

International Security and Terrorism

By
Bangaru Laxmi Jasti
Research Scholar and
Research Associate,
NALSAR University of Law.

What is Security?

- **Arnold Wolfers** (1952) argues that "security" is generally a normative term. It is applied by nations "in order to be either expedient—a rational means toward an accepted end—or moral, the best or least evil course of action". In the same way that people are different in sensing and identifying danger and threats, Wolfers argues that different nations also have different expectations of security. Not only is there a difference between forbearance of threats, but different nations also face different levels of threats because of their unique geographical, economic, ecological, and political environment.
- **Richard Ullman** (1983) has suggested that a decrease in vulnerability is security.
- **Barry Buzan** (2000) asserts that security is about freedom from threat and ability of states to maintain independent identity and their functional integrity against forces of change, which they see as hostile while its bottom line is survival.

- **William** (2008) says - "Security has to do with freedom from danger or threats to a nation's ability to protect and develop itself, promote its cherished values and legitimate interest and enhance the well-being of its people. Thus internal security could be seen as the freedom from or the absence of those tendencies, which could undermine internal cohesion, and the corporate existence of a country and its ability to maintain its vital institutions for the promotion of its core values and socio-political and economic objectives, as well as meet the legitimate aspirations of the people".
- **Sola Ogunsanwo** says "Security is more than military security or security from external attacks".

Assumptions underlying in the idea of Security

Security

- in (or of) what
- From what
- For what
- By what means

Paradigms of Security

National Security

- It emphasizes on Protection of state's territorial integrity, political Sovereignty, and economic well-being.
- National security policies focus on threats posed by other states or non-state actors, such as terrorists, cybercriminals, or transnational criminal organizations.
- National security strategies often involve military force, intelligence gathering, and diplomatic negotiations to protect a state's interests and values.

International Security

- It emphasizes the importance of collective action and cooperation among states to address common threats to global security.
- International security policies focus on issues such as nuclear proliferation, climate change, and global terrorism, which transcend national boundaries and require coordinated responses.
- International security strategies often involve multilateral diplomacy, international institutions, and global governance mechanisms to address these challenges.

Theoretical approaches to Security

Traditional
Non-Traditional

Traditional School of thought

- Traditional School of Thought favours the maintenance of the Cold War conception of security.
- This school of thought defines security in this sense to mean safety from danger and from external attack or infiltration.
- Traditional security paradigm is a realist construct of security in which the referent object is the state. It equates security with peace and prevention of conflict through military means i.e. deterrence policies, non-offensive defence and the like. This is why Walt defines security as a study of threat, use, and control of military force.
- It explores the situations that make use of force more likely, the ways the use of force affects individuals, states, societies and the specific policies that states employ in order to prevent or engage in war.

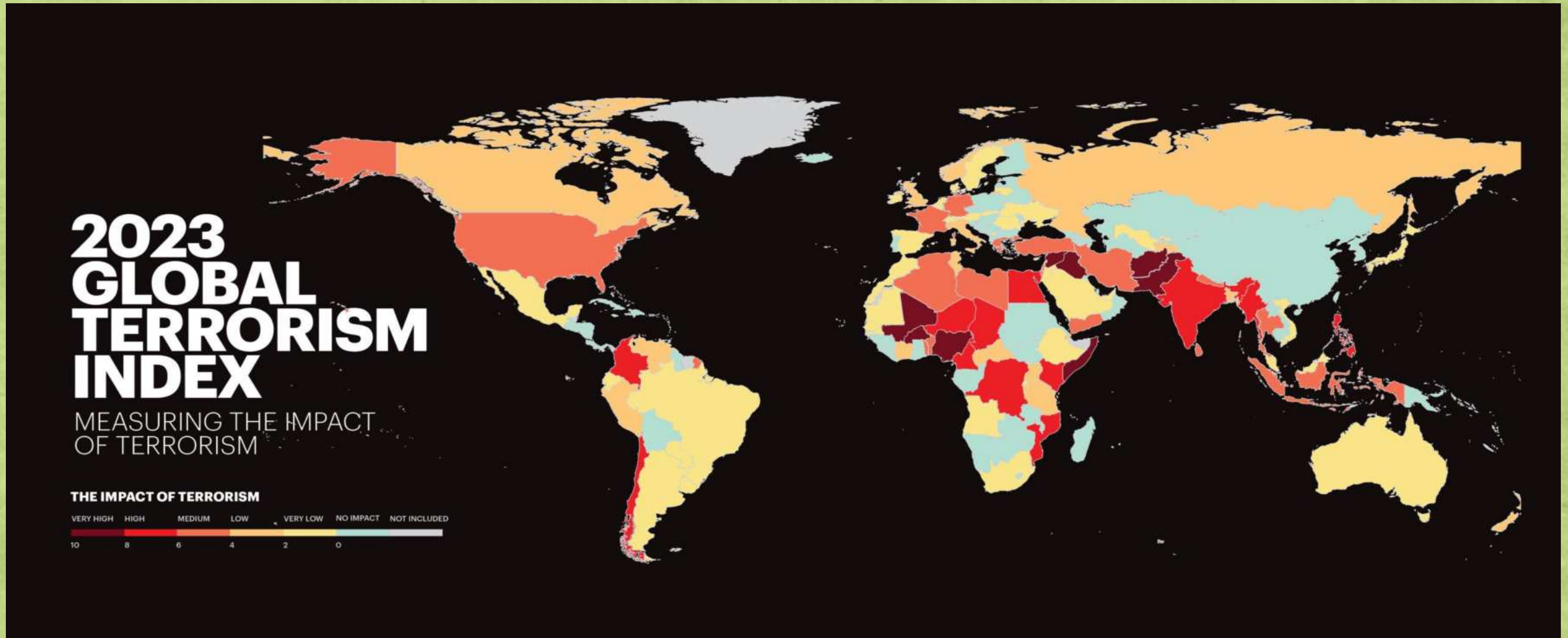
Non-Traditional School of Thought

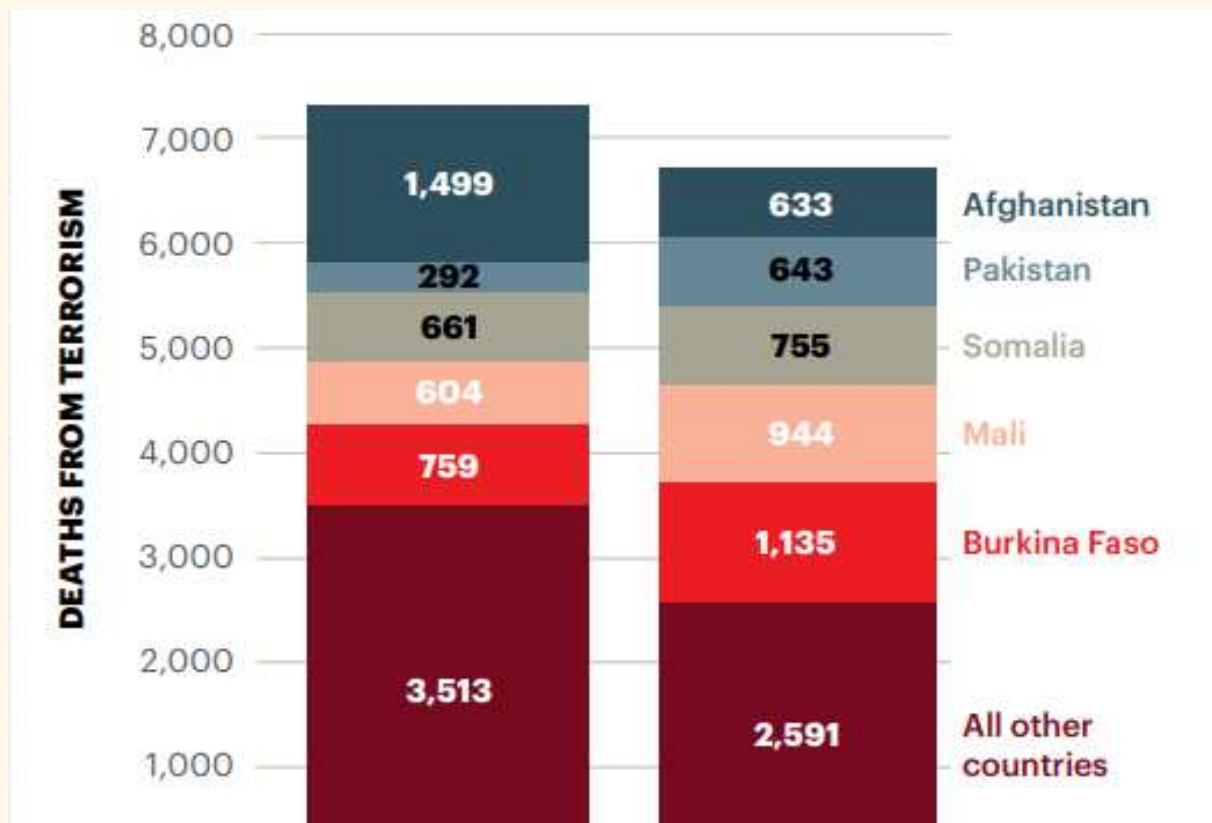
- This school attempts to widen and deepen the definition of security.
- It argues that other issues like environment, political, economic and social threats endangers the lives and properties of individual rather than the concentration on the survival of the state.
- It does implies that a predominantly military definition does not appreciate the fact that the greatest threat to state survival may not be military but environmental, health, political, social and economic.
- Security in this sense is human emancipation oriented. It means that people/citizens must be liberated from those challenges, difficulties and constraints that may prevent them from carrying out what freely they would choose to do which includes epidemics, poverty, oppression, poor education, crises and so on.

Terrorism?

- Criminal Acts or acts of violence
- Cause/inflict terror/death/cause bodily harm to person or property or both
- In pursuit of political/ideological/philosophical/racial/ethnic/religious goals
- Compel government or international organisation to do or abstain from doing something
- Accomplice, abetment ?

Impact of terrorism

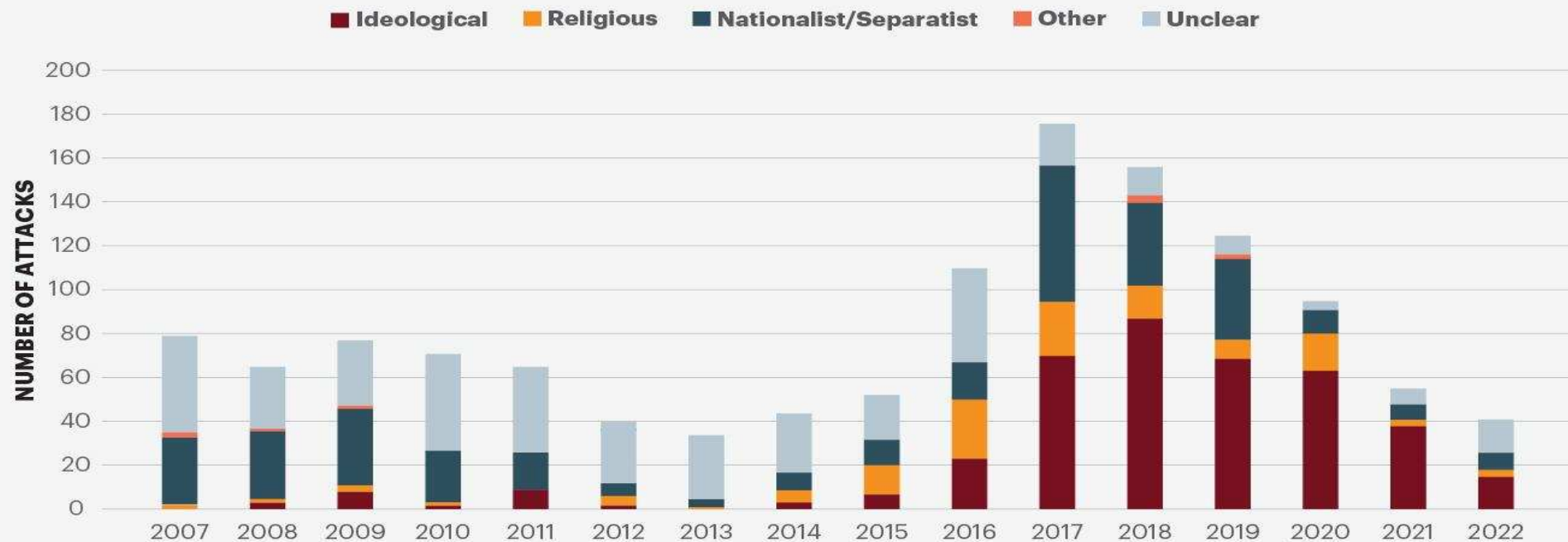




Terrorist attacks were more lethal in 2022, killing on average 1.7 people per attack, compared to 1.3 deaths per attack in 2021. This is the first increase in the lethality rate in five years. Terror attacks in 2022 are less lethal than a decade ago, when three people were killed in terror attacks on average.

Ideological terrorism continues to be the most prominent and deadliest form of terrorism in the West

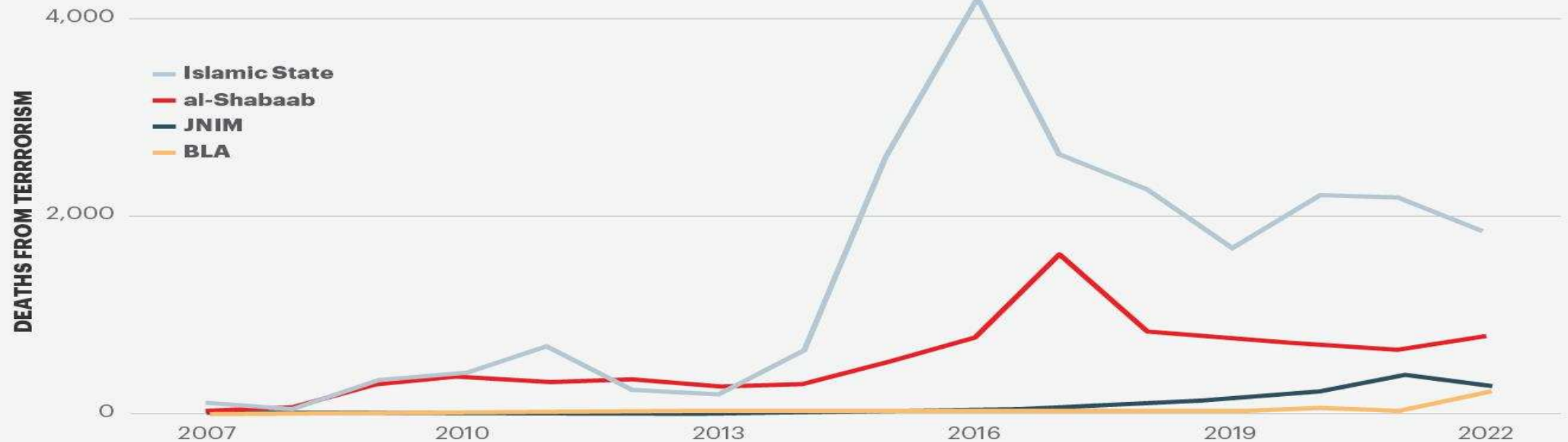
Terror attacks in the West by motivation, 2007–2022



Source: Dragonfly TerrorismTracker; IEP calculations
Global Terrorism Index 2023

Islamic State (IS) and its affiliates remained the world's deadliest terrorist group in 2022 for the eighth consecutive year, with attacks in 21 countries

Four deadliest terrorist groups in 2022



Source: Dragonfly TerrorismTracker; IEP calculations
Global Terrorism Index 2023



Taliban – terrorist organisation or not?

Terrorism thrives in countries with poor ecologies and climate induced shocks

Country	GTI Score	GTI Rank	Total No. of Catastrophic Threats	Catastrophic Threats
Afghanistan	8.822	1	3	Natural Disasters, Population, Water Risk
Somalia	8.463	3	4	Food Security, Natural Disasters, Population, Water Risk
Mali	8.412	4	2	Population, Water Risk
Syria	8.161	5	3	Food Security, Natural Disasters, Population
Iraq	8.139	7	3	Natural Disasters, Population, Water Risk
Nigeria	8.065	8	3	Food Security, Population, Water Risk
Democratic Republic of the Congo	6.872	14	3	Food Security, Population, Water Risk
Chad	6.168	19	4	Food Security, Natural Disasters, Population, Water Risk
Yemen	5.616	22	4	Food Security, Natural Disasters, Population, Water Risk

Source: Dragonfly TerrorismTracker; IEP calculations
Global Terrorism Index 2023



Ten countries most impacted by terrorism, ranked by GTI score

Afghanistan had the highest impact of terrorism for the fourth consecutive year.

Country	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Afghanistan	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1
Burkina Faso	113	113	111	108	52	30	21	15	7	6	4	2
Somalia	5	7	7	7	8	5	3	3	3	3	3	3
Mali	41	23	19	21	16	13	10	9	8	7	7	4
Syria	20	4	4	5	6	7	7	8	6	5	6	5
Pakistan	2	2	2	2	4	4	5	5	5	8	10	6
Iraq	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	7
Nigeria	8	5	5	3	2	2	4	4	4	4	6	8
Myanmar	17	21	24	29	39	42	40	42	23	24	9	9
Niger	49	57	44	34	20	19	18	19	14	12	8	10

Source: Dragonfly TerrorismTracker; IEP calculations

- Use of Force
- Collective Security
- Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
- Self – Defence

ANY QUESTIONS?