

Beyond Syria and Iraq: Examining Islamic State Provinces

Nov 9, 2016

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As an idea, the Islamic State has gone global, attracting far more foreign terrorist fighters than all previous jihadist conflicts combined. But as a so-called state or "caliphate," how successful has it really been at expanding its global footprint through the establishment of "provinces" around the world? And what will become of these affiliates once the group's strongholds in Syria and Iraq are dismantled?

In this Policy Focus, Institute fellow Katherine Bauer has compiled essays examining how these questions are playing out in jihadist hotspots such as Libya, Yemen, Sinai, West Africa, the Caucasus, and elsewhere. Written by a wide array of scholars and practitioners, the chapters are informed by a recent workshop in which senior U.S. officials and other participants gave candid, off-the-record assessments of numerous key issues, including governance, fundraising, military recruitment, social media communications, public opinion, and religious ideology.

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THE EDITOR

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