

The Economic and Human Cost of Global Terrorism

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Abstract

'Civil disturbances', 'Unrest', 'Revolution', 'Wars' are some of the terms that describe the inherent nature of human conflict with varying degree of violence. Every violent incident in the history of mankind has left an indelible mark on the human civilization. Needless to say, few events in human history have had such a lasting effect on human society as an armed or violent conflict. Since, the beginning of the new millennium, a new violent force has emerged in different parts of the world which appears to make use of the most modern technology to synchronize and co-ordinate their violent activities in pursuance of their goal. These forces or organization have sought to increasingly use religion as a means to spread their ideology and reach out to a wide spectrum of people globally through the use of internet and social mass media. Terrorism affects human society in multiple ways. It affects the economy in a multiple ways like the drastic negative effect on the tourism industry in case of SWAT valley, northeastern Pakistan. The after effects of terrorism leads to conflicts between Nation States aligned to different factions in the conflict, as seen recently between Turkey and Russia, spilling over on the economic front. It leads to an increase in preventive anti-terrorism measures which seriously curtails the human rights of the civilian populace and at the same time draining the financial resources of the state. Last but not the least; it creates a fear psychosis among the people affecting their mental and moral health. The current paper attempts to analyze the concept of modern day terrorism and the economic and human cost it extracts.

Key words: Peace, Conflicts, Terrorism.

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