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DOI <https://doi.org/10.30525/978-9934-26-428-3-45>

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY TERRORISM

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After a relative lull, typical of the COVID-19 pandemic period, in the EUROPOL reports for the years 2022–2023, we see a slight increase in the detection and apprehension of terrorist suspects across Europe.

The brutality of terrorist actions and the violence often directed against innocent people have led to the labelling of the subjects as individuals with severe psycho-behavioural disorders, who are impossible to integrate and adapt to a normal socio-cultural life. Thus, specialists in the field have identified two significantly different schools of thought: the pathologically disturbed subject, who is unaware of his own actions, and the religious fanatic who acts under the influence of so-called "divine commandments". [1, p. 321–334].

In fact, there are very few cases of "psychopathic bombers" claimed by terrorist organisations, who typically act alone, based on often illogical and absurd claims and motivations. Most of the subjects do not suffer from

mental illness, but are essentially normal, rational people who assess the terrorist act from a cost-benefit perspective and summarise that it is profitable, not materially but rather ideologically, mystically-religiously.

The other perspective, that of the fanatic-suicide bomber, presupposes a higher level of education and training, allowing for comparative analysis, quick decision-making, safety and self-control, conscious self-destruction, all in the context of ideological and/or political, non-material motivations. The fact that some extremist leaders use quotations from religious texts to justify violence leads subjects to believe that through violence they will affirm their faith. Usually, the political goals of extremist groups are masked by religious discourse.

Terrorist attacks make the most psychological demands on subjects who are emotionally and emotionally anchored throughout the action. Emotional tension, anxiety and tension increase with the onset of action, reaching their peak in moments of uncertainty and uncertainty about the possible reactions of the authorities [2, p. 63–68]. The psychological behaviour of the subjects oscillates, the prolongation of the actions themselves leading to a state of physical and psychological exhaustion, and they begin to make mistakes, which is the optimal moment for intervention. We can thus summarize that the subjects are predominantly young, without family obligations, balanced, educated, with significant physical abilities, highly motivated, but very easily influenced by the group of socio-cultural and religious affiliation (Fig. 1).

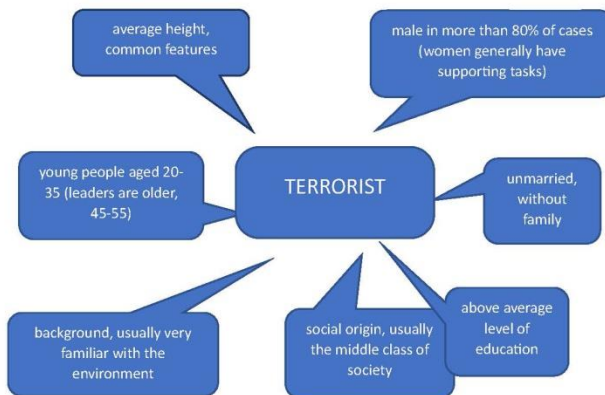


Fig. 1. General psycho-behavioural traits of the terrorist
[source: <https://doi.org/10.55516/ijlso.v1i1.46>]

Nevertheless, the efforts of specialists to outline a single, unique and generally valid behavioural profile have not proved sufficient, as there are as many similarities as differences between individuals. The effects of terrorist actions, in addition to direct casualties, are significant, far-reaching and long-lasting. In practice, they are the main target of terrorism, in many cases the direct victims being part of some sort of intermediate phase of the intended purpose, a kind of "cause and effect" [3, p. 9–13].

Many of the psychological consequences of terrorism are similar to those seen in other disasters (major and serious accidents, organised crime, natural disasters, rape and robbery), but most studies focus on PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). Symptoms of PTSD include: recurrent flashbacks, intrusive (sudden and involuntary) dreams or thoughts, isolation from people and situations, avoidance of reminders, insomnia, extreme alertness. In some situations, we may encounter increased alcohol and substance abuse, domestic and interpersonal violence.

But terrorism can seriously disturb the functioning of society in the long term – by eroding the sense of community and national security, by damaging morale, by opening ethnic or racial, economic and religious divides. The current COVID-19 pandemic, one of unpredictable scale and aggressiveness, has also impacted on the phenomenon of terrorism in the Euro-Atlantic area. The measures adopted, lockdowns, movement restrictions, protective masks, have significantly influenced both the modus operandi of the subjects and the purpose of terrorist actions, with revenge for these restrictions being an already common claim.

Due to temporary restrictions caused by the pandemic, opportunities for large-scale, mass casualty attacks were significantly limited, with public spaces (museums, theatres, churches, stadiums), public transport, airports, tourist areas, reducing both their activity and the maximum number of participants. But we can safely say that the COVID-19 pandemic has also brought enough panic, fear, social anger, violence, and therefore terror, through the polarisation of society, misinformation and conspiracy theories.

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DOI <https://doi.org/10.30525/978-9934-26-428-3-46>

**DEVELOPMENT OF UKRAINE'S EXPORT LOGISTICS
IN WAR CONDITIONS:
CHALLENGES, OBSTACLES, PROSPECTS**

**РОЗБУДОВА ЕКСПОРТНОЇ ЛОГІСТИКИ УКРАЇНИ
В УМОВАХ ВІЙНИ: ВИКЛИКИ, ПЕРЕШКОДИ, ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ**

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В умовах повномасштабної війни рф проти України, набуття Україною статусу кандидата на членство в ЄС відбувається актуалізація Державної стратегії регіонального розвитку на 2021–2027 роки (далі – Стратегія) [1]. У проєкті оновленої Стратегії визначено вісім актуальних викликів розвитку країни, одним з яких є втрата транзитного потенціалу та вимушена переорієнтація транспортнологістичних потоків. Відтак задля досягнення стратегічної цілі II. Підвищення рівня конкурентоспроможності регіонів одними із завдань у Стратегії визначено: «2.2.7. Підтримка реалізації економічних проєктів у ключових секторах – енергетика, переробка аграрної продукції, транспорт та експортна логістика, виробництво критичних матеріалів» та «2.3.5. Створення умов для відновлення та розвитку системи експортної логістики».

Важливість ефективного розвитку транспортно-логістичної інфраструктури обумовлена також достатньо високим рівнем відкритості економіки України, яка станом на 2021 рік становила 81%. Забезпечення високого рівня інтеперабельності транспортної системи України та її технологічна модернізація є одними з передумов