

LAW 822 National Security Research Center

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- Master of International Relations
- “Radicalization, Terror, and Foreign Fighters in Israel: An Insight into a Prone Community”

A Paradox

- Research question: Why have Arab Israelis been less radicalized than similar minority communities around the world?
- Paradox : A marginalized community, facing direct and indirect radicalization messages, endures a growing support for ISIS but still does not turn this support into violent extremism activities

Approach and Methods

- Contextualizing within rising global terrorism rates and emerging Foreign Terrorist Fighters phenomena
- Literature review: Socio-Economic factors, “Suspect Community”, Globalization and perceiving the west as an enemy
- Situation in Israel

Arab Citizens of Israel

- Consist of approximately 1.8 million people
- 21% of the entire population in Israel
- 85% Sunni-Muslims and the rest are Christians, Druze, or Circassians

Mixed Cities: Haifa, Lod, Jaffa

Homogenous Villages: Arara, Kfar Kana, Gat

Homogenous Cities: Nazareth, Sakhnin, Um Al-Fahm, Rahat

Characteristics:

Legal equal Citizens with high autonomy:

Schools with Arabic as the primary language, religious institutions, courts and municipalities

2009 polls- 50% want Iran to hold Nukes, 25% support Al Qaeda, Hezbollah

2014 polls- 20% support ISIS, 40% don't believe the Holocaust occurred, 35% consider themselves Palestinian



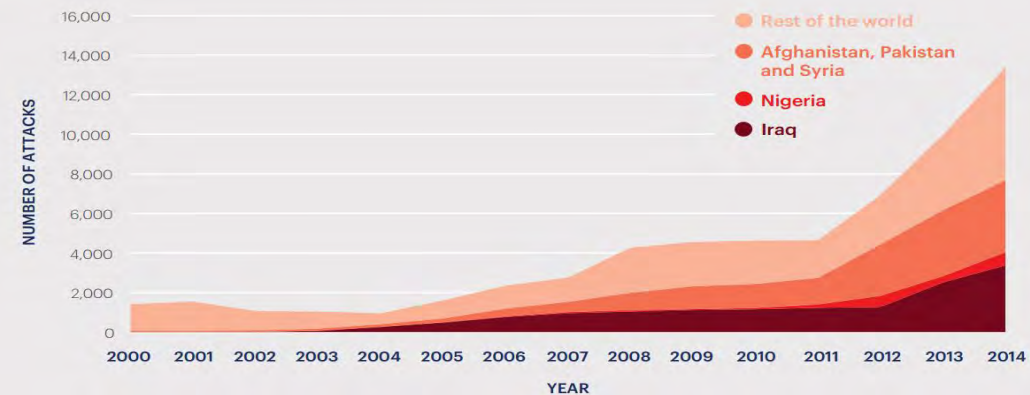
Homegrown Terrorism in Israel: Arab community



Data from Global Terrorism Index 2011

FIGURE 2 TERRORIST ATTACKS, 2000–2014

The majority of terrorist incidents are highly centralised. In 2014, 57 per cent of all attacks occurred in five countries; Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Syria. However the rest of the world suffered a 54 per cent increase in terrorist incidents in 2013.



Source: START GTD

- Home Grown terrorism is defined as: “Terrorist acts that are carried out by groups whose membership is composed entirely or predominantly of the native-born citizens of the country that is being attacked” (Genkin and Gutfraind, 2008)
- 3 notable homegrown terrorist incidence from the Israeli Arab community

Emerging phenomena of “Foreign Terrorist Fighters”

Resolution 2178 of the Security Council defines Foreign Terrorist Fighters as: “individuals who travel to a State other than their State of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning or preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or the providing or receiving of terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict”

- Represent an offshoot of radicalization (Heghemer, 2013)
- Requires more planning and greater risks
- Requires more funding
- More obstacles
- Higher commitment

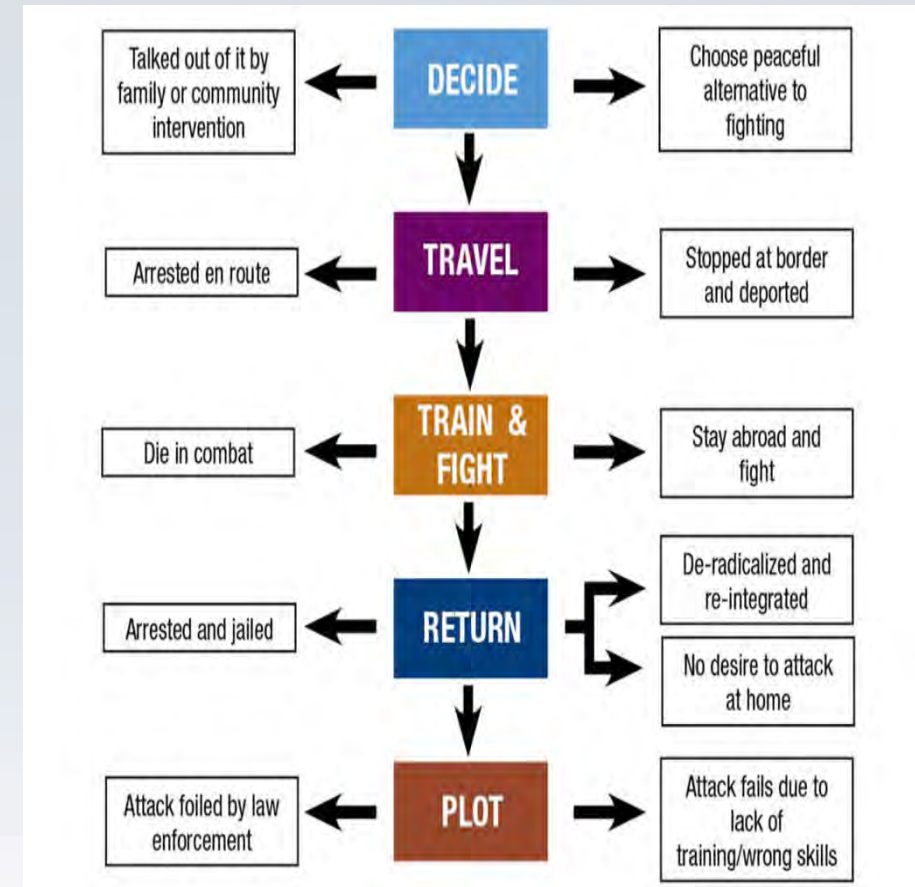


Table 5: Ranking of Countries based on ISIS Foreign Fighters to Muslim Population

Country	Fighters per Million Muslims	Country	Fighters per Million Muslims
1. Finland	1,590.9	34. Japan	70.8
2. Ireland	724.6	35. Moldova	69.4
3. Belgium	699.4	36. United States	58.8
4. Sweden	631.2	37. Italy	54.6
5. Austria	619.2	38. Tajikistan	47
6. Trinidad and Tobago	615.8	39. Albania	37.8
7. Tunisia	546.6	40. Morocco	35.4
8. Denmark	544.4	41. Israel	34.5
9. Norway	529.4	42. Kazakhstan	30.8
10. Maldives	508.1	43. Turkey	28.1
11. France	342.4	44. Argentina	21.4
12. Lebanon	335	45. Kuwait	21.3
13. Jordan	306.7	46. Philippines	19.8
14. Montenegro	270.3	47. Romania	16.8
15. Australia	268.8	48. Brazil	14.6
16. United Kingdom	256.2	49. China	12.2
17. Netherlands	236.7	50. Madagascar	11.6
18. Serbia	228.4	51. Azerbaijan	11.1
19. Bosnia	208.8	52. Egypt	7.1
20. Macedonia	199.2	53. Somalia	6.8
21. Portugal	192.3	54. Qatar	5.9
22. Germany	187.9	55. Malaysia	5.5
23. New Zealand	172.8	56. Algeria	4.5
24. Russia	142.7	57. Cambodia	4.1
25. Kosovo	140.6	58. Indonesia	3.1
26. Canada	130.8	59. Sudan	2.5
27. Spain	124.6	60. Singapore	2.4
28. Switzerland	122	61. United Arab Emirates	2.2
29. Georgia	105.8	62. Afghanistan	1.6
30. Libya	98.6	63. South Africa	1.2
31. Kyrgyzstan	97.1	64. Pakistan	0.4
32. Saudi Arabia	83.3	65. India	0.1
33. Turkmenistan	72.8		

Note: Data on number of ISIS foreign fighters come from Barrett (2014) and The Soufan Group (2015). Data on the size of countries' Muslim population are for the year 2010 and come from the Pew Research Center.

Estimates of 30-40 thousand Foreign Terrorist Fighters from 2012

Source: Benmelech and Klor (2016)

Risk Factor in Israel

- Geography
- Flight cost
- Proximity (Cultural)
- Social Media
- Desire to recruit
- Israel only outlawed ISIS in 2014

Recommendation and Implications

- Community in direct contrasting experience
- Opportunity Costs
- Social contract