes whereby individuals consider becoming 'foreign fighters', while the second focuses on internet forum conversations where individuals circulate extremist world views. The workshop is designed to support these projects. Each of these topics raises important legal issues and brings the question of state capacity to the forefront. For example, should governments revoke the passports of individuals who express an interest in joining a militant organization in another part of the world, such as ISIS? Or, when thinking about the internet, how do we define the distinction between 'free' and 'dangerous' speech? Does the state have the right and the capacity to intervene in these instances? The topics also raise fundamental social questions. For example, some governments have established programs to re-integrate returned 'foreign fighters' (and, similarly, radicalized individuals who have been discharged from prisons). How do these programs work, and are they effective? Finally, how should research on these issues be conducted, particularly in light of the oversight of ethics review boards and their expectations?

The morning portion of the workshop will be dedicated to the question of 'foreign fighters', and the afternoon on the internet as a platform for encouraging extremist violence. The day will close with a presentation by the RCMP on the new CVE program.



EXPLORING THE LEGAL AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF RADICALIZATION

December 3, 2014
Ottawa Marriott Hotel, South Ballroom
Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

8:30am – 8:45am Arrival and sign-in

8:45am – 9:00am Introduction to the workshop – Dan Hiebert

Foreign Fighters

9:00am – 9:40am **Craig Forcese** (University of Ottawa) - *Neutrality Law, Anti-terrorism and the Legal Response to Foreign Fighters*

9:40am - 10:20am **Daan Weggemans** (Leiden University) - *Choosing uncertainty: a European perspective on foreign fighters.*

10:20am – 10:40am BREAK

10:40am - 11:20am Response and Discussion
Respondent: **Angus Smith** (Public Safety – National Security Policy Directorate)

Ethical Research in Terrorism

11:20am - 12:10pm **Lorne Dawson / Amar Amarasingam** – *Trying to ‘Talk to the Terrorists’: Ethical hurdles in Canada*
Respondents: **Craig Forcese** and **Daan Weggemans**

12:10pm - 1:10pm LUNCH

Online Forums

1:10pm - 1:50pm **Lorenzo Vidino** - *Terrorist Chatter: what terrorists talk about*

1:50pm - 2:30pm Response and Discussion
Respondents: **Benjamin Ducol** (Université Laval), **Steve Strang** (RCMP)

2:30pm - 2:45pm BREAK

2:45pm - 3:30pm **Martin Bouchard** – *Research design issues in analyzing violent extremism within online forum networks*
Respondents: **David Décary-Héту** (Université de Montréal) and **Lorenzo Vidino**

Presentation of the RCMP CVE Program

3:30pm – 4:30pm **Supt. Shirley Cuillierrier** (RCMP) – presentation of CVE program and discussion

Craig Forcese is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law (Common Law Section), University of Ottawa. He teaches public international law, national security law, administrative law and public law/legislation. Much of his present research and writing relates to national security, human rights and democratic accountability. Recently, he has focused on law and national security surveillance, especially intelligence-sharing between security services and cybersurveillance. He is the author of *National Security Law: Canadian Practice in International Perspective* (Irwin Law, 2008) and co-editor of *Human Rights and Anti-terrorism* (Irwin Law, 2008). He is also co-author of *International Law: Doctrine, Theory and Practice* (Irwin Law, 2007, 2d Ed 2014) and *Laws of Government: The Legal Foundations of Canadian Democracy* (Irwin Law, 2005, 2d Ed 2011) and co-editor of *Public Law: Cases, Commentary and Materials* (Emond Montgomery, 1st Ed 2006; 2d Ed 2011). Prior to joining the law school faculty, Craig practiced law with the Washington D.C. office of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP for two years, specializing in international trade and commercial law. He is a member in good standing of the bars of Ontario, New York and the District of Columbia.

Daan Weggemans is a researcher and lecturer at the Centre for Terrorism and Counterterrorism (CTC), Leiden University-Campus the Hague. Earlier publications focused on (de-)radicalization and new counterterrorism measures. He also conducted a study in Oslo on the Anders Breivik trial. Currently he is researching European foreign fighters and the reintegration of former violent extremist detainees. For these projects Weggemans interviewed dozens of security professionals and several (former) violent extremists and their peers. For the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI), Weggemans is country coordinator and a member of the board of the Dutch-Flemish Network for Terrorism Researchers.

Dr. Lorne L. Dawson is a Full Professor in the Department of Sociology and Legal Studies and the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Waterloo. Most of his research has been in the sociology of religion, particularly the study of new religious movements. He has also published work dealing with theory and methods in the study of religion, sociological theory, religion and the internet, charismatic authority, millennialist movements, and the failure of prophecy. He has written three books, edited four books, and published over sixty academic articles and book chapters. His work on why some new religions become violent led to research on the process of radicalization in homegrown terrorist groups, which is now the primary focus of his research. He is the Co-Director of the Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society (www.tsas.ca), and the co-editor of *Religious Radicalization and Securitization in Canada and Beyond* (University of Toronto Press, 2014). He has published several articles and book chapters on terrorism and made numerous invited presentations on the radicalization of terrorists to academic and government groups in Canada and elsewhere. He is frequently interviewed in the media about terrorism.

Dr. Amarnath Amarasingam is a Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Resilience Research Centre at Dalhousie University, and also teaches at Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo. His research interests are in diaspora politics, post-war reconstruction, surveillance, social movements, radicalization and terrorism, media studies, and the sociology of religion. He is the author/editor of several books, peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, has presented papers at over forty national and international conferences, and has contributed op-ed pieces to Al-Jazeera English, The Daily Beast, The Toronto Star, The Huffington Post and Groundviews.

Dr. Lorenzo Vidino is an academic and security expert who specializes in Islamism and political violence in Europe and North America. He has held positions at the Center for Security Studies (ETH Zurich), the RAND Corporation, the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University), and the U.S. Institute of Peace. He has taught at Tufts University, the University of Maryland (START), the National Defense University and the University of Zurich. He is the author of several books and frequent articles in several prominent newspapers (such as *The International Herald Tribune*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*...) and academic journals (such as *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, *The Washington Quarterly*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*...). He has testified before the U.S. Congress and consults with governments, law firms, think tanks and media in several countries. A native of Milan, Italy, he holds a law degree from the University of Milan Law School and a doctorate in international relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Dr. Martin Bouchard is an Associate Professor of Criminology, and Director of the International Cyber Crime Research Centre, at Simon Fraser University. Dr. Bouchard's research focuses on the dynamics of illicit markets, as well as the role of social networks in a variety of criminal phenomena, including terrorism. He has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on these topics over the last 5 years. He has two forthcoming edited books in 2015 (Routledge): "Advances in Research on Illicit Networks", and "Social Networks, Terrorism, and Counter-Terrorism: Radical and Connected". Dr. Bouchard is the Principal Investigator of a major SSHRC Insight grant in the cyber networks area (#435-2012-0336), and has led major research projects for Public Safety Canada. He received the 2013 SFU Dean of Graduate Studies Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision.