



Strategy Session on Non-Kinetic Counterterrorism Tools

Nov 8, 2021



Brief Analysis

Part of a series: [Counterterrorism Lecture Series](#)

or see [Part 1: Taking the Fight to ISIL: Operationalizing CT Lines of Effort Against the Islamic State Group](#)

Read statements from officials and experts who participated in a conference on non-military tactics in the global fight against terrorism.

The U.S. counterterrorism enterprise has been remarkably effective from a tactical perspective, foiling attacks and disrupting networks around the globe. Yet it has been less successful from a strategic perspective—more individuals have been radicalized to the point of violence today than in 2001, resulting in a more diverse and dispersed terrorist threat. To address the fundamentally social underpinnings of this evolving challenge, Washington and its partners will need to shift away from an overreliance on expensive hard power and invest heavily in soft power instead.

On November 8, The Washington Institute convened a special symposium in which officials from various U.S. agencies joined other experts to discuss civil, political, diplomatic, financial, and law enforcement efforts to prevent violent extremism. Speakers included Ilkka Salmi, Christopher Landberg, Jill Rose, Patrick Reddan, Robert Jenkins, John Cohen, Paul Ahern, Chandana Ravindranath, and Damon Stevens. The event was conducted under the Chatham House rule, but participants offered the following statements for the record:

Opening Remarks

Matthew Levitt, Fromer-Wexler Fellow and Director of the Reinhard Program on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, The Washington Institute

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Keynote Address: A European Perspective on Counterterrorism

Ilkka Salmi, Counterterrorism Coordinator, European Union

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Panel 1: Building Civilian Counterterrorism Capacity

Christopher Landberg, Acting Principal Deputy Coordinator, State Department Bureau of Counterterrorism

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Jill Rose, Deputy Director, Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance, and Training, Justice Department

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Keynote Address: Addressing Terrorism as a Law Enforcement Matter

Patrick Reddan, Deputy Assistant Director, FBI Counterterrorism Division

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Panel 2: Focusing on Prevention and Addressing Global Fragility

Robert Jenkins, Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Stabilization, U.S. Agency for International Development

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John Cohen, Undersecretary and Counterterrorism Coordinator, Department of Homeland Security

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Panel 3: Countering Terrorism Financing and Corruption

Paul Ahern, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Terrorist Financing and Financial Crimes, Treasury Department

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Keynote Address: Non-Kinetic Counterterrorism Tools in a Time of Competing Priorities

Damon Stevens, Assistant Director for Strategic Operational Planning, National Counterterrorism Center

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