



Inter-American Committee against Terrorism - CICTE

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security - Organization of American States

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Organization of American States

Aviation Security Course in Crisis Management



The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) and the Dirección General de Aviación Civil (DGAC) conducted the first Crisis Management Course in Guatemala on July 13-17. The course, conducted by instructors from the US Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and held in facilities of the *La Aurora* International Airport, was designed for 23 participants. The CICTE Secretariat regularly offers scholarships to representatives from Guatemala to facilitate their participation in training courses organized by CICTE in other countries; this, however, was the first course of its type held in Guatemala. The Course in Management Crisis was

designed to provide mid-to-high level aviation officials the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and implement strong crisis management procedures in accordance with the requirements put forth by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The subject matter included: concepts in crisis management, planning of crisis procedures, the role of teamwork, and crisis management systems and exercises. The training was highly interactive and utilized various case studies, interactive discussions, and comprehensive exercises in order to illustrate the concepts and principles of effective crisis management. Subsequent to the development of this course, the civil aviation authorities planned a simulation in which participants could implement acquired knowledge. For more information contact Belisario Contreras (BContreras@oas.org).

Caribbean Sub-regional Workshop on Best Practices in Port Security and Implementation of the ISPS Code

The CICTE Secretariat organized the fourth in the series of Sub-regional Workshops on Best Practices in Port Security and Implementation of the ISPS Code from July 27-30 in Point Lisas, Trinidad, in collaboration with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, Transport Canada, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Point Lisas Industrial Port Development Corporation Limited (PLIPDECO). Nineteen participants attended the workshop, representing seven Caribbean OAS Member States (Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago). Member State representatives consisted of Port Facility Security Officers (PFSOs), Captains of the Port, customs officials, and representatives of government agencies and ministries responsible for maritime security at a national level. The over-arching objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of the participating States to effectively comply with the security obligations established by the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code and other international maritime security standards. Key themes discussed included challenges to implementation of the ISPS Code, risk assessment and management, access controls, cruise ship security, container security, reviewing and revising existing port facility security plans, security audits, and public-private partnerships. The workshop format facilitated the sharing of perspectives, knowledge and information among the participants with the intention of promoting increased communication and cooperation among those with a common responsibility for promoting maritime security in the Caribbean region. Presentations by each national delegation as well as a range of experts on key aspects of maritime security and ISPS implementation provided a substantive foundation for subsequent discussions and working group sessions. Particular focus was given to identifying common challenges faced and best practices for addressing these. Presentations and break-out discussions were supplemented with a visit to a port facility to conduct a mock port facility security audit and a hands-on demonstration of container search techniques. For more information: Brian Sullivan (bsullivan@oas.org)

Editorial

CICTE's Three Stages of Life



Can we see forward by looking backwards? From the perspective of someone who helped reenergize the Committee after the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001, I say, yes, we can. CICTE, and its Secretariat, have entered a third stage of activity, and, as I prepare to depart CICTE July 31, I would like to share a few words from my personal experience.

The first stage from 1999 to 2004 was organizational. Recognizing the growing terrorist threat, the Member States created CICTE in 1999 and held the first meeting in Miami where they set the principles of international cooperation to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism. But it was the attacks of 9/11 that thrust the countries into energetic collaboration on national and regional reviews of counter terrorism efforts. They created a small Secretariat in 2002 and pioneered work with the UN Counter Terrorism Committee (UN CTC) from 2002 to 2004 turning CICTE into the global model for regional organizations. In 2003 CICTE established the network of National Points of Contact in Member States—a system which is again serving as a global model for current UN discussions on creation of National Focal Points worldwide.

The second stage from 2004 to 2008 was formative. The Secretariat developed an active capacity building program, which last year resulted in 115 activities and trained 2,717 participants throughout the Hemisphere. The Secretariat has established partnerships with numerous International Organizations (such as UNODC, ICAO, Interpol, and the Executive Directorate of the UNCTC), Regional Organizations (the Council of Europe, OSCE/ATU, and various committees of APEC), and technical agencies of governments (Canada, the US, Brazil, Spain, Israel). Our special “niche”—subregional workshops—brings OAS representatives together with international experts on a focused agenda to learn of the latest techniques, share information and experiences, and build networks of subregional experts. Recognizing the value of this training, Member States increasingly request specific CICTE training.

The third stage? Under our energetic Mexican Chair, CICTE is maturing. A strong policy-setting body with a strong Secretariat, the Committee provides its Member States with the most active training program of any regional counter terrorism organization. The organization continues to look at emerging terrorist threats and build partnerships, including with the private sector. This is a model of multilateral cooperation.

I wish to thank the great Chairs of CICTE, whose leadership and vision have carried us forward. Many wonderful colleagues from the OAS Missions in Washington and the capitals recognized the importance of working multilaterally, joining forces to multiply the impact of individual forces. This has been a team effort. As for the Secretariat staff, I have never worked with such an outstanding group of professionals. Their loyalty and dedication to CICTE may not be very visible outside of the Secretariat, but they deserve much credit for our success.

Until the Secretary General appoints my successor in September, the Secretariat will remain in the hands of my very capable Deputy, Pablo Martinez.

I will be watching with pride from my new assignment in Vienna, Austria, as Charge d’Affaires in the US Mission to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe—a sister regional organization to the OAS. From my experience in CICTE, I have much to share with my new colleagues at OSCE about international cooperation and partnerships.

Counter-Terrorism Activities

Training Course on Fraudulent Document Detection



The Secretariat of CICTE, in collaboration with the Government of Peru, delivered on July 20-24 a training course on the detection of fraudulent documents and imposters, as part of the CICTE Program on Document Security and Fraud Prevention. Experts from the Forensic Documents Laboratory (FDL) of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provided the technical instruction. The primary objective of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of the participating officials and their respective countries to prevent and detect the use of altered or fraudulent travel and other identity documents.

Hosted in Lima, the course was attended by 32 participants: 7 from Ecuador and 25 from Peru. Participants were drawn from migration, law enforcement, customs and related authorities responsible for border controls and the examination of travel and other identity documents. This was a fifth in a series of training workshops tailored for the recipient countries. Other courses are planned for 2009 and 2010.

For more information, please contact Ms. Paola Fernandez at pfernandez@oas.org

Advanced Cyber Security Workshop in Chile

The CICTE Secretariat conducted an “Advanced Workshop in Management of a National Cyber Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT)” in Santiago, Chile, which was directed at countries of the Andean Region and included the participation of 35 representatives from Member States. The workshop was conducted with support from the Chilean Department of the Interior and financial support from Canada. With the goal of providing information on the management of cybernetic incidents and mitigation techniques, practical exercises were conducted in which participants were divided into four groups that simulated the functioning of a CSIRT. Communication between the groups was conducted through the network, whose user accounts were hosted by the OAS, simulating a Hemispheric Network of CSIRTS. At the conclusion of the workshop, the government of Chile invited those present to visit the Department of the Interior’s Center of Internet Operations (CORE) so that they would have a better understanding of the day to day issues Chile faces in this field. In addition to the exercises planned and coordinated by experts from Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, and Uruguay, the participants saw presentations from representatives from CITEC (Inter-American Telecommunication Commission), REMJA (Meetings of the Ministers of Justice), the Department of Information and Communication Security (DSIC) of Brazil, Costa Rica, and Spain, concerning relevant issues related to cyber security. For more information: Lilia Moraes, lmoraes@oas.org



32nd APEC Transportation Working Group Meeting – Maritime Security Sub-Group (MEG-SEC) meeting

The Maritime Security Sub-Group of Experts (MEG-SEC) of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Transportation Working Group held its annual meeting in Singapore on July 27-29, 2009. Five OAS Member States are also APEC economies—namely, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Peru and the United States. The MEG-SEC meeting focused its efforts on reviewing MEG-SEC’s Work Plan and the APEC Ministerial Statement; reporting on the status of maritime security in Canada, the Republic of Korea and Singapore; discussing MEG-SEC’s technical assistance initiatives—such as the APEC Manual of Maritime Security Drills and Exercises and the Port Security Visit Program—and new areas of work; sharing best practices and tools—for instance, on Global Maritime Situational Awareness; exchanging views on current challenges to maritime security—such as piracy; and strengthening international cooperation. The CICTE Secretariat, which has an observer status at MEG-SEC, gave a presentation on its Maritime Security Program and the activities implemented under this program during the last year.

This meeting was Canada’s last one as Chair of MEG-SEC. The CICTE Secretariat would like to take the chance to commend the outstanding work done by Canada, and particularly its representative, Mr. Marc Mes, in this capacity.

For more information: Mr. Pablo Martinez, pmartinez@oas.org

CTED in-house workshop on mutual legal assistance

The Executive Directorate of the Counter Terrorism Committee of the United Nations Security Council (CTED) and the CICTE Secretariat have been actively working together in developing a broad scope of international cooperation and partnership, among other issues, in providing technical assistance to requesting OAS/CICTE member countries in the implementation of the legal international instruments against terrorism and its financing.

As part of this partnership a representative of CICTE Secretariat was invited to participate in a CTED in-house workshop on mutual legal assistance (MLA) at UN Headquarters in New York July 8. The agenda included the following items: International legal framework on MLA; the challenges of effective judicial cooperation; human rights aspects of judicial cooperation, and a roundtable on international and regional approaches, capacity-building programs and challenges in international cooperation.

The CICTE Secretariat representative addressed the regional approach to MLA based on the analysis of the application of the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism. He also spoke about the OAS Hemispheric Information Exchange Network for Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition, that has been developed within the framework of the Meetings of the Ministers of Justice or of Attorney Generals of the Americas (REMJA for its initials in Spanish) as a best practice in the hemisphere.

The joint work of CTED and the CICTE Secretariat in promoting international cooperation in the region was specifically cited in the workshop conclusions.

For more information: Alejandro Diaz de Leon (adiazdeleon@oas.org)

Sub-regional workshop on UN reporting obligations



The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in collaboration with United Nations Committees established pursuant to UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) 1267, 1373 and 1540, and under the auspices of the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis, organized a sub-regional workshop on UN reporting obligations in St. Kitts, on July 7-9, 2009. The main aim of the workshop was to assist English-speaking Caribbean States in their efforts to comply with reporting obligations emanating from UNSCRs 1267, 1373 and 1540, as well as to put these in context with the international legal framework against terrorism. The CICTE Secretariat gave a presentation on

the regional legal framework against terrorism and its initiatives to support the implementation of mentioned resolutions.

For more information: Ignacio Ibáñez, iibanez@oas.org

FBI Foreign Fingerprint Exchange (FFE) Program

The FBI's Global Initiatives Unit (GIU) manages the Foreign Fingerprint Exchange (FFE), an effort to obtain related information from foreign governments for review and comparison with the FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS). The South America Fingerprint Exchange (SAFE) Initiative, a regional approach to the GIU's FFE, is concerned with the collection of biometric data on individuals identified as members of terrorist, narco-terrorist, and transnational crime organizations. SAFE is meant to strengthen international cooperation, increase the ability of South American criminal justice technology to meet international standards, and better ensure the national security of the US. SAFE's immediate goals are to coordinate site visits to review biometric data acquisition processes, classification and comparison specifications, border entry site assessments, correctional facility reception and release processes, fingerprint and latent print specification analysis, and manual and/or automated technological interoperability.



For more information: <http://www.embajadaeeuu.cl/OpenNews/asp/pagDefault.asp?argInstanciaId=2&argNoticialId=4687>

July Revisions to Consolidated List of the United Nations Security Council Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee

An updated July 2009 version of the Consolidated List is accessible in XML, PDF and HTML formats on the Committee's website at the following URL: <http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/consolist.shtml>

Council of Europe News

Council of Europe Conventions:

- On 16 July 2009, Romania ratified the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems ([ETS No. 189](#)).

Council of Europe events:

- On 6-10 July 2009, 600 participants from schools of political studies in 16 European countries attended in Strasbourg the Fourth Summer University for Democracy, which focused on the impact of contemporary challenges to democratic values, human rights and the rule of law. The issue of terrorism had been on the agenda of the themed conference "The crisis of identities and international violence and the respect of fundamental rights and the rule of law". The aforesaid conference had been followed by a specialised workshop "The fight against terrorism and organised crime, and the respect of human rights", to which Mr. Alexandre Guessel, Council of Europe Anti-Terrorism Co-ordinator, contributed as one of the speakers. More information about the Fourth Summer University for Democracy is available at <http://www.coe.int/t/dgap>
- On 20 July 2009, the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Thomas Hammarberg, issued the viewpoint "Ethnic and religious profiling clashes with human rights standards". In this viewpoint The Commissioner stressed that "there should be an objective reason why a certain individual is stopped and searched, a reasonable and individualised suspicion of criminal activity. The colour of the skin, the dress or visible religious attributes are not objective reasons". He also underlined that these practices have "a detrimental and negative impact on the community in general. All groups in society should have reason to trust the police. All the more so for those groups who may be the targets of xenophobic action or even hate crimes." The Viewpoint and further information on the activities of The Commissioner are available at www.commissioner.coe.int



For further information on the Council of Europe action against terrorism, please visit <http://www.coe.int/gmt>

OSCE ATU Input for OAS CICTE Newsletter

Joint OSCE-World Bank-(UNODC) workshop on asset forfeiture and recovery

On 15-16 July 2009, a joint OSCE-World Bank-UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) workshop was held in Almaty on how Central Asian law enforcement agencies can co-operate more effectively to seize and recover the illegal proceeds of organized crime, corruption and money laundering. The event brought together more than 30 high-level experts from the criminal justice sector in Almaty.



The two-day event was attended by officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as well as Russia. The experts conducting the training sessions were from the OSCE, the World Bank, the Basel Institute on Governance and the Irish Garda Síochána. Among other things, the workshop examined ways and means in which regional law enforcement agencies can improve their efforts in seizing and recovering the illegal proceeds of crime. The event also saw a presentation of the joint World Bank-UNODC Initiative on the Recovery of Stolen Assets, StAR. The workshop was organized by the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit, the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, the OSCE Centre in Astana, the World Bank and UNODC. The governments of Liechtenstein and the United States provided financial support.

National SAFE Action Plan Workshop

The ATU provided support to a SAFE Action Plan Workshop organized by the World Customs Organization (WCO) at the request of the Customs Authorities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) on 7-9 July in Skopje. The workshop discussed the results of a WCO diagnostic mission in FYROM aiming at identifying key strategic areas of custom reform and modernization. Based on the discussions participants developed a draft strategic action plan which will serve as a roadmap for the reforms and implementation of SAFE. For more information contact Mehdi.Knani@osce.org

Upcoming Events:

On 11 September 2009, the ATU and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), in co-operation with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, the United States and the Basel Institute on Governance, will jointly organize a Public-Private Expert Workshop on Preventing the Abuse of Non-Profit Organizations for Terrorist Financing. For more information contact Mehdi.Knani@osce.org

Recommended Reading

“Old and New Terrorism”



Polity Press published in July a new volume by Peter R. Neumann, Director of the Centre for Defence Studies at King's College London: *Old and New Terrorism*. According to the publisher, the book “provides a comprehensive account of the evolution of terrorism in the modern world, and a concise and careful analysis of the forces that have driven its transformation. The book: charts the development of terrorist network structures; assesses the impact of modern communication systems on the spread of terrorism; explains the rise of religiously inspired terrorism; and, shows what lies behind mass-casualty terrorism and the targeting of civilians. It offers a subtle and sophisticated picture of the shifts in the practice and reception of terrorism, drawing on case studies ranging from the IRA to Al Qaeda. It makes sense of much of the literature that has been published over the past decade. Yet it also provides a highly original analysis of how globalization has facilitated many of the changes that have materialized in recent years.”

For more information: <http://www.polity.co.uk/book.asp?ref=9780745643762>

“A Call to Jihad, Answered in America”

By Andrea Elliott. More than 20 young Americans are the focus of what may be the most significant domestic terrorism investigation since Sept. 11. One of the men, Shirwa Ahmed, blew himself up in Somalia in October 2008, becoming the first known American suicide bomber. It is believed that the men had joined the Shabaab, a militant Islamist group aligned with Al Qaeda that is fighting to overthrow the fragile Somali government. An examination by The New York Times reveals how a far-flung jihadist movement found a foothold in America's heartland. The men appear to have been motivated by a complex mix of politics and faith, and their communications show how they are trying to recruit other young Americans to their cause. The case represents the largest group of American citizens suspected of joining an extremist movement affiliated with Al Qaeda. Although friends say the men have never thought of carrying out attacks in the United States, F.B.I. officials worry that with their training, ideology and American passports, there is a real danger that they could.

For more information: http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/12/us/12somalis.html?pagewanted=1&_r=3&sq=somalia%20minnesota&st=cse&scp=1

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime's Terrorism Prevention Branch: Strengths and Challenges Ahead

In the third in a series of policy briefs from the Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation and collaborating experts, Center Co-Director, Eric Rosand examines the work of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC's) Terrorism Prevention Branch (TPB), which provides various forms of counterterrorism-related assistance to countries to help them join and implement various UN treaties dealing with different types of terrorism and strengthen the capacity of their national criminal justice systems to address the threat.



For more information: http://globalct.org/images/content/pdf/policybriefs/rosand_policybrief_093.pdf

Indonesia: The Hotel Bombings

The International Crisis Group published an Asia Briefing N°94 July 24, 2009, on the recent hotel bombings in Indonesia. On 17 July 2009, suicide bombers attacked two hotels in the heart of a Jakarta business district, killing nine and injuring more than 50, the first successful terrorist attack in Indonesia in almost four years. While no one has claimed responsibility, police are virtually certain it was the work of Noordin Mohammed Top, who leads a breakaway group from Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), the regional jihadi organization responsible for the first Bali bombing in 2002. One of the hotels, the Marriott, was bombed by Noordin's group in 2003; this time, a meeting of mostly foreign businessmen appears to have been the target. The restaurant of the nearby Ritz-Carlton was also bombed. The question everyone is asking is whether it will happen again. This briefing provides answers to some frequently asked questions about the bombings: where did Noordin Top come from? What is his relation to JI? Why were these hotels targeted? What does this mean for the government's deradicalisation program? And what additional measures should the government take?

For more information: <http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=6243&l=1>

Recent Events

Month	Days	Event	Venue
July	7-9, 2009	UN Reporting Workshop on UNSCR 1373, 1267, and 1540	Basseterre, St Kitts
	8, 2009	UN CTED Workshop on Mutual Legal Assistance	UN Headquarters, New York City
	13-17, 2009	CICTE Aviation Crisis Management Training	Guatemala City, Guatemala
	13-17, 2009	Canadian Border Security Agency Customs Training	Port of Spain, Trinidad
	16-17, 2009	Argentina CERT 10th anniversary celebration	Buenos Aires, Argentina
	20-21, 2009	GAFISUD Plenary	Montevideo, Uruguay
	20-24, 2009	CICTE Advanced Training on the Management of a National CSIRT for the southern Cone sub-region	Santiago, Chile
	21-23, 2009	REMJA Cyber Crime Working Group workshop	Santiago, Chile
	20-24, 2009	CICTE Document Security and Prevention of Fraud Workshop for Ecuador and Peru	Lima, Peru
	27-31, 2009	APEC MEG-SEC Workshop on maritime security	Singapore
	27-30, 2009	CICTE Sub-regional Workshop for the southern Caribbean on Best Practices in Port Security and Implementation of the ISPS Code	Port Lisas, Trinidad & Tobago

Upcoming Events

Month	Days	Event	Venue
August	3-6, 2009	Sub-Regional Workshop for Central America on Bulk Cash Smuggling	Mexico City, Mexico
	4-6, 2009	US Secret Service Global Cyber Security Conference	Washington DC, United States
	10-14, 2009	Tourism Security Level II Training for Haiti	Port-Au-Prince, Haiti
	17-21, 2009	Bioterrorism Site visit	Cancun - Ciudad de México, Mexico
	24-28, 2009	CICTE Aviation Crisis Management Training	San Jose, Costa Rica
	24-28, 2009	Tourism Security Level II Training for Mexico	Acapulco, Mexico
	31 -Sept. 4, 2009	CICTE Aviation Crisis Management Training	San Salvador, El Salvador
	TBD	Cyber Security Technical Assistance Mission	Bogota, Colombia
September	14-22, 2009	PANAMAX Crisis Exercise, organized by SOUTHCOM and the Government of Panama	Panama
	29-30, 2009	UNODC/CICTE Specialized training for Peru on counter terrorism investigation and prosecutions	Lima, Peru
	21-23, 2009	5th ICAO MRTDs Symposium	Montreal, Canada
October	4-14, 2009	Pilot Fraudulent Document Detection Train-the-Trainer Course	Bridgetown, Barbados

News

Public's help needed in terror fight, Napolitano says

Almost eight years after the September 11 attacks, the American public remains insufficiently engaged in the fight against terrorism, the nation's homeland security chief warned on July 30. The federal government also needs to do a better job sharing information with international, state and local partners, she added. We need to make sure "as a country, as a nation, we are at the point where we are at a constant state of preparedness and not a state of fear," Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said. "The challenge is not just using federal power to protect the country but also enlisting a much broader societal response to the threats that terrorism poses." We live in a world where "the tools for creating violence and chaos are as easy to find as the tools for buying music online or restocking an inventory," Napolitano told an audience at the Council on Foreign Relations. "If 9/11 happened in a Web 1.0 world, terrorists are certainly in a Web 2.0 world now," she said, a reference to the state of development of the Internet. "The terror threat to the homeland is persistent and evolving." "For too long, we've treated the public as a liability to be protected rather than an asset in our nation's collective security," she said. Napolitano cited a growing number of threats -- including possible biological, chemical, and cyber attacks -- emanating from multiple sources both at home and abroad. For more information [click here](#).



Commentary: How many Gitmo prisoners return to fight?

As President Obama awaits formal recommendations this month on issues surrounding the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, it is crucial that policymakers and the public have an accurate picture of the threat to the United States posed by those detainees already released. For more information [click here](#).

Police Detain Three Key Members of the Separatist Military Group ETA

Three members of the ETA were detained on July 5 in the French town of Pau. Asier Borrero, Itziar Plaza, and Iurgi Garitagoitia were three of the most highly sought terrorists by security forces. In the moment of their arrest they were armed and carrying technical information, said sources close to the investigation. The three detainees are "liberated" members of the ETA (they earn a wage from the group and are tracked by security forces), and experts in the fight against terrorism consider the three to currently be "key players" with the military organization of ETA. For more information [click here](#).

7 in North Carolina Charged with Supporting Terrorism

On July 27 federal authorities charged seven men in North Carolina with supporting terrorism and conspiracy to commit murder abroad. Officials said one of the men had traveled to Pakistan and Afghanistan, where he trained in terrorist camps to carry out "violent jihad." All seven are accused of engaging in weapons training and military tactics in their home state. The defendants had, "practiced military tactics and use of weapons on private property in North Carolina in June and July 2009." The U.S. attorney in Raleigh said, "These charges hammer home the point that terrorists and their supporters are not confined to the remote regions of some far-away land, but can grow and fester right here at home." For more information [click here](#).

Homage to Members of the ETA and the Silence of the 'Batasunos' Key in its Illegalization in Strasbourg



The month of June ended with a ruling that set precedence in European legal jurisdiction.

After specifying the legal basis for their ruling, the seven judges of the European Tribunal of Human Rights (TEDH) unanimously rejected the appeal presented by the political movement Herri Batasuna (HB) and its successor, Batasuna, which protested the process that led to the group's illegalization in 2003. In doing so, the judges effectively acknowledged that within the Spanish state exists a "vital social necessity" to leave the two entities that compose the foundational roots of the terrorist organization ETA outside of the political arena.

The court admitted, in point number 79 of the sentencing, that "a political party can campaign in favor of a change in legislation or the legal/constitutional structures of the state" under two conditions: that it utilizes "legal mediums" to achieve this, and that the proposed change "be compatible with fundamental democratic principles. From this it is inferred that neither Article 10 of the European Agreement on Human Rights (freedom of expression) or Article 11 (freedom of meeting or association) protect those responsible who are also representing a party that "incite or resort to violence", according to the judges.

There is no place, according to the High Court, to wait for the State to intervene after a party decides to seize power and puts into practice a project that is incompatible with the constitution of the country. In this way the Court justified that the State also could "reasonably hinder the completion of a political project" of that caliber. This "power of preventative intervention" that the European Court sentencing reserves for the government is derived from the fact that this could "impose on political parties the duty of respecting and safeguarding the guaranteed rights and liberties" of a democracy. For more information [click here](#).

Colombia seeks arrest of Mexican student tied to FARC



At the request of the Colombian government, Interpol, an international police agency, has issued an alert for the arrest of a Mexican student linked to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC. Lucia Morett, 28, is wanted by Colombian authorities for organized crime, transnational crime, and terrorism, according to Interpol's alert, also known as a "red notice." The notice is not an international arrest warrant but an alert to police worldwide that Morret is wanted for extradition to Colombia. Morett had returned to Mexico, but Colombian prosecutors consider her armed and dangerous. Morett ran as a congressional candidate in Mexico's July 5 elections, which would have given her parliamentary immunity from the Interpol order. But she did not gain enough votes.

The Mexican government had not received a formal petition for Morett's extradition, Mexico's Attorney General Eduardo Medina Mora, told reporters on July 9. For more information [click here](#).

Colombia Submits a Video to the OAS and INTERPOL about Likely Economic Support of the FARC



Organization of American States

On July 19, Colombian Press Secretary for the Presidential Orange House, César Mauricio Velásquez, said that with the submission of this document Colombia is looking to the Organization of American States "to continue pertinent investigations."

The issue put before both organizations, the OAS and INTERPOL, was disclosed two days after the release of this video in the Colombian capital, which likened a comparison to "Mono Jojoy", aka Briceño (??), before rebels met somewhere in the Colombian jungle. Of the video segments leaked to the press is one, in which 'Tirofijo', founder and highest leader of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), writes, "Monetary support to the campaign of (Ecuadorian President) Correa and subsequent conversations with his emissaries, including some agreements, according to documents in all of our possession are in turn very compromising in connecting us to our friends." For more information click here: [1 - 2 - 3 - 4](#)

Fatal Blasts Hit Jakarta Hotels

At least nine people were killed, including two suspected suicide bombers, in two July 17 blasts at luxury hotels in the Indonesian capital of Jakarta. As many as 50 people were hurt, including many foreigners. At least one attacker was a guest at the JW Marriott. No group has yet claimed responsibility for the blasts. Indonesian President Yudhoyono said, "This act of terrorism... will have wide effects on our economy, trade, tourism and image in the eyes of the world." The attacks, with homemade bombs, were on the basement garage of the Marriott and a restaurant in the Ritz-Carlton. Police said that two suicide bombers were involved, and at least one attacker, and possibly more, was staying at the Marriott. An unexploded bomb and other explosive material were found in room 1808, which officials said was the "control center" of the attacks. US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said the threat of terrorism remained "very real". The Marriott Hotel was the target of a bomb attack in August 2003 in which 13 people were killed. Since then, a combination of new laws, anti-terror training, international cooperation and reintegration measures have kept Indonesia peaceful, analysts have said. For more information [click here](#).

The Appearance of Hezbollah Cells in La Guajira, Reports the Israeli Government

The director of Latin America and the Caribbean of the Ministry of External Affairs in Israel, Dora Shavit, in an interview with El Tiempo, said that there are mosques collecting money for this terrorist organization. Israel is connecting the supposed appearance of Hezbollah cells in Colombian territory as the strategy of Iran, its greatest enemy, to strengthen its relations with Latin America, Venezuela in particular.

Exactly one month ago the Supreme Court authorized the extradition to the United States of a Colombian accused of belonging to a drug trafficking organization with ties to the Islamic group. Shavit confirmed the "penetration" of Iran in the region- especially in Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Nicaragua- and further strengthening of its political and trade relations with Colombia. This will be one of the issues that the Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs, Avigdor Liberman, will discuss in his visit to Bogota on July 28 and 29. For more information [click here](#).

Mapuche Conflict Flares Up in Southern Chile

Tension between the Mapuche, Chile's largest indigenous group, and government authorities has risen in the wake of the arrest of a high-profile Mapuche leader. On July 19, approximately eight hooded men burned a forestry industry truck near the town of Collipulli in Region IX. Police are linking the attack to a series of raids they conducted in recent days on nearby Mapuche residences. The arson attack also comes on the heels of the arrest of Héctor Llaitul Carrillanca, a leader in a radical Mapuche organization called the Coordinadora Arauco Malleco, or CAM, the week of July 12. Llaitul, 41, is accused of masterminding an ambush last October against Mario Elgueta, a public prosecutor in the Region VIII community of Cañete. Llaitul is being held pending trial on terrorism charge. Llaitul, a social worker, was jailed in early 2007 for his alleged involvement in an arson attack on a tree farm near Temuco, Region IX. Later that year he and several other prisoners participated in a high-profile hunger strike. Llaitul was released last year after being absolved of the charges by a Temuco court.

Inter-Agency Coordination and Combating Terrorism

From June 1 to July 19 the Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies (CHDS) hosted the 2009 Inter-Agency Coordination and Combating Terrorism course. Fifty-three students from eighteen countries in the Americas, as well as Spain and Morocco, participated. 3 scholarships were accorded from CHDS in agreement with the CICTE secretariat on behalf of OAS Member States: Honduras, Mexico and Panama. The course focused on a broad range of threats facing the Americas, including Al Qaeda, Taliban, the Iraqi insurgency, FARC, the Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso), the Guatemalan insurgency of the 1980s, organized crime such as the drug traffickers in Mexico and gangs such as the maras in Central America, and narco-gangs in the Brazilian favelas. The students also learned about activities like money laundering that support terrorism. Heavy emphasis was placed on comparing and contrasting the U.S. experience with that of Latin America in order to understand both common threads and differences. Combating irregular threats is a strategic, not tactical, problem requiring a range of approaches, including international cooperation through bilateral relations and multi-lateral organizations.



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