

**XXVIII SEMINARIO INTERNACIONAL  
DE SEGURIDAD Y DEFENSA**

**EUROPA AMEDRENTADA:**

**LA AMENAZA DEL YIHADISMO**

Inteligencia y comunicación estratégica

PARADOR DE TOLEDO  
8 y 9 DE JUNIO

Asociación de Periodistas  Europeos



# Europe frightened: the threat of Jihadism

## Intelligence and strategic communication

Jihadist terrorism stands as the principal threat to the security for the EU member countries and NATO allies, as reconfirmed on attacks in Brussels Zaventem airport and Maelbeek subway station, past March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Can't forget bombs in Paris last November, or even London and Madrid. For its brutality and orchestration are unprecedented.

The two first-mentioned have been claimed by the DAESH who is beginning to show signs of exhaustion within the territory under its control through structures that reminds of a state. Resources for funding have been deteriorating with no signs of recovery. The economic decline stems from the fall in oil prices, one of its main sources of direct and indirect income. In addition, the international coalition has been bombing the area what has reduced the economic capabilities of the terrorist group within the territory that dominates. These endogenous weaknesses are less recognizable on foreign soil, where increases the proliferation of European fighters, formerly radicalized through physical spaces such as mosques, relatively easy to control, and now thriving in the impenetrable anonymity of social networks.

The struggle to avoid spreading propaganda and jihadist messages on the Internet, pro to boost their recruiting sergeants field, has become one of the major challenges of our society but this fight in any way can be effective to strictly national level. Hence, the advisability of evaluating a joint response of the European Union. For example, the new directive of the European Parliament concerning the fight against terrorism which includes new features such as monitoring and control of arms sales within the Community. Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs meeting within the Council consider adopting new measures to add to the response generated after the attacks in Paris. Controversial measures as passenger control, or monitoring and tracking of citizens within the common, unthinkable until now, have become part of the panoply of tools to respond to jihadist terrorism border.

## Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>

### 09:30: Opening Ceremony – Words of Welcome

**Miguel Ángel Aguilar.** General-Secretary of the European Journalist Association

### 10:00: First Session. DAESH in-depth analysis: Structure and economic fatigue

DAESH financing system, cornerstone of its successful emergence on the international scene, starts giving symptoms of fatigue. To a fall in oil prices must be added to the consequences of the continuous bombing of the British and American armies and depletion of the formulas used so far on the population to finance: extortion, looting and confiscation. Through Bayt Al Mal, organ responsible for the finances, the terrorist group has announced a significant reduction of wages to the guerrillas and higher taxes on the population of the territory- controlled according to the usual self-interested interpretation of the Koran.

With the media impact obtained from their bloodthirstiness and its economic strength, Al Qaeda, considered the first terrorist group at the beginning of the century, has been relegated to the background. Despite losing incidence and impact, they can't absolutely be consider an extinct group.

Is DAESH the hegemonic terrorist group in the terrorist scene? Will Al- Qaeda make a come-back? Is DAESH at a turning point? How will they maintain the loyalty of their troops once loosing the seduction of the economic strength? Will new terrorist groups make a bloodier appearance and lead the fight against Western culture?

Speakers:

**Martin Griffiths.** Executive Director of the European Institute of Peace (EIP).

**Joost Hiltermann.** Program Director, Middle East and North Africa. at Crisis Group

**Jean-Pierre Filiu.** French historian and an arabist, is professor of Middle East Studies at Sciences Po, Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA)

**Jesús Núñez Villaverde.** Codirector of the Institute of Studies on Conflicts and Humanitarian Action (IECAH)

*Moderator:*

**Anna Bosch.** Journalist, TVE.

**12:00:** *Coffee break.*

**12:30: Second session: The Spanish armed forces against DAESH**

In 2015, Spanish Ministry of Defense created the Joint Special Operations Command. It represents the response to the jihadist threat and the preparation to lead in 2017 the command of NATO contingent on special operations. This rotating leadership will have to manage with the US government requesting a higher European involvement in the deployment of ground troops.

Meanwhile, Spain will increase its presence in conflict zones under the control of jihadist forces: Mali, Iraq and Central African Republic. The new challenges consolidate the change in the way we understand the defense, giving priority to three particular areas: intelligence, cyber defense and special operations.

How are the Spanish armed forces preparing to face the challenge to fight against DAESH? What are the priorities for the Spanish government for next year NATO's rotating leadership? Should NATO rethink their strategy in the region?

Speaker:

**Admiral Fernando García Sánchez.** Chief of Staff of Defense

Introduced by:

**Javier Garcia.** Director of Europa Press agency

**14:00: Lunch**

**16:00: Third session: The threat of jihadist frustrated**

The third generation of jihadists moves increasingly on the social networks. This favors anonymity necessary to recruit and train new recruits to the terrorist cause. The generalization of the cyber jihad complicates the Western countries attempts to control it, previously basically relied on tracking messages broadcast from mosques and contacts generated in prisons.

Now the cyberspace is the most suitable scenario for promoting radicalism and training of the known as Foreign Terrorist Fighters or "returnees". This new type of fighters has been recognized by the United Nations to define terrorists who have completed the trip to Syria and after returns to their home country and attempt to attack. The need to make the trip made the control of potential terrorists easier. Now, however, given the difficulties of completing the journey by police pressure or logistical problems, there is a new threat, called "frustrated jihadists ". These are generally Western natives affected by a process of radicalization orchestrated by the DAESH through networks, which manage to go unnoticed and are the perfect resource to attack in the West.

Is the entry in the Jihadism an economic, ideological, or only economic matter? Are the policies against radicalization well focused? How is it possible to detect the "frustrated jihadists "?

Speakers:

**Jean-Pierre Filiu.** French historian and an arabist, is professor of Middle East Studies at Sciences Po, Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA)

**Alejandro Alvargonzález.** Secretary General for Defence Policy

**Rafael Sánchez Ortega.** Director of Superior Center for Studies of National Defense (CESEDEN)

**Emilio Sánchez de Rojas Díaz.** Head of Research and Analysis in School of High Studies of Defense

**Carola García Calvo.** Global terrorism researcher at the Elcano Royal Institute

*Moderator:*

**Arantza Martín.** Journalist, Onda Cero

## Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>

### **09:30:** Fourth session: Renewed intelligence

The threat of jihadist terrorism has caused changes in the structure of the National Intelligence Centre facing. The CNI has the complex task of identifying both the "returnees" as the "frustrated jihadists" and bring out the distribution centers of radicalism and recruitment both physical and virtual

Has the CNI become more efficient after the assignment of the new tasks? To what extent these tasks have proper coordination at the international level? How is the relationship between the center with its European analogues and NATO?

Speaker:

**General Félix Sanz Roldán.** Director of the Spanish Intelligence Centre

*Introduced by:*

**Montserrat Domínguez.** Director of *Huffington Post*

### **10: 45:** Fifth session: Europe and the trail of terror

The attacks on Paris changed the *tempo* of the debate within the EU and showed the acceleration of the discussions on a new directive on terrorism to begin establishing a new common definition of these crimes. Furthermore, the Directive PNR to detect suspicious movements in air traffic has seen the light after years of debate in the European Parliament. Moreover, once reached the costly agreement in the fight against illegal arms trafficking, the EU now has the focus on the legal sale of weapons, detection of financial flows, propaganda activity on the Internet or traffic of documents which is dump the newly created European Centre against terrorism.

What changes will the PNR suppose to identify terrorist's displacements? Is the control on the sale of weapons and explosives effective within the EU? Is there a real will of member countries to act together as one?

Speaker:

**Francisco Martínez Vázquez.** Secretary of State for Security

*Introduced by:*

**Ana Terradillos.** Journalist, Cadena SER and expert in terrorism

**11:00:** *Coffee break.*

## **11: 15:** Fifth session: **Strategic communication and Jihadism**

Communication has become a decisive element in the relationship between society and its political, economic, cultural representative, and so with its armed forces. It was probably after September 11 attacks when in most Western countries began to encourage of a "Strategic Defense Communication" linking military professionals with the society they are due. Since then it has been proven the ability to multiply outreach and impact of the messages sent through a planned media strategy that has sometimes favored conflict resolution and has almost always contributed to a better social acceptance of the Armed Forces.

In matters as important and complex as the phenomenon of jihadist terrorism seems essential to calibrate the graduation of messages sent to the public when it comes to report without alerting unless it is necessary or alerting without causing panic when the occasion demands. Being aware that how a message is broadcast may even be more important than the message itself. For example, in a society devoted to the show business, where we know instantly the interests of the audience, the media should honor its responsibilities to decide on the dissemination of gory images such as executions carried out by terrorists without contributing anything to the viewer can lead to a lethal propaganda effect.

In addition, it seems essential a proper use of language that would prevent terrorists win the first battle. Then, entitle them as the Islamic State is to concede that the terrorist group is an entity that is far from being achieved. It also a mistake defined by its Islamic character when it would be more accurate to refer to him as DAESH.

Potential speakers:

**General Miguel Ángel Ballesteros.** General Director of IEEE

**Martin Griffiths.** Executive Director of the European Institute of Peace (EIP).

**Fran Sevilla.** International chief at RNE.

**Francisco Javier Casas.** Director of the Coordination Division and Security and Defence Studies. Ministry of Defense

*Moderator:*

**Georgina Higuera.** Former *El País* correspondent in Asia.

**13:00.** Closing conference.

**Pedro Morenés.** Minister of Defense in functions

## **Previous Seminars**

- 1983, I Seminario: *Alternativas de la defensa de Europa* (Toledo)
- 1984, II Seminario: *Euromisiles y Pacifismo* (Segovia)
- 1986, III Seminario: *La formulación de la política de defensa en Europa y España* (Toledo)
- 1987, IV Seminario: *La Europa de Reikiavik* (Toledo)
- 1988, V Seminario: *La perestroika y el poderío militar soviético* (Toledo)
- 1989, VI Seminario: *El desarme convencional en Europa* (Toledo)
- 1990, VII Seminario: *El futuro del servicio militar* (Toledo)
- 1992, VIII Seminario: *Europa contra Europa: de Yalta a Sarajevo* (Toledo)
- 1996, IX Seminario: *Nuevas dimensiones de la defensa europea* (Toledo)
- 1997, X Seminario: *Las nuevas fuerzas armadas y su impacto en la industria de defensa europea después de Amsterdam* (Toledo)
- 1999, XI Seminario: *La Alianza Atlántica en el Siglo XXI* (Toledo)
- 2000, XII Seminario: *Nuevas capacidades de defensa de la Unión Europea* (Toledo)
- 2001, XIII Seminario: *Nuevos retos a la seguridad global* (Toledo)
- 2002, XIV Seminario: *El Terrorismo: una amenaza del siglo XXI. Guerra sin enemigo, paz sin seguridad* (Toledo)
- 2003, XV Seminario: *El vínculo transatlántico. Tensiones y perspectivas* (Toledo)
- 2004, XVI Seminario: *Conceptos para la seguridad en el Siglo XXI* (Toledo)
- 2005, XVII Seminario: *Las lecciones de Irak* (Toledo)
- 2006, XVIII Seminario: *Europa y los nuevos actores de la (in)seguridad* (Toledo)
- 2007, XIX Seminario: *Las intervenciones internacionales y la nueva proliferación nuclear* (Toledo)
- 2008, XX Seminario: *Conflictos del Siglo XXI, nuevas causas, nuevos desenlaces* (Toledo)
- 2009, XXI Seminario: *Las miradas de Europa y su voz fragmentada.* (Toledo)
- 2010, XXII Seminario: *¿Un horizonte desnuclearizado?* (Toledo)
- 2011, XXIII Seminario: *Nuevos paradigmas de Defensa y Seguridad* (Toledo)
- 2012, XXIV Seminario: *La estrategia de seguridad y los compromisos internacionales* (Toledo)
- 2013, XXV Seminario: *Intervenciones e inhibiciones* (Toledo)
- 2014, XXVI Seminario: *Ciberamenazas y respuestas* (Toledo)
- 2015, XXVII Seminario: *Yihadismo: del terror a la guerra* (Toledo)