

Summer Programme

Countering Terrorism: Legal Challenges and Dilemmas

24-28 August 2015

*PROGRAMME

Monday 24 August (Day 1): Countering Terrorism: Introduction and Legal Frameworks

08.45 – 09.00	Registration
09.00 – 09.30	Opening Summer Programme, including Introduction Round Participants
09.30 – 10.00	Introduction of the Programme, Asser Academy (online learning platform) and (Internet) Facilities T.M.C. Asser Instituut
10.00 – 11.30	Defining Terrorism under International and Domestic Laws Examines the various existing definitions of terrorism under international and domestic laws, exploring the reasons for the lack of a universally accepted definition, the usefulness/needlessness of such a definition and ways in which international organisations/governments/international & domestic courts deal with the lack of a universal definition.
11.30 – 11.45	Coffee & Tea Break
11.45 – 13.15	Essential Counter-Terrorism Paradigms: The War Paradigm vs the Law Enforcement Paradigm Historically-based introduction to the two major paradigms in counter-terrorism: The war paradigm vs. the law enforcement paradigm. The presentation also includes an assessment of the effectiveness of these paradigms, including ways in which they have been deployed post-9/11.
13.15 – 14.15	Lunch
14.15 – 15.30	The Role of International Humanitarian Law in Countering Terrorism and Its Challenges Explores the applicability of international humanitarian law in the context of terrorism. Which rules apply and is the current legal system still adequate in countering terrorism? Who is the enemy? Should the law be adapted to what some say is a new kind of war that needs new rules?
15.30 – 15.45	Coffee & Tea Break

- 15.45 – 17.00** **The Role of International Human Rights Law in Countering Terrorism and Its Challenges**
- Explores the applicability of international human rights law in the context of terrorism. Topics that will be addressed include the (non) derogability of certain rights, states of emergency, the extra-territorial applicability of human rights and also the correlation between human rights law and international humanitarian law in countering terrorism.
- 18.00 – 21.00** **Welcome Dinner**

Tuesday 25 August (Day 2): A Closer Look at the Battlefield

- 09.00 – 10.30** **The Global War on Terror and Beyond**
- Historical overview leading up to the Global War on Terror (GWOT) and its aftermath. The presentation will also look into the effects of the concept's use and what kind of role it plays in the general counter-terrorism debate.
- 10.30 – 10.45** **Coffee & Tea Break**
- 10.45 – 12.15** **Targeted Killings and Detention Issues while Countering Terrorism**
- This presentation will look at targeted killings and detention issues in the context of counter-terrorism. The speaker will delve into not only the theoretical questions currently under discussion, including the applicable legal frameworks, but will also address these issues from a more practical and operational standpoint.
- 12.15 – 13.15** **Lunch**
- 13.15 – 14.45** **The Use of Drones in Countering Terrorism**
- This presentation will follow-up on the previous one and will look in more detail at a specific targeting mechanism, targeting via drones. The speaker will address the legality of specific drone operations, and will in addition discuss to what extent the use of drones is an effective counter-terrorism tool. Moreover, the speaker will also look into a new topic on the CT agenda: the position of EU member states on armed drones.
- 14.45 – 15.00** **Coffee & Tea Break**
- 15:00 – 17:00** **Movie tbc (possibility: A Most Wanted Man)**

Wednesday 26 August (Day 3): From Investigation to Prosecution: How to Build a Terrorism Case?

09.00 – 10.30

From Intelligence Gathering to Intelligence sharing

Among other things, this session will explore the 'Need to know' vs 'Dare to share' concepts. Have the Paris attacks led to more intelligence sharing with traditional and new allies? Is intelligence information only being used to start investigations or also used as evidence in court? And if so, how does this transformation take place? This session will also look more generally into the (expanding?) powers of the intelligence services.

10.30 – 10.45

Coffee & Tea Break

10.45 – 12.15

The Role of the Police in Countering Terrorism

In this presentation, the speakers will go into the role of the police in countering terrorism. Issues that will be addressed are the role of the police in investigating terrorism cases and the topic of community policing.

12.15 – 13.15

Lunch

13.15 – 14.15

The Protection and Use of Witnesses in Terrorism Cases

In this presentation, the protection and use of witnesses in terrorism cases will be discussed. What is the importance of using witnesses in terrorism trials? Which types of witnesses and protective measures exist? Can anonymous witnesses be used and if so, how can it be reconciled with a right to a fair trial? How should evidence of anonymous witnesses be weighed and what is the experience of international tribunals on this topic?

15.00 – 17.00

Visit to Eurojust

Thursday 27 August (Day 4): Countering and Trying Terrorists

10.00 – 12.30

Visit to the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL)

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 15.30

Countering Terrorism at the Supranational Level: The Role of the UN and other International and Regional Players

In this presentation, the role of the UN, GCTF, CTED and other important international and regional players in countering terrorism will be addressed. How can the UN assist countries in prosecuting terrorists? What is the role of UN conventions and resolutions? What are currently the main issues at stake for the UN and other organisations? How is coordination and cooperation ensured among the different organisations?

15.30 – 15.45

Coffee & Tea Break

15.45 – 17.15

Countering Foreign Terrorist Fighters: The Prevention Side

In this session the speakers will provide a general introduction to the phenomenon of FTFs, while focusing on the preventative dimension. Why do people go to Syria to fight? What are the push and pull factors? Is it possible to convince fighters-to-be not to go? How can local communities and civil society be engaged to counter violent extremism?

Friday 28 August (Day 5): Pressing Challenges in the Counter-Terrorism World

09.00 – 10.15

Countering Foreign Terrorist Fighters: The Repression Side

Following up on yesterday's session, this session will provide a more general introduction to possible measures in countering the FTFs threat, with a specific focus on the repressive dimension. Which are the legal frameworks at the international, regional and national level to counter FTFs? What is the role of UNSCR 2178 (2014) and the GCTF's Hague Marrakech Memorandum? Some attention will also be paid to travel restrictions and the withdrawal of passports and citizenships.

10.15 – 10.30

Coffee & Tea Break

10.30 – 12.00

Prosecuting Foreign Terrorist Fighters: a Dutch Perspective

Yet again following up on the general overview of the last session, this session will feature a Dutch CT prosecutor, who will examine in detail how to prosecute FTFs on the national plane. Which kinds of court procedures exist to try them? What are the legal and practical challenges involved in these cases? Who can be held responsible for FTF-related activities? Can prosecution be initiated before FTFs leave for the conflict or only after they have returned? Can recruiters or those who incite others to become FTF be held criminally responsible? Which laws are being used - existing domestic laws, terrorism legislation - or are new laws being drafted to criminalise the issue of FTFs? Do countries resort to extradition?

12.00 – 12.45

Lunch

12.45 – 14.00

Written Evaluation

14.00 – 14.15

Coffee & Tea Break

14.15 – 15.00

Informal Evaluation Round, Closure and Certificate Ceremony

15.00 – 17.00

High Level Panel on "The Dilemmas Involved in Countering Terrorism through the Internet: What's at Stake?"

Terrorist organisations are increasingly making use of the Internet for recruitment, incitement and radicalisation purposes, but also for financing, planning and preparing terrorist attacks. In the aftermath of the tragic attacks in Paris and the historic manifestation where world leaders and the French were united in defending the freedom of speech, dozens of people

were arrested for supporting terrorism. While several countries are working on new legislation providing the intelligence community far-reaching powers to crack down all communications on the Internet between terrorists, EU ministers increase pressure on the social media industry – such as Google, Facebook, and Twitter – to prevent the spread of radicalisation through internet. However, these measures can have a serious impact on a range of important human rights as well, such as the rights to freedom of speech, freedom of expression, freedom of association and privacy. What are the possibilities legally speaking? And what's at stake? The panelists will take a closer look at all the dilemmas countering terrorism through the internet can entail

17.00 – 19.00 **Drinks**

**Please note that this programme is subject to change*