

# New Conception of Critical Infrastructure Vulnerability in Contemporary Terrorist Attacks

Jasmina Gacic

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Security Studies, Belgrade, Serbia

## Abstract

The contemporary terrorism, as multi-dimensional political phenomenon – although present from the very beginning of class society in all the socio-political systems – has provided itself the reputation of a relevant factor in international relations and it has become a constant of the actual security ambient. The endurance and intensity of attention that terrorism calls, that is quantity and variety of publicity attributed to it, speak the best to its global significance and respectable importance, as it is the greatest security problem, in regard to which any social appearance could hardly be compared.

## Keywords

Infrastructure Management, Contemporary Issues, Requirements management, Systems Engineering

## Back Ground

Security Council Resolution 2341 (2017) directs the Committee, with the support of CTED, to examine Member States' efforts to protect critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks as relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) with the aim of identifying good practices, gaps and vulnerabilities in this field. The resolution also invites Member States to consider possible preventive measures in developing national strategies

and policies. In addition, paragraph 2 (b) of resolution 1373 (2001) calls on Member States to "[t]ake the necessary steps to prevent the commission of terrorist acts, including by provision of early warning to other States by exchange of information". Security Council Resolution 1566 (2004) calls on States to prevent criminal acts, including against civilians, committed with the purpose of provoking a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons, intimidating a population, or compelling a Government or an international to do commit, or abstain from committing any act. The physical protection of critical infrastructure can prevent the commission of high-impact terrorist attacks. Moreover, the immediate response to a terrorist attack against critical infrastructure can prevent the "cascading" effects frequently associated with such attacks. The Committee has held two open briefings on these matters: (i) an open briefing on "Protection of Critical Infrastructure in Tourism", held on 12 June 2014,<sup>2</sup> and (ii) an open briefing on "Strengthening Emergency Responses in the Aftermath of Terrorist Incidents", held on 16 June 2015.<sup>3</sup> On 21 November 2016, the Security Council held an "Arria Formula" meeting on the "Protection of Critical Infrastructure against Terrorist Attacks", initiated by the delegation of Ukraine, at which Member States presented their concerns and views on key aspects of this topic. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) has established a thematic Working Group on "Protection of Critical Infrastructure including Vulnerable Targets, Internet and Tourism Security".