Targeting the de-materialised “Caliphate”
Extremism, radicalisation and illegal trafficking

High-Level Conference

organised by the NATO Defense College Foundation
in co-operation with the NATO Defense College

Rome, the 6th of December 2018

Venue: Centro Congressi Roma Eventi - Piazza di Spagna, Via Alibert, 5/a, Rome

13,30 - 14,30 Registration and welcome coffee
14,30 - 15,00 Welcome remarks
   - Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo, President, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome *
   - Chris Whitecross, Commandant, NATO Defense College, Rome

Opening remarks
   TBC

15,00 - 16,15

SESSION 1

STRATEGIES AGAINST THE EVOLVING ARMED RADICALISM

The Islamic State has been destroyed, but terrorism is still a distinctive feature from the deep Sahel belt to the Levant and the Gulf area. What can still counterterrorism achieve? How can governments of this wide region and NATO better co-operate?

Chair: TBC

- Vladimir Ivanovich Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Office, New York
- Peter Neumann, Director, International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation, King’s College, London *
- Oded Eran, Senior Researcher, Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Aviv *

General discussion
SESSION 2

TERRORIST FUNDING: A LYNCHPIN BETWEEN EXTREMISM AND ARMED OPERATIONS

One of the most elusive but rewarding targets in the fight against violent extremism and terrorism is the flow of money that is needed to carry out both propaganda, specific armed attacks and infiltration in the territories. Jihadist groups in transition from a territorial organisation towards loose networks need more than ever reliable financing networks. How can anti-trafficking and grey money transfers be more effective?


- Louise Shelley, Director, Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center, Fairfax *
- Ernesto Savona, Director, Transcrime, Università Cattolica, Milan *
- Matthew Levitt, Director, Stein Program on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, Washington Institute, Washington D.C. *

General discussion

17,30 - 18,00 Coffee break

18,00 - 19,15

SESSION 3

THE OPERATIONAL INTEGRATION TO COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Violent extremism begins as a low level, localised social and political problem before catching media and political attention, when it is too late. A specific and effective targeted interdiction tool are the programmes of referral and de-radicalisation because they can be employed in a very cost effective way as preventive and mopping up actions in the fight for heart and minds. Broaching the subject on how integrating counterterrorism into countering of violent extremism.

Chair: Stefanie Babst, Head for Strategic Analysis Capability, Emerging Security Challenges, NATO HQ, Brussels

- Anne Giudicelli, President and founder, TERR(o)RISC, Paris *
- Alessandra Roccasalvo, Deputy Resident Representative, United Nations Development Programme, Pristina *
- Magnus Ranstorp, Research Director, Centre for Asymmetric Threat Studies, Swedish National Defence College, Stockholm *

General discussion

END OF THE WORKING DAY

20,30 – 22,00 Gala dinner