



IEPAS2020

23-25 September 2020

Lisbon | Portugal

7th Annual Conference on Eurasian Politics & Society



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Abstract Book

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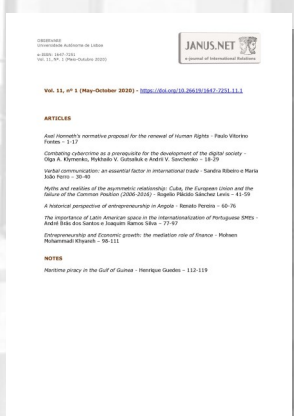
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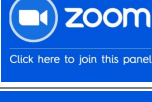
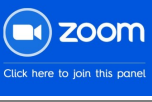
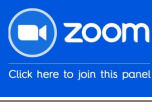


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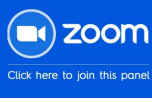


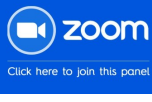
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* The surnames are listed in alphabetical order.


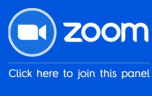
Day 1 - Wednesday, 23 September 2020

09h30 am	Opening Session José Amado da Silva (UAL's Rector) Ozgur Tufekci (Director of CESRAN Int.) Luis Tomé (Director of OBSERVARE-UAL) Luís Nuno Rodrigues (Director of CEI-IUL)		 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
10h00 am	Keynote Speech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Sakwa 		 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
11h00 am	M01 Panel		 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
2h30 pm	M02 Panel  <small>Click here to join this panel</small>	M03 Panel	 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
4h30 pm	M04 Panel  <small>Click here to join this panel</small>	M05 Panel	 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>

Day 2 - Thursday, 24 September 2020

09h00 am	M06 Panel  <small>Click here to join this panel</small>	M07 Panel	 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
11h00 am	Panel Discussion: Impacts of Covid-19 on Greater Eurasia Moderator: <i>Luís Nuno Rodrigues</i> , Director of Center for International Studies (CEI-ISCTE/IUL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Andrea Carteny</i> • <i>Bruno Cardoso Reis</i> • <i>Luis Tomé</i> • <i>Mark Meirowitz</i> • <i>Marlene Laruelle</i> 		 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
2h30 pm	M08 Panel  <small>Click here to join this panel</small>	M09 Panel	 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
4h30 pm	Book Discussion Panel America in Afghanistan: Foreign Policy and Decision Making From Bush to Obama to Trump By Sharifullah Dorani		 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>

Day 3 - Friday, 25 September 2020

09h00 am	M10 Panel  <small>Click here to join this panel</small>	M11 Panel	 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
11h00 am	Panel Discussion: NATO's Challenges in View of the Future Strategic Concept Moderator: <i>Helena Carreiras</i> , Director of the Portuguese National Defense Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Huseyin Bagci</i> • <i>Luís Valença Pinto</i> • <i>Maria Raquel Freire</i> • <i>Nuno Severiano Teixeira</i> • <i>Rafael Calduch Cervera</i> 		 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>
1h30 pm	Closing session José Amado da Silva (UAL's Rector) Ozgur Tufekci (Director of CESRAN Int.) Luis Tomé (Director of OBSERVARE-UAL) Luís Nuno Rodrigues (Director of CEI-IUL)		 <small>Click here to join this panel</small>



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Participant List

Ana Belén Perianes	(University Institute General Gutiérrez Mellado. IUGM-UNED, Spain)
Ana Isabel Xavier	(OBSERVARE-UAL, Portugal)
Andrea Carteny	(The Sapienza University of Rome, Italy)
Andrey Kinyakin	(Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA) / Universität Potsdam, Germany)
Andrew K P Leung	(International Consultants & Investments, Hong Kong)
Anna Ujlaki	(Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary)
Assem Kalkamanova	(University of Szeged, Hungary)
Ayla Gol	(CESRAN International, UK // Nottingham University, UK)
Besmir Radoniqi	(University of Prishtina, Kosovo)
Bezen Coskun	(Swp Berlin Centre For Applied Turkish Studies, Germany)
Bilge Filiz	(Ankara University, Turkey)
Brindusa Nicoleta Pincu	(Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
Bruno Cardoso Reis	(ISCTE-IU, Portugal)
Buket Ökten Sipahioğlu	(Ankara University, Turkey)
Damirka Mihaljević	(Univesity of Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
Daniel Cardoso	(UAL, Portugal)
Dmytro Khutkyy	(Malmo University, Sweden)
Ebru Birinci	(Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia & CESRAN International, UK)
Ekrem Ok	(Agri Ibrahim Cecen University, Turkey)
Elena Onu	(The National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), Romania)
Francisco Jorge Gonçalves	(Portuguese Authority for Emergency and Civil Protection, Portugal)
Giuliano Bifulchi	(University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy)
Gulsen Seker Aydin	(Ataturk University, Turkey)
Helena Carreiras	(Portuguese National Defense Institute, Portugal)
Hermínio Joaquim De Matos	(OBSERVARE-UAL and ICPOL-ISCPSP, Portugal)
Huseyin Bagci	(Middle East Technical University, Turkey)
Husrev Tabak	(CESRAN International, UK)
Ilkim Ozdikmenli Celikoglu	(Dokuz Eylul University, Turkey)
Inês Marques Ribeiro	(CEI, Portugal)
Javadbay Khalilzade	(Kent State University, UK)
Jonida Balla	(University of Tirana, Albania)
José Amado da Silva	(UAL's Rector, Portugal)
Josif Gjani	(University of Tirana, Albania)
Karolina Baraniak	(University of Wrocław, Poland)
Kristina Avramchenko	(Independent Expert, Ukraine)
Liming Liu	(Uppsala University, Sweden)

Luís Nuno Rodrigues	(CEI-ISCTE/IUL, Portugal)
Luis Tomé	(UAL, Portugal)
Luís Valença Pinto	(UAL, Portugal)
Marco Marsili	(CEI-IUL, CIEP-UCP, CINAMIL, CIDIUM, Portugal)
Maria João Tomás	(OBSERVARE-UAL, Portugal)
Maria Raquel Freire	(The University of Coimbra, Portugal)
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Matthew Lubin	(Duke University, USA)
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Mohammed Hashiru	(Karadeniz Technical University, Turkey)
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Ramzi Bemdenka	(International Islamic University Malaysia)
Ranjana Kumari Jha	(National Medical Collage, Nepal)
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Sonia Senica	(IPRI-NOVA, Portugal)

Tianyi Liu	(University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy)
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Valentyna Opanasiuk	(Sumy State University, Ukraine)
Verónica Martins	(Portuguese Authority for Emergency and Civil Protection, Portugal)
Vlasios Vlasidis	(University of Macedonia, Greece)
Yasemin Y. Celikkol	(University of Pennsylvania, USA)
Zachary Kramer	(Charles University, Czech Republic)

The library of Celsus is an ancient Roman building in Ephesus, Anatolia, now part of Selcuk, Turkey. It was built in honor of Roman Senator Tiberius Julius Celsus Polemaeanus (completed in 135 AD) by Celsus' son, Gaius Julius Aquila.

M06 - Panel: Transnational Religious Fundamentalism in Eurasia

THURSDAY // 24 September 2020 // 09:00–11:00 // (Lisbon, GMT +01:00)

CHAIR // DISCUSSANT

Paula Pereira
(UAL, Portugal)



PAPERS

Giuliano Bifulchi

(University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy)

The Impact of Jihadist Propaganda in the Russian Language:
Analysis of Kavkazcenter.Com

Marco Marsili

(CEI-IUL, CIEP-UCP, CINAMIL, CIDIUM, Portugal)

Middle East Politics:
Rightful and Legitimate Institutions or Terror Organizations?

Hermínio Joaquim De Matos

(OBSERVARE-UAL and ICPOL-ISCPSI, Portugal)

After all, Rome does Pay to Traitors:
The Return of Foreign Terrorist Fighters to Europe

Maria João Tomás

(OBSERVARE-UAL, Portugal)

“Islamic nationalism” and “Persia nationalism” in Iran

Francisco Jorge Gonçalves & Verónica Martins

(Portuguese Authority for Emergency and Civil Protection, Portugal)

Should Senior Members in the Police and Security Forces be qualified
as Politically Exposed Person?

Giuliano Bifulchi

(University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy)

**The Impact of Jihadist Propaganda in the Russian Language:
Analysis of Kavkazcenter.Com**

Abstract:

Since the fall of the Soviet Union, the Russian Federation has experienced waves of violent attacks and terrorism. After the First Chechen War (1994 - 1996), the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria, and soon later, the North Caucasus became a jihadist hotspot in the south of Russia, forcing the Kremlin in being engaged in a prolonged confrontation with local militant groups and terrorist organisations. Terrorist propaganda has been an essential element of recruiting among the young generations in the North Caucasian Muslim community, which since the fall of the Soviet Union, has experienced the rise of Salafism and political Islam. During the Second Chechen War (1999 - 2009) Internet played a vital role in promoting terrorist ideologies. Kavkazcenter.com has emerged as one of the main terrorist websites in the Russian language in support of Imarat Kavkaz (Caucasus Emirate) and regional terrorist organisations. Firstly, this paper examines academic literature, experts' analysis, and NGOs' reports regarding terrorist activities and jihadist propaganda in the Russian language to delineate general trends and terrorist strategic communications' influence in the North Caucasus. Secondly, the research focuses on the website Kavkazcenter.com analysing its structure, ideologies, and connection with the Arab-Muslim world and the international terrorist network. Finally, this investigation intends to describe the jihadist propaganda in the Russian language of the website Kavkazcenter.com whose activity represents a serious threat not only for the Russian national security but also for the entire post-Soviet space and the European Union itself where North Caucasian migrants and refugees live.

Keywords: Jihadist Propaganda, Kavkazcenter.Com, Russia, North Caucasus, Imarat Kavkaz, Terrorism

Marco Marsili

(CEI-IUL, CIEP-UCP, CINAMIL, CIDIUM, Portugal)

**Middle East Politics:
Rightful and Legitimate Institutions or Terror Organizations?**

Abstract:

Is it reasonable to label State institutions as "terrorist organisations"? This study aims to establish if a political party represented in a national parliament - or even a State or a Government as a whole - can be considered a "terror organisation", and therefore proscribed as such. Through the analysis of some cases stories, this research assesses the legitimacy - or the lawfulness - of some political institutions in the Middle East. The essay scrutinises, inter alia, the case of Hezbollah ("Party of Allah" or "Party of God"), a radical Islamic Shiite organisation based in Lebanon, and the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), a Sunni movement based in Gaza, both backed by the Government of Tehran - Iran as a whole is also taken into account. To have a broader framework in the region, this analysis also touches on Turkey, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Afghanistan

under Taliban rule.

Keywords: Iran, Hezbollah, Hamas, Palestine, United States, European Union

Hermínio Joaquim De Matos

(OBSERVARE-UAL and ICPO-ISCPSI, Portugal)

**After all, Rome does Pay to Traitors:
The Return of Foreign Terrorist Fighters to Europe**

Abstract:

After the alleged proclaimed annihilation of Daesh on Syrian and Iraqi territory, the return of foreign terrorist fighters to the European Member States certainly poses a serious security threat. It follows from the dilemma, for some member States a certainty, between the possibility of these, taking into account the "life cycle of foreign terrorist fighters", to be able, on the one hand, to pursue activities related to terrorism and jihadi violence - in particular, of recruitment, radicalisation, and new cells formation - and, on the other, the advantage (in theory) that once they are away from these radical and violent activities (and beliefs) may constitute themselves as a reference instrument, either in the prevention of radicalisation of new members or in building narratives that nullify the radical and violent impetus of Jihadism in Europe.

The problem, however, is that for some, this return cannot be made without foreign fighters being judged for treason (beyond the crime of terrorism), according to the laws of each country. They, therefore, advocate that when they have integrated the ranks of Daesh, they committed this crime and should therefore be judged in this condition - that of traitors.

We intend to analyse the advantages and disadvantages, in security terms, of the return of foreign terrorist fighters - without forgetting the case of women and children (wives and children, widows or orphans) who still in refugee or detention camps in Syria.

In terms of counterterrorism performance and effectiveness, the role that these foreign terrorist fighters and their direct relatives may play, irrespective of their return in the condition of freedom or under the surveillance and/or custody of the Member State, is the basis of our analysis. Using case studies, we try to demonstrate that the possibility of "(re)converting" these FTF and using them as human intelligence sources (HUMINT) can also be a valuable auxiliary in counterterrorism. Paradoxically, in both cases, their status, in this dialectical terrorism/counterterrorism issue, will remain as "traitors".

Keywords: Terrorism, Counterterrorism, DAESH, Syria, Foreign Fighters

Maria João Tomás

(OBSERVARE-UAL, Portugal)

"Islamic nationalism" and "Persia nationalism" in Iran

Abstract:

The recent assassination of Qasam Soleimani, the major Iranian general of the IRGC - Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps- and commander of Quds Force, sparked riots all over Iran. Some of



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