CREST CATALOGUE 2025

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About us

The Centre for Research and Evidence on Security Threats (CREST) is the UK's hub for behavioural and social science research into security threats. CREST brings together the UK's foremost expertise in understanding the psychological and social drivers of the threat, the skills and technologies that enable its effective investigation, and the protective security measures that help counter the threat in the first place.

Funded primarily by the UK Home Office, CREST conducts its work in a context of strong stakeholder collaboration and international research engagement. This funding is administered by the Economic and Social Research Council, guaranteeing the academic rigour and independence of CREST's research.

CREST directly funds the work of over 225 researchers (including doctoral students), in over 40 institutions. Through events and its magazine, *CREST Security Review (CSR)*, it also works with a larger community of leading researchers from around the world who are conducting, directly or indirectly, research that helps understand, mitigate, and counter security threats. While CREST may not be the funder of all of this work, it offers a vehicle to promote academic-practitioner dialogue and exchange.

The Catalogue

This catalogue provides an overview of the published outputs from CREST's projects from October 2015 to May 2025. These outputs range from short 'how-to' guides to in-depth reports; policy briefs to videos; and journal articles and posters to CREST's triannual magazine *CREST Security Review*.

All of these resources are available from our website. We've included a QR code for each project, directing you to its webpage where all associated resources are available in one place. New resources are being published all the time. You can be updated on these new resources by signing up for our newsletter at www.crestresearch.ac.uk/contact/newsletter and/or by following us on social media.

We have organised the catalogue into three parts. The first part groups our project into four themes: Understanding beliefs and values; Gathering intelligence; Assessing risk; Deterring threats. These themes are not mutually exclusive and a project or resource may inform more than one theme. The second part lists our resources by project. The third part links to all issues of *CREST Security Review*.

CREST In Numbers

FUNDING

£3.94m
HEI funding

£35m
Follow-on funding

£13.4m
UK Home Office and Security & Intelligence agencies

PEOPLE

26
CREST-funded PHDs

76
ECR contributors to CSR

314
Unique CSR contributors

INSTITUTIONS

71
CREST-funded projects

PROJECTS

47
CREST commissioned projects

RESOURCES & REACH

10.5k+
Citations

8,660
Social media followers

724k
Website downloads

551
Downloadable resources

8
International conferences hosted

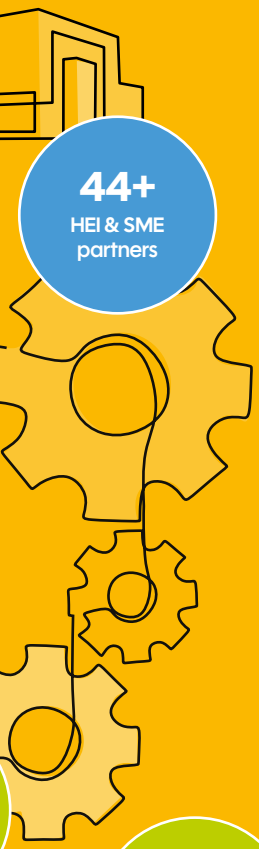
23k
CSR copies distributed from 20 issues

266
CSR published articles

TRAINING

92
Training resources

25+
Workshop designs



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17	**Actors and Narratives**	Cerwyn Moore
25	**Ethno-National, Religio-Cultural or Anti-muslim? Investigating Sikh Radicalisation in Britain**	Jasjit Singh
26	**How Does Isis' Online Propaganda Demonstrate Mechanisms of Radicalisation?**	Stephane Baele
26	**Learning and Unlearning Terrorism: The Transition From Civilian Life Into Paramilitarism and Back Again During the Conflict and Peace Process in Northern Ireland**	Neil Ferguson
27	**Understanding When Extremism Gives Way to Moderate Politics: The Case of Sri Lanka, 1983–2016**	Christopher McDowel
28	**Why Do People Adopt Conspiracy Theories, How Are They Communicated, and What Are Their Risks?**	Karen Douglas
30	**Soft Facts and Digital Behavioural Influencing**	Martin Innes
32	**The Internal Brakes on Violent Escalation**	Joel Busher
37	**Understanding Twenty-First Century Militant Anti-fascism: An Analytical Framework and Matrix**	Nigel Copsey
38	**Why Do People Spread Disinformation on Social Media?**	Tom Buchanan
39	**Constraining Violence**	Sarah Marsden
42	**Practice Consolidation and Assessment**	Zainab Al-Attar
43	**Disengagement and Desistance: A Systematic Review**	John F. Morrison
44	**Memetic Irony and the Promotion of Violence Within Chan Cultures**	Guillermo Suarez-Tangil
45	**Mining the Chans: Exposing the Visual and Linguistic Dynamics of Radicalisation in Far-Right Image-Boards (MineChans)**	Stephane Baele
46	**Con.Cel: Tracking the Online Contagion of InCel and Male Supremacist Ideology**	Lewys Brace
46	**Conspiracy Theories and Extremism**	Paul Gill & Bettina Rottweiler
47	**Detecting Hybrid Social Identities: A Computational Analysis of Influence and Resilience in Online RWE Communities**	Anastasia Kordoni
48	**Mapping and Modelling Influence Interactions Between Conspiracy Communities and Extremist Entities (MICE2)**	Martin Innes
48	**Misogyny, Hostile Beliefs and the Transmission of Extremism: A Comparison of the Far-Right in the UK and Australia**	Alexandra Phelan
51	**CONTEST**	Sarah Marsden
52	**Trauma, Adversity & Violent Extremism**	Sarah Marsden
53	**Rapid Evidence Assessment 1 Outline: Social Movement Theory Perspectives on Group Mobilisation and Radicalisation**	Sarah Marsden

Understanding Beliefs and Values

This theme focuses on understanding the beliefs and values of individuals and groups that present a threat to national security in the UK. It offers an understanding of far-right extremism, Islamic extremism, and militant anti-fascism. To further understanding and counter ignorance, it offers guides on various aspects of Islam and British Muslim communities as well as exploring claims of Sikh radicalisation.

In addition to understanding belief systems, this theme considers how and why ideas are shared. It covers work on disinformation and social media, in part through consideration of Russia. It looks at the use of Russian fake social media accounts, and Russian-speaking foreign fighters in Syria and Iraq. This is supplemented by work on violence promotion in Chan cultures, conspiracy theories, the direct and indirect effects of trauma on radicalisation, and reciprocal radicalisation.

In order to expand our knowledge of violence reduction and disengagement, this theme reports on the internal brakes on violent escalation, and includes work which seeks to learn lessons from the conflict in Northern Ireland. To enhance policy makers' knowledge, the theme covers Countering Violent Extremism initiatives, and the effectiveness of existing deradicalisation programmes.

Contents – Gathering Intelligence

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19	**Eliciting Information**	Aldert Vrij
24	**Community Reporting of Violent Extremist Activity and Involvement in Foreign Conflict**	Paul Thomas & Michele Grossman
25	**Differences in the Ability to Spot Rare, Non-salient or Hidden Targets**	Nick Donnelly
27	**Minimal Social Exclusion: A Means to Increased Information Gain in Human Intelligence Interviews?**	Pär-Anders Granhag
27	**Terrorist Decision-Making Regarding Security and Risk**	Paul Gill
30	**Quantifying the Effectiveness of an Evidence-Based Rapport-Building Training Programme**	Fiona Gabbert & Gordon Wright
31	**Taking Decisions about Information Value**	Ashraf Labib
33	**Collecting and Leveraging Identity Cues With Keystroke Analysis (CLICKA)**	Oli Buckley
34	**Human Engagement Through Artificial / Augmented Intelligence**	Chris Baber
35	**Rapport Building: Online vs In-Person Interviews**	Ewout Meijer
36	**The Adaptable Law Enforcement Officer: Developing a Measure of Adaptive Effectiveness**	Simon Oleszkiewicz
39	**Best Practices for Disruption and Measures of Effect**	Paul Taylor
40	**Developing Best Practices for Online Elicitation**	Lorraine Hope
41	**Linguistic Tools to Measure Source Motivation and Intent**	Claire Hardaker
42	**Online Efficacy of Cognitive Credibility Assessment**	Aldert Vrij
50	**The Effect of Different Online Mediums and Variable Formats on Information Disclosure in Vetting Interviews**	Calvin Burns

Gathering Intelligence

This theme focuses on ways to gather intelligence from, and about, groups and individuals. It covers specific interviewing techniques that help practitioners to elicit accurate information in interview or debrief settings, such as the Timeline Technique, the Cognitive Interview, the Model Statement Technique, the Unexpected Questions Technique, and the RING task – which has been specifically designed to support the recall of information about people involved in networks. Relatedly, it considers the importance of rapport building to effective intelligence gathering and illustrates this in both offline and in-person interviews.

To help practitioners make good judgements about where threats to accuracy lie, the theme covers different types of inconsistency and when they matter; what it means when someone says that they 'don't know' or 'don't remember' something; and techniques that help practitioners to detect deception such as the Verifiability Technique.

As well as looking at effective tools and techniques for eliciting information and assessing its veracity, the theme focuses on individuals carrying out the intelligence gathering. It examines the adaptive behaviour of practitioners in a law enforcement context, and provides an insight into coping under stress in security settings and the effects this can have on performance. Of course, not all intelligence is gathered by interviewing and so the theme considers surveillance in the form of spotting faces and rare targets.

In organisations that gather large amounts of intelligence, technological advances are being used to assist practitioners in their analysis. Here we consider software tools designed to help analysts process large volumes of data quickly and effectively, the role of explanation in systems which use artificial intelligence to help analyse intelligence, and technological advances, such as how to use keystroke dynamics to identify the name and native language of an anonymous user.

Contents – Assessing Risk

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17	**Actors and Narratives**	Cerwyn Moore
21	**Understanding & Countering Online Behaviour**	Adam Joinson
23	**An Exploratory Study of Expertise and Inertia in Emergency Service Responses in a Counter-Terrorism Live Exercise**	Laurence Alison
24	**Community Reporting of Violent Extremist Activity and Involvement in Foreign Conflict**	Paul Thomas & Michele Grossman
27	**Terrorist Decision-Making Regarding Security and Risk**	Paul Gill
28	**Why Do People Adopt Conspiracy Theories, How Are They Communicated, and What Are Their Risks?**	Karen Douglas
29	**Assessing and Mitigating the Impact of Organisational Change on Counterproductive Work Behaviour: An Operational (Dis)Trust Based Framework**	Rosalind Searle
30	**Imaginative Scenario Planning for Law Enforcement Organisations**	Math Noortmann & Juliette Koning
31	**The Cyber Security Risks of Digital Hoarding**	Nick Neave
32	**The Internal Brakes on Violent Escalation**	Joel Busher
33	**'Hot Periods' of Anti-minority Activism and the Threat of Violent Domestic Extremism: Towards an Assessment Framework**	Joel Busher
34	**Individual Differences in the Adoption, Secure Use, and Exploitation of Smart Home Technology**	Emma Williams
37	**Understanding Moral Injury and Belief Change in the Experiences of Police Investigators in Child Exploitation Units**	Peter Lee
38	**Why Do People Spread Disinformation on Social Media?**	Tom Buchanan
40	**Factors That Deter Threat Actors and Reconnaissance**	Paul Gill & Zoe Marchment
41	**Modelling Online Engagement Patterns to Infer Risk**	Adam Joinson
42	**Practice Consolidation and Assessment**	Zainab Al-Attar
43	**Development of Risk Assessment Schemes for Channel**	Paul Gill & Zoe Marchment
43	**Disengagement and Desistance: A Systematic Review**	John F. Morrison
43	**Knowledge Management Across the Four Counter-Terrorism 'Ps'**	Sarah Marsden
45	**State of the Union: A Synthesis of Recent Evidence for Multilevel Drivers of Involvement in Terrorism**	Noémie Bouhana
46	**Conspiracy Theories and Extremism**	Paul Gill & Bettina Rottweiler
47	**Environment and Interventions: Assessing the Environmental Risk of Terrorism**	Noémie Bouhana
49	**Digital Emerging Biometrics**	Sophie Nightingale
51	**CONTEST**	Sarah Marsden
52	**Trauma, Adversity & Violent Extremism**	Sarah Marsden
53	**Best Practice Interoperability and Interoperability Training**	Nicola Power
53	**Measuring the Impacts of State Disinformation Targeting in the UK**	Martin Innes
53	**Transnational Repression in a Digital Age: A Framework for Analysis**	Basil Germond

Assessing Risk

This theme focuses on the assessment of risk to specific people (such as employees), from a wide variety of actors (such as violent extremists), and via a range of techniques (such as disinformation campaigns).

It includes guides and reports on assessing risk of violence from groups and individuals such as Islamic extremists and far-right groups. We also have reports that enable a more nuanced understanding of risk of violence such as research on the internal brakes on violent escalation, research on trauma, adversity, and engagement in violent extremism, understanding how terrorists and criminals make decisions, how countering violent extremism interventions apply to women, and the relationship between mental health and terrorism.

In this theme we also include guides on technology enabled risk such as phishing attacks, the Internet of Things, and risks from the spread of disinformation. Examples draw on Russia and disinformation, focusing on the Caucasus, Ukraine, and the annexation of Crimea.

The theme looks at assessing risk to employees, including workshops that focused on performance and coping under stress, as well as understanding moral injury and trauma in child exploitation investigators.

From the opposite angle, other work explores the risk from employees, and we include a series of reports on organisational change and insider threat, as well as research on the cyber security risks of digital hoarding behaviour.

Contents – Deterring Threats

Page	Project Title	Project Lead
20	**Protective Security & Risk Assessment**	Debi Ashenden
23	**An Exploratory Study of Expertise and Inertia in Emergency Service Responses in a Counter-Terrorism Live Exercise**	Laurence Alison
28	**Why Do People Adopt Conspiracy Theories, How Are They Communicated, and What Are Their Risks?**	Karen Douglas
29	**Assessing and Mitigating the Impact of Organisational Change on Counterproductive Work Behaviour: An Operational (Dis)Trust Based Framework**	Rosalind Searle
30	**Imaginative Scenario Planning for Law Enforcement Organisations**	Math Noortmann & Juliette Koning
35	**Inoculating Against the Spread of Islamophobic and Extremist Islamist Disinformation**	Stephan Lewandowsky
36	**Simulated Phishing and Employee Cybersecurity Behaviour (SPEC)**	John Blythe
44	**Mapping Terrorist Exploitation of and Migration Between Online Communication and Content-Hosting Platforms**	Shiraz Maher
47	**Evaluating Security Interventions in Public Locations: Developing and Testing a Co-created Framework for Protective Security**	David McIlhatton
49	**Prosecuting Extremists in the United Kingdom: An Exploration of Charging, Prosecution and Sentencing Outcomes**	Rachel Monaghan
50	**Situational Threat and Response Signals (Stars): Public-Facing Counter-Terrorism Strategic Communication Campaigns**	Charis Rice
51	**CONTEST**	Sarah Marsden
51	**The Psychology of Interoperability: Building Better Multi-Agency Counter-Terrorism Training (INTEROP)**	Nicola Power
52	**Trauma, Adversity & Violent Extremism**	Sarah Marsden
53	**Facilitators and Barriers to Public Adherence to Protective Security**	Stacey Conchie

Deterring Threats

This theme is broad in scope, addressing our need to better understand how we can deter threat and protect ourselves.

It addresses deterring threat from terrorism through examination of how criminals and terrorists make decisions, and reports on interventions that prevent and counter extremism. This includes interventions that offer promise in disrupting groups through Telegram, and those that consider effective management of terrorism-related offenders in prison.

It looks at public experiences of counter terrorism measures in the UK and overseas; examines how members of the public can help deter threat by reporting suspicious behaviour; and explores how to inoculate against the spread of disinformation.

The theme also considers how security professionals can communicate better with employees about how to protect organisations; understanding and mitigating the risk of large-scale change to counterproductive workplace behaviour; and how to best protect staff from phishing attacks in order to mitigate cyber threats.

The innovative tools outlined in the imaginative scenario planning toolkit enable policy makers to consider future threat and deterrence.

PROJECTS RESOURCES OPPORTUNITIES CREST SECURITY REVIEW IAF

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- Protective Security
- Radicalisation
- Risk Assessment
- Stress & Resilience

All Resources

NICOLA POWER

Enhancing Interoperability Training: Insights From UK Emergency Responders

SPECIAL | 2 MIN READ

LEWYS BRACE

What Does Netflix's Dr 'Adolescence' Tell Us And The Manosphere?

ARTICLE | 7 MIN READ

SHERYL (PRENTICE) MENADUE

Motivations To Disclosure

REPORT | 2 MIN READ

NICOLA POWER, CHARLO PHILIP BUTLER, JENNIFE

JESIP Research Sy Summary

ARTICLE | 4 MIN READ

Resources by Project

CREST has a large and growing number of projects focused on providing evidence-based solutions to problems faced by those on the frontline in mitigating and preventing security threats. In this section we list the variety of outputs produced by each project. These are added to continuously, even by projects where funding has now finished, as peer-reviewed articles are published, follow-up studies conducted, and research translated into toolkits, guides, and briefs for direct application.

If you'd find it useful to have some of this research summarised and translated for use in your area of work, please get in touch. Likewise, if you're a researcher who thinks we've missed some of the relevant work out, let us know and we'll make sure it is added to the list!

UBV

Actors and Ideologies in Social Context

» KIM KNOTT

University of Portsmouth

This project aims to improve our understanding of where and how beliefs and values, including from extremist ideologies, are transmitted and learned – why and how people engage and disengage from terrorist violence.

ARTICLES

- Affect and Emotion in Extremist Discourse
- Are Converts to Islam More Likely to Become Extremists?
- A Short Guide to Narratives of the Far-Right
- From Ideological Material to Targeting Choice in Leaderless Jihad
- Grassroots Counter Messaging in the UK
- How Does the Family Pass on Religion?
- How Do Teachers Engage with Prevent?
- One Peaceful March Doesn't Change Pegida's Disturbing Ideology
- Paris Attacks: There is No Simple Explanation
- Reintegrating Extremists: 'Deradicalisation' and Desistance
- Research Drives Understanding and Disruption of Terrorism
- Terrorists' Use of Messaging Applications
- The Importance of Terrorists' Families and Friends
- The Role of Gender in Violent Extremism
- Transmitting Terrorism: A Family Affair?
- Understanding the Counter-jihad
- Understanding the Roles Women Play in Violence Extremism and Why it Matters
- What Are the Five Pillars of Islam?
- What's the Difference Between Sunni and Shi'a Muslims?
- Why Transmission?

GUIDES

- British Muslims: A History
- British Muslims: Charities and Organisations
- British Muslims: Demography and Communities
- British Muslims: Families
- British Muslims: Gender and Generations
- British Muslims: Mosques
- British Muslims: Sectarian Movements
- Deradicalisation Programmes: Introductory Guide
- How and Why Ideologies Are Shared and Learned
- Islam: Conversion
- Islam: The Five Pillars
- Sunni and Shi'a Islam: Differences and Relationships
- The Counter Jihad Movement
- Understanding the Far-Right Landscape

JOURNAL

- Knott, K., & Lee, B. J. (2020). Ideological Transmission in Extremist Contexts: Towards a Framework of How Ideas Are Shared. *Politics, Religion & Ideology, 21*(1), 1–23. https://doi.org/10.1080/21567689.2020.1732938
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- Knott, K. (2018). Applying the study of religions in the security domain: knowledge, skills, and collaboration. *Journal of Religious and Political Practice, 4*(3), 354–373. https://doi.org/10.1080/20566093.2018.1525901

POSTERS

- Mind Map: Ideological Transmission

REPORTS

- Extremism Risk Assessment: A Directory
- Ideological Transmission: Political and Religious Organisations
- Reciprocal Radicalisation
- Muslims and Islam in the UK
- Ideological Transmission: Peers, Education, and Prisons
- Ideological Transmission: Families

Actors and Narratives

» **CERWYN MOORE** — University of Birmingham

This programme examines the narratives of people who get involved in, and disengage from, terrorism.

UBV
AR

ARTICLES

- After St Petersburg: Russia and the Threat from Central Asian Terror Networks
- Lessons from the Decline of the North Caucasus Insurgency
- Loyal Footsoldiers: The Attractions of EDL Activism
- Remainers and Leavers: Foreign Fighters After the 'Islamic State'
- Russia's Domestic Terrorism Threat is Serious, Sophisticated, and Complex
- Transnational Activism Through the Ages

REPORTS

- After Islamic State: Workshop 1
- After Islamic State: Workshop Report 2
- After Islamic State: Workshop Report 3
- After Islamic State: Workshop Report 4
- Russia and Disinformation: Institutions and Actors
- Russia and Disinformation: Maskirovka
- Russia and Disinformation: The Case of the Caucasus
- Russia and Disinformation: The Case of Ukraine
- 'Russian-Speaking' Fighters in Syria, Iraq, and at Home: Consequences and Context

POLICY BRIEFS

- 'Russian-Speaking' Fighters in Syria, Iraq, and at Home

GI

Behavioural Analytics

» PAUL TAYLOR — Lancaster University

Can organised crime be prevented by predicting people's characteristics, networks, and intentions from the way they have previously behaved?

ARTICLES

- 7 Things Worth Knowing About Groups
- Apple or Android? What Your Choice of Operating System Says About You
- Communicating Across Cultures
- From Data to Datum: What Should I do in this Case?
- The A–Z of Information Elicitation
- The Future of Wearable Technology
- The Promise of Social Science

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Shaw, H., Taylor, P., Ellis, D., & Conchie, S. (2022). Behavioral consistency in the digital age. *Psychological Science, 33*(3), 364–370. **https://doi.org/10.1177/09567976211040491**
- Geyer, K., Ellis, D. A., Shaw, H., & Davidson, B. I. (2021b). Open-source smartphone app and tools for measuring, quantifying, and visualizing technology use. *Behavior Research Methods, 54*(1), 1–12. **https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-021-01585-7**
- Taylor, P. J., Holbrook, D., & Joinson, A. (2017b). Same kind of different. *Criminology & Public Policy, 16*(1), 127–133. **https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12285**

Eliciting Information

» ALDERT VRIJ University of Portsmouth

How can the nature of social and cognitive processes contribute to promoting complete recall and accurate deception detection?

GI

ARTICLES

- Connecting Culture to Deception Detection
- Developing an Evidenced-Based Approach to Enhance Recall of Intelligence
- From the Lab to Operational Response: Examining the Impact of Stress on Memory for High Pressure Incidents
- How Does Memory Work?
- How Do We Measure Rapport in Interviews?
- Increasing Accurate Recall in Human Sources
- Lie Detectors: Body Language Tells Us Surprisingly Little About Whether Someone is Being Honest
- Memory at the Sharp End: The Psychology of Eliciting Information
- Memory Recall: The Challenge of Eliciting Reliable Information
- Try to See Things My Way? The Role of Perspective Taking in Eliciting Information
- Untangling the Past: Remembering Details of Repeated Events

GUIDES

- A Timeline Helps Interviewees Recall and Report Events
- Eliciting Information from Memory about Criminal Gangs and Terrorist Cells
- Liars Struggle to Provide Checkable Details
- Memory and Consistency in Eliciting Information: When Does (In)Consistency Matter?
- The Cognitive Interview
- The Model Statement Technique
- The Unexpected Questions Technique
- Using Self-Generated Cues to Elicit Information

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Rubínová, E., Kontogianni, F. Sources and destinations of misattributions in recall of instances of repeated events. *Memory & Cognition, 51*(1), 188–202 (2023). https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-022-01300-7
- Vrij A, Leal S and Fisher RP (2018) Verbal Deception and the Model Statement as a Lie Detection Tool. *Frontiers in Psychiatry, 9*. doi: 10.3389/fpsyt.2018.00492

POSTERS

- What Sources Mean When They Say 'I don't know': Overview
- What Interviewees Mean When They Say, 'I Don't Know': Memory Encoding
- What Sources Mean When They Say, 'I Don't Know': Memory Retrieval
- What Sources Mean When They Say, 'I Don't Know': Interview Context
- What Sources Mean When They Say, 'I Don't Know': Distrust, Cynicism and Hostility
- What Sources Mean When They Say, 'I Don't Know': Personal Motivation

THESIS SUMMARY

- Eliciting Information from Cooperative Sources About Single and Repeated Multi-Actor Events

Protective Security & Risk Assessment

» **DEBI ASHENDEN** University of Portsmouth

This project aims to understand how we can 'patch with people' and considers security as a social practice enacted in an organisational context.

DT

ARTICLES

- Algorithmic Decision Making
- Converging Security
- Creativity and Cyber Security
- Data and the Social and Behavioural Sciences
- Employees Behaving Badly
- Fact Check: The Cyber Security Attack Surface
- Phishing Scams Are Becoming Ever More Sophisticated and Firms Are Struggling to Keep Up
- TalkTalk Data Breach is a Wake Up Call for CEOs
- Your Employees: The Front Line in Cyber Security

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Debi Ashenden. 2018. 'In Their Own Words: Employee Attitudes towards Information Security'. *Information and Computer Security, 26*(3): 327–37. https://doi.org/10.1108/ICS-04-2018-0042

Understanding & Countering Online Behaviour

» ADAM JOINSON University of Bath

How is the internet used in recruitment, radicalisation, and organisation of threats to national security?

AR

ARTICLES

- Behaviour Prediction: The Challenges and Opportunities of Big Data
- Cyber security decisions: how do you make yours?
- Eliciting Information Online
- How Does Phishing Work?
- Is there something missing? Terror finances and the UK review of economic crime
- The Criminal Finances Bill
- The future of wearable technology
- What is the role of technology in an emergency?
- Where does the Islamic State get its money?
- Why networks matter

GUIDES

- 2017 Messaging Applications
- Introductory Guide to Phishing

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Bowden-Green, T., Hinds, J., & Joinson, A. (2020). How is extraversion related to social media use? A literature review. *Personality and Individual Differences, 164,* 110040. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2020.110040
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- Joinson, A., & Piwek, L. (2016). Technology and the formation of socially positive behaviours. In *Policy Press eBooks* (pp. 157–178). **https://doi.org/10.1332/policypress/9781447317555.003.0008**

POSTERS

- Mind Map: The Bluffers Guide to Networks

An Exploratory Study of Expertise and Inertia in Emergency Service Responses in a Counter-Terrorism Live Exercise

» LAURENCE ALISON

University of Liverpool

This project examines police and emergency service response during a counter-terrorism live exercise, with a specific focus on expertise, team decision making, and decision command-level inertia.

AR
DT

ARTICLES

- Building Good Rapport in Interviews
- Communicating with Casualties in Emergencies
- Persuasion and Influence or Genuine Connection and Rapport

GUIDES

- Considerations for Training Development
- Factors that Affect Command Decision-Making

Community Reporting of Violent Extremist Activity and Involvement in Foreign Conflict

» PAUL THOMAS & MICHELE GROSSMAN

University of Huddersfield/ Deakin University, Melbourne

GI
AR

This project seeks to gain new knowledge about the dynamics and barriers to community reporting in the UK.

ARTICLES

- Community Reporting: The Key to Defeating Terrorism?
- Community Reporting of Terrorist Involvement During Covid-19
- Community Reporting on Terrorism: Bystanders Versus Social Intimates
- Manchester Attack: an 'Arms Race' Against Ever Adapting Terror Networks
- New International Dimensions In Community Reporting of Terrorist Involvement
- What are the Barriers to Reporting People Suspected of Violent Extremism?

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Eisenman, D. P., Weine, S., Thomas, P., Grossman, M., Porter, N., Shah, N. D., Smith, C. P., Brahmbhatt, Z., & Fernandes, M. (2023). Obstacles and facilitators to intimate bystanders reporting violent extremism or targeted violence. *Critical Studies on Terrorism, 16*(4), 672–699. https://doi.org/10.1080/17539153.2023.2269011
- Eisenman, D. P., Weine, S., Shah, N. D., Jones, N. V., Smith, C. P., Thomas, P., & Grossman, M. (2022). Bystander reporting to prevent violent extremism and targeted violence: learning from practitioners. *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression, 16*(4), 511–529. https://doi.org/10.1080/19434472.2022.2130960

REPORTS

- Community Reporting Thresholds

SPECIAL

- Podcast: An interview with Paul Thomas on 'Responding to the Threat of Violent Extremism: Failing to Prevent'

Differences in the Ability to Spot Rare, Non-salient or Hidden Targets

» NICK DONNELLY
University of Southampton

This project reviews the literature on individual differences in the ability to detect rare, hidden, or non-salient targets, and a reanalysis of existing data to pull out the impact of individual differences.

GI

ARTICLES

- Just Another Face in the Crowd – What Makes Spotting Unfamiliar Faces Difficult?

GUIDES

- Detecting Rare Targets
- Finding Hidden Targets
- How Training and Professional Experience Affect The Ability to Spot Targets
- Individual Differences in Ability To Search
- What Makes Spotting Faces Difficult?

Ethno-National, Religio-Cultural or Anti-muslim? Investigating Sikh Radicalisation in Britain

» JASJIT SINGH
University of Leeds

This project explores the current state of Sikh radicalisation in the UK, including an open-source evaluation of the threat and likelihood of violent Sikh extremism, and the involvement of Sikhs in far-right and anti-Muslim movements.

UBV

ARTICLES

- Religious Transmission Among Young Adults in the Digital Age
- Sikh Activism in Britain

GUIDES

- Sikh Activism in Britain: Narratives and Issues

REPORTS

- The Idea, Context, Framing, and Realities of 'Sikh Radicalisation' in Britain

How Does Isis' Online Propaganda Demonstrate Mechanisms of Radicalisation?

» STEPHANE BAELE

University of Exeter

This project seeks to identify how ISIS' online propaganda demonstrates the dynamics of radicalisation by conducting a large-scale, computer-assisted analysis of ISIS' online content.

UBV

ARTICLES

- Extremist Prose as Networks

Learning and Unlearning Terrorism: The Transition From Civilian Life Into Paramilitarism and Back Again During the Conflict and Peace Process in Northern Ireland

» NEIL FERGUSON

Liverpool Hope University

This project brings together two qualitative data sets compiled by Professor Ferguson and Professor McAuley over a period spanning more than 20 years and comprising of approximately 100 anonymised transcriptions of interviews conducted with Northern Irish paramilitaries, ex-prisoners and former Loyalist and Republican combatants for a comprehensive high-level re-analysis.

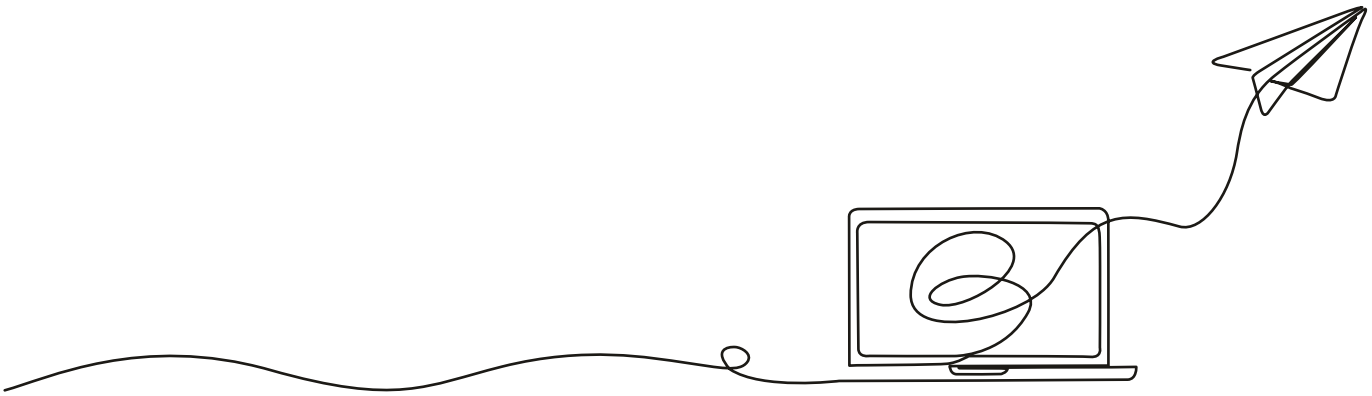
UBV

ARTICLES

- Understanding Engagement in Violent Extremism in Northern Ireland

GUIDES

- The Violent Extremist Lifecycle: 12 Lessons from Northern Ireland



Minimal Social Exclusion: A Means to Increased Information Gain in Human Intelligence Interviews?

» PÄR-ANDERS GRANHAG — University of Gothenburg, Sweden

GI

This project addresses the challenge of increasing the willingness of interviewees and informants to share reliable information with law enforcement and security/intelligence agencies.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Ask, K., Ejelöv, E., & Granhag, P. A. (2018). Eliciting human intelligence: The effects of social exclusion and inclusion on information disclosure. *Journal of Investigative Psychology and Offender Profiling, 16*(1), 3–17. https://doi.org/10.1002/jip.1516

REPORTS

- Masterclass in Eliciting Intelligence Information

Terrorist Decision-Making Regarding Security and Risk

» PAUL GILL — University College London

GI
AR

This project builds a better understanding of how terrorists make judgements about risk and security, and how this informs their actions (e.g., operational security measures, targeting decisions, hostile reconnaissance).

ARTICLES

- 8 Things You Need to Know About Terrorist Decision-Making

GUIDES

- How Do Criminals Make Decisions?
- How Do Terrorists Make Decisions?

Understanding When Extremism Gives Way to Moderate Politics: The Case of Sri Lanka, 1983–2016

» CHRISTOPHER MCDOWEL — City St George's, University of London

UBV

This project examined why, despite expectations, the LTTE ('Tamil Tigers') has not returned to fighting.

ARTICLES

- Displacement and Transition Risks
- Sri Lanka, Diaspora Politics, and the End of Violence

REPORTS

- Asylum, Security, and Extremism
- The Engagement of Refugees in Transnational Politics: Lessons from the Migration, Diaspora and Refugee Studies Literature
- Understanding Transnational Diaspora Politics: A Conceptual Discussion

Why Do People Adopt Conspiracy Theories, How Are They Communicated, and What Are Their Risks?

» KAREN DOUGLAS — University Of Kent

This project develops our understanding of conspiracy theories: their emergence, transmission and methods to counter them.

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ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Douglas, K. M., Uscinski, J. E., Sutton, R. M., Cichocka, A., Nefes, T., Ang, C. S., & Deravi, F. (2019). Understanding Conspiracy Theories. *Political Psychology, 40*(S1), 3–35. https://doi.org/10.1111/pops.12568
- Douglas, K. M., Sutton, R. M., & Cichocka, A. (2017). The Psychology of Conspiracy Theories. *Current Directions in Psychological Science, 26*(6), 538–542. https://doi.org/10.1177/0963721417718261

REPORTS

- Conspiracy Theories: How Are They Adopted, Communicated, and What Are Their Risks?

Assessing and Mitigating the Impact of Organisational Change on Counterproductive Work Behaviour: An Operational (Dis)Trust Based Framework

» ROSALIND SEARLE University of Glasgow

AR
DT

This project builds on existing evidence to produce the first (dis)trust-based framework for predicting, identifying, and mitigating counterproductive working behaviours and insider threat within an organisational change context.

ARTICLES

- How Messing with Employee Pensions Can Backfire on Companies
- Positively Influencing Individuals During Organisational Change
- Trust and Citizenship: The Insider Threat
- Trust and Insider Threat: Ensuring We Don't Look Back – or Forward – in Anger

GUIDES

- A Manager's Guide to Organisational Change
- Animation: Positively Influencing Individuals During Organisational Change
- Managing Organisational Change: Individuals Toolkit
- Managing Organisational Change: Leaders Toolkit
- Managing Organisational Change: Organisational Culture Toolkit
- Managing Organisational Change: Practitioner Toolkit
- Managing Organisational Change: Team Relations Toolkit

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

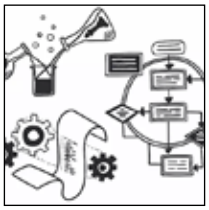
- Searle, R. H., & Rice, C. (2024). Trust, and high control: an exploratory study of Counterproductive Work Behaviour in a high security organization. *European Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology, 34*(3), 392–402. https://doi.org/10.1080/1359432X.2024.2344870

REPORTS

- Managing Organisational Change

SPECIALS

- Managing Organisational Change: Using the CWB Toolkits
- Managing Organisational Change: Video Introduction



Imaginative Scenario Planning for Law Enforcement Organisations

» MATH NOORTMANN & JULIETTE KONING Coventry University/ Maastrict University

This project investigates scenario planning for future security threats by engaging with law enforcement organisations in the Netherlands and the UK.

AR
DT

GUIDES

- Imaginative Scenario Planning Toolkit

REPORTS

- Imaginative Scenario Planning

Quantifying the Effectiveness of an Evidence-Based Rapport-Building Training Programme

» FIONA GABBERT & GORDON WRIGHT Goldsmiths, University of London

This project maps the existing literature on rapport-building, and uses the findings to develop an evidence-based training programme to test the extent to which individuals can be trained to better build rapport.

GI

ARTICLES

- Cross-Cultural Dimensions Impacting Persuasion and Influence In Security Contexts

REPORTS

- Quantifying the Effectiveness of a Rapport-Building Training Programme

Soft Facts and Digital Behavioural Influencing

» MARTIN INNES Cardiff University

This study examines how 'soft facts' attached to security events influence individual and collective behaviours, and what are the most effective countermeasures for managing their consequences.

UBV

ARTICLES

- Russian Influence and Interference on Twitter Following the 2017 UK Terrorist Attacks

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Innes, M. (2020). Techniques of disinformation: Constructing and communicating "soft facts" after terrorism. *British Journal of Sociology, 71*(2), 284–299. https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-4446.12735

POLICY BRIEFS

- Russian Influence and Interference Measures Following the 2017 UK Terrorist Attacks

REPORTS

- Soft Facts and Digital Behavioural Influencing After the 2017 Terror Attacks

Taking Decisions About Information Value

» ASHRAF LABIB — University of Portsmouth

This project aims to develop and evaluate an innovative approach to address errors in judgement in the decision-making process.

GI

GUIDES

- A Sea Change for Intelligence Analysis?

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Labib, A., Chakhar, S., Hope, L., Shimell, J., & Malinowski, M. (2022). Analysis of noise and bias errors in intelligence information systems. *Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology, 73*(12), 1755–1775. https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.24707

REPORTS

- Taking Decisions about Information Value

The Cyber Security Risks of Digital Hoarding

» NICK NEAVE — Northumbria University

This project explores the psychological characteristics of individuals who engage in digital hoarding, and the risks these behaviours can pose to organisations.

AR

ARTICLES

- The Risks of Digital Hoarding

REPORTS

- Cybersecurity Risks of Digital Hoarding Behaviours

UBV
AR

The Internal Brakes on Violent Escalation

» JOEL BUSHER Coventry University

Why do some 'extremists' or 'extremist groups' choose not to engage in violence, or only in particular forms of low-level violence? Why is it that even in deeply violent groups there are often thresholds of violence that members rarely if ever cross, even if they apparently have the capability to do so?

ARTICLES

- Credibility Contests and the Ebb and Flow of Anti-Minority Activism
- Explaining Non- or Limited Escalation of Violence: The Role of 'Internal Brakes'

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Macklin, G. (2020). The Internal Brakes on Violent Escalation within the British Extreme Right in the 1990s. *Perspectives on Terrorism, 14*(6), 49–64. https://www.jstor.org/stable/26964725

REPORTS

- The Internal Brakes on Violent Escalation: A Descriptive Typology
- The Internal Brakes on Violent Escalation: The Animal Liberation Movement
- The Internal Brakes on Violent Escalation: The British Extreme Right
- The Internal Brakes on Violent Escalation: The Transnational and British Jihadi Scene

'Hot Periods' of Anti-minority Activism and the Threat of Violent Domestic Extremism: Towards an Assessment Framework

» JOEL BUSHER — Coventry University

AR

The aim of this project is to generate new policy- and practice-relevant insight about the pathways towards and away from non-state actor violence during periods of intense anti-minority activism.

ARTICLES

- The Escalation and Inhibition of Violence During Waves of Far-Right or Anti-Minority Protests

REPORTS

- The Dynamics of Violence Escalation and Inhibition During 'Hot Periods' of Anti-Minority and Far-Right Activism

Collecting and Leveraging Identity Cues With Keystroke Analysis (CLICKA)

» OLI BUCKLEY — University of East Anglia

GI

Keystroke dynamics is the study and analysis of an individual's typing behaviours. These typing patterns can be as uniquely identifying as a user's signature or handwriting and as such can be used to confirm the identity of an individual.

ARTICLES

- A to Z of Data
- CLICKA

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Buckley, O., Hodges, D., Windle, J., Earl, S., (2022) CLICKA: Collecting and leveraging identity cues with keystroke dynamics. *Computers & Security, 120,* Article 102780 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cose.2022.102780

REPORTS

- Collecting and Leveraging Identity Cues with Keystroke Analysis (CLICKA)

Human Engagement Through Artificial / Augmented Intelligence

» CHRIS BABER — University of Birmingham

This project reviews how augmented intelligence aids human decision-makers with the aim to produce specific use-cases examining potential break-down, and opportunities for repair, in human-AI engagement.

GI

ARTICLES

- Why AI Systems Need to Explain Themselves

GUIDES

- AI and Senior Managers
- AI and System Developers

REPORTS

- Understanding the Problem of Explanation When Using AI in Intelligence Analysis

Individual Differences in the Adoption, Secure Use, and Exploitation of Smart Home Technology

» EMMA WILLIAMS — University of Bristol

This project uses home-based IoT technology and cyber-enabled crime as a basis to explore the relationship between individual differences in the adoption and use of new technology, and the exploitation of such technologies for nefarious purposes.

AR

ARTICLES

- If This Then...What? Security and Privacy in Trigger-Action Systems
- Mapping Smart Home Vulnerabilities to Cyber-Enabled Crime
- What Influences Consumer Adoption and Secure Use of Smart Home Technology?

REPORTS

- Individual Differences in the Adoption, Secure Use, and Exploitation of Smart Home Technology

Inoculating Against the Spread of Islamophobic and Extremist Islamist Disinformation

» STEPHAN LEWANDOWSKY — University of Bristol

This project looks at whether people who are made aware that they might be misled before the misinformation is presented, become more resilient to the misinformation.

DT

ARTICLES

- The "Infodemic", Inoculation, and Insurrections

REPORTS

- Inoculating Against the Spread of Islamophobic and Radical-Islamist Disinformation

Rapport Building: Online vs In-Person Interviews

» EWOUT MEIJER — Maastricht University

This project explores the effectiveness of conducting online witness interviews via chat compared to in-person interviews

GI

REPORTS

- Rapport Building: Online Vs In-Person Interviews

Simulated Phishing and Employee Cybersecurity Behaviour (SPEC)

» JOHN BLYTHE — University of Bath

This project conducts two studies with differing approaches to investigate (i) how policies on simulated phishing emails are currently implemented in organisations using a cross-sectional survey and (ii) the impact of simulated phishing emails policies on employees' cyber security awareness.

DT

POLICY BRIEFS

- Phishing your Staff: A Double-edged Sword?

REPORTS

- Simulated Phishing and Employee Cybersecurity Behaviour (SPEC)

The Adaptable Law Enforcement Officer: Developing a Measure of Adaptive Effectiveness

» SIMON OLESZKIEWICZ — University of Twente

This project aims to develop a behavioural measure of adaptability relevant for police contexts. To examine adaptive behaviour, researchers developed a novel experimental set-up inspired by observations of the training at the Los Angeles Police Department.

GI

ARTICLES

- The Adaptable Law Enforcement Officer

REPORTS

- Developing a Paradigm to Assess and Measure Adaptability

Understanding Moral Injury and Belief Change in the Experiences of Police Investigators in Child Exploitation Units

» PETER LEE — University of Portsmouth

Moral injury research has its origins in research with military personnel. This cross-disciplinary project brings together expertise from criminology, psychology, and applied ethics in a security context to a new domain to better understand moral injury and associated changes in beliefs and attitudes in police online child sex crime investigators.

AR

GUIDES

- Exploring Trauma in Child Exploitation Investigators
- Moral Injury in Child Exploitation Investigators

REPORTS

- Understanding Moral Injury in Police Online Child Sex Crime Investigators

Understanding Twenty-First Century Militant Anti-fascism: An Analytical Framework and Matrix

» NIGEL COPSEY — Teesside University

This project seeks to enhance our understanding of 21st-century militant anti-fascism as a form of 'violent domestic extremism'.

UBV

REPORTS

- Understanding 21st-Century Militant Anti-Fascism

Why Do People Spread Disinformation on Social Media?

» TOM BUCHANAN University of Westminster

This project, that looks to understand human factors influencing the spread of disinformation, will be of value in trying to counteract it.

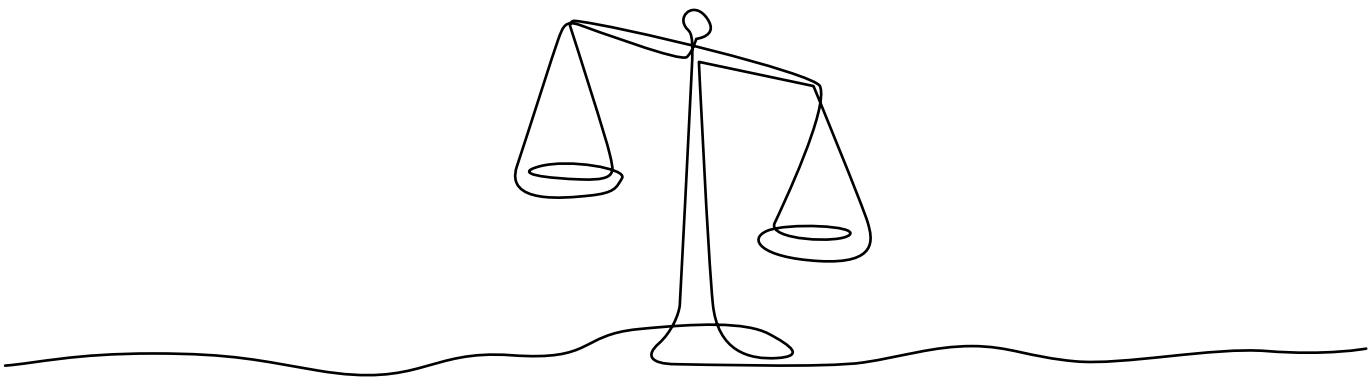
UBV
AR

ARTICLES

- Why Do People Share False Political Information Online?

POLICY BRIEFS

- Why Do People Share Disinformation on Social Media?



Best Practices for Disruption and Measures of Effect

» PAUL TAYLOR — Lancaster University

This project aims to develop novel, precise, and ethical ways to measure operational outcomes.

GI

ARTICLES

- Are Emerging Digital Behavioural Biometrics able to Identify us?
- Hiding in Plain (Web)Site
- Misleading a Group to Ineffectiveness

Constraining Violence

» SARAH MARSDEN — University of St Andrews

How do individual, social, and subcultural factors constrain the potential for extremist violence?

UBV

ARTICLES

- Risky Business? Siege, Subcultures, Risk, and Unintended Consequences

GUIDES

- Protective Factors
- Siege Culture and Accelerationism in the UK

REPORTS

- Conceptualising Protective Factors: Strengths-Based Approaches
- Good Lives in Right-Wing Extremist Autobiographies
- Historical Context and the Good Lives Model
- LARPocalypse: Part One – Siege as a Subculture
- LARPocalypse: Part Two – Differential Participation in Siege Culture
- LARPocalypse: Part Three – Subcultural Constraint
- Lethal Subcultures
- Protective Factors for Violent Extremism and Terrorism: Rapid Evidence Assessment
- Protective Factors in Risk Assessment: Practitioner Perspectives
- Women's Involvement in Online White Nationalism: A Good Lives Model Perspective

SPECIALS

- Timeline: Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism in the UK

Developing Best Practices for Online Elicitation

» LORRAINE HOPE — University of Portsmouth

This project aims to identify the best elicitation techniques for use online, with a focus on building rapport and communication strategies.

GI

ARTICLES

- Navigating Cross-Cultural Challenges in Rapport Building and Information Gathering: Preparing Interviewers for Effective Interactions

GUIDE

- Getting Information Quickly: The Time Critical Questioning (TCQ) Protocol

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Hope, L., Kontogianni, F., Thomas, W., & De La Fuente Vilar, A. (2025). Development and testing of a Time-Critical Questioning protocol for eliciting information in time-sensitive contexts. *Scientific Reports, 15*(1). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-96792-z
- Hope, L., Kontogianni, F., Rechdan, J., Tavitian-Emladjian, L., Soubra, N. A., Brome, D. M. a. M., Gibson, V., & Anakwah, N. (2023). Exploring cultural differences in eyewitness accounts using a self-administered reporting technique. *Psychology Crime and Law*, 1–19. https://doi.org/10.1080/1068316X.2023.2279330

REPORT

- Eliciting Information in Online Interactions: Development of a Rapport-Based Approach for Security Contexts

SPECIAL

- The Time-Critical Questioning (TCQ) Framework

Factors That Deter Threat Actors and Reconnaissance

» PAUL GILL & ZOE MARCHMENT — University College London

This project aims to develop our understanding of hostile actors' experiences and behaviour, including their target selection and reconnaissance, with the purpose of informing existing and new forms of deterrence.

AR

ARTICLES

- The Unintended Consequences of Crime Prevention Measures

REPORT

- How Robust is the Evidence Base for the Human Ability to Recognise Suspicious Activity/Hostile Reconnaissance?

Linguistic Tools to Measure Source Motivation and Intent

» CLAIRE HARDAKER — Lancaster University

This project explores the identification and verbal/behavioural quantification of motives and processes involved in the disclosure of sensitive information.

REPORT

- Motivations to Disclosure

GI

Modelling Online Engagement Patterns to Infer Risk

» ADAM JOINSON — University of Bath

This project explores the link between online engagement and offline action within right-wing extremism and whether it is possible to distinguish the keyboard warriors from those who pose genuine threat for offline violence.

ARTICLES

- Digital Traces of Offline Mobilisation
- Right-Wing Extremism Online: Can We Use Digital Data to Measure Risk?

AR

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Brown, O., Smith, L. G. E., Davidson, B. I., Racek, D., & Joinson, A. (2024). Online signals of extremist mobilization. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*. https://doi.org/10.1177/01461672241266866
- Hinds, J., & Joinson, A. N. (2024). Digital data and personality: A systematic review and meta-analysis of human perception and computer prediction. *Psychological Bulletin, 150*(6), 727–766. https://doi.org/10.1037/bul0000430
- Brown, O., Smith, L. G. E., Davidson, B. I., Racek, D., & Joinson, A. (2023) Online risk signals of offline terrorist offending. *PsyArXiv* https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/hej3r
- Smith, L. G. E., Piwek, L., Hinds, J., Brown, O., & Joinson, A. (2023). Digital traces of offline mobilization. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 125*(3), 496–518. https://doi.org/10.1037/pspa0000338
- Brown, O., Lowery, C., & Smith, L. G. E. (2022). How opposing ideological groups use online interactions to justify and mobilise collective action. *European Journal of Social Psychology, 52,* 1082–1110. https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.2886
- Hinds, J., Brown, O., Smith, L. G. E., Piwek, L., Ellis, D. A., & Joinson, A. N. (2022). Integrating Insights About Human Movement Patterns From Digital Data Into Psychological Science. *Current Directions in Psychological Science, 31*(1), 88-95. https://doi.org/10.1177/09637214211042324

SPECIALS

- The Role of Social Media in Far-Right Violence

Online Efficacy of Cognitive Credibility Assessment

» ALDERT VRIJ — University of Portsmouth

This project examines the use of Cognitive Credibility Assessment techniques regarding omissions when reporting on past events and genuine/deceptive beliefs and attitudes.

GI

ARTICLES

- "The Eyes Can't Lie": Misconceptions about Nonverbal Communication and Why They Matter

GUIDES

- The Devil's Advocate Approach
- Verbal Indicators of Omission Lies

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Burkhardt, J., Vrij, A., Leal, S., Deeb, H., & Vernham, Z. (2025). "Tell me about your trip": Introducing the enhanced ghostwriter lie detection tool. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition, 14*(1), 74–84. **https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000177**
- Leal, S., Vrij, A., Deeb, H., & Fisher, R. P. (2024). Verbal cues in omission lies: The effect of informing sources about the essential part of the event. *Applied Cognitive Psychology, 38*(4), e4232. **https://doi.org/10.1002/acp.4232**
- Mann, S., Vrij, A., & Deeb, H. (2024). Use of the model statement in determining the veracity of opinions. *Applied Cognitive Psychology, 38*(4), e4227. **https://doi.org/10.1002/acp.4227**

POSTERS

- The Devil's Advocate Interview Protocol

Practice Consolidation and Assessment

» ZAINAB AL-ATTAR — University of Central Lancashire

This project aims to consolidate best practice in assessing the risk of extremism in individuals.

UBV
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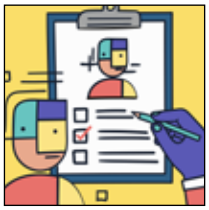
ARTICLES

- Neurodivergence and Extremism: Considerations for Practice

REPORTS

- A Systematic Review of Neurodivergence, Vulnerability, and Risk in the Context of Violent Extremism
- Autism and Extremism: The Questions That Operational Practitioners Should Be Asking
- Neurodivergence and Violent Extremism: 18 International Case Studies
- Practitioner Perspectives on Counterterrorism and Neurodiversity



Development of Risk Assessment Schemes for Channel

» PAUL GILL & ZOE MARCHMENT — University College London

This project develops a prototype risk assessment scheme for individuals referred to Channel through the refinement of existing guidance and the production of a new process.

The deliverables from this project will help professionals to better understand the risks and vulnerabilities associated with a particular case and to identify how the individual may be best supported.

AR

Disengagement and Desistance: A Systematic Review

» JOHN F. MORRISON — Royal Holloway, University of London

This project assesses if research published since 2017 supports or contradicts current assumptions behind existing disengagement and desistence intervention programmes.

ARTICLES

- The Role Of (Dis)Trust in Disengagement and Deradicalisation

REPORTS

- A Systematic Review of Post-2017 Research on Disengagement and Deradicalisation

UBV
AR

Knowledge Management Across the Four Counter-Terrorism 'Ps'

» SARAH MARSDEN — Lancaster University

This project presents a series of nine reports exploring priority areas of policy and practice that fall within the four pillars of CONTEST (Pursue, Prevent, Protect, Prepare).

REPORTS

- Behavioural-Focused Protective Security Programmes
- Economic Influences on Radicalisation
- Evaluating Programmes to Prevent and Counter Extremism
- Extremist Risk Assessment
- Managing Terrorism-Related Offenders in Prison
- Public Experiences of the UK Counter-Terrorism System
- Right-Wing Terrorism: Pathways and Protective Factors
- Terrorism-Related Simulations
- The Relationship Between Mental Health Problems and Terrorism

AR

Mapping Terrorist Exploitation of and Migration Between Online Communication and Content-Hosting Platforms

» SHIRAZ MAHER — King's College London

This project explores how and why jihadist extremists use online communication and content-hosting platforms, and under what circumstances they migrate between them.

REPORTS

- How Telegram Disruption Impacts Jihadist Platform Migration

DT

Memetic Irony and the Promotion of Violence Within Chan Cultures

» GUILLERMO SUAREZ-TANGIL — King's College London

This project investigates the role of alt-right online subcultures in the promotion and escalation of real-world violence.

ARTICLES

- After 8chan
- /K/ and the Visual Culture of Weapons Boards

REPORTS

- Memetic Irony and the Promotion of Violence within Chan Cultures

UBV

Mining the Chans: Exposing the Visual and Linguistic Dynamics of Radicalisation in Far-Right Image-Boards (MineChans)

» STEPHANE BAELE — University of Exeter

The MineChans project seeks to expose and analyse the visual and linguistic practices of two image-boards (4Chan/pol, 8Chan) that play a central role in the emergence and cementing of a new transnational far-right subculture linked to several recent instances of terrorism.

UBV

GUIDES

- Mining the Chans

State of the Union: A Synthesis of Recent Evidence for Multilevel Drivers of Involvement in Terrorism

» NOÉMIE BOUHANA — University College London

This project aims to synthesise the most recent thinking and evidence on terrorism involvement in the West and explore whether the key models of terrorism involvement remain applicable to the UK's most recent homegrown cases.

AR

REPORTS

- Are Conceptual Frameworks of Radicalisation Leading to Involvement in Terrorism 'Observable'?

Con.Cel: Tracking the Online Contagion of InCel and Male Supremacist Ideology

» LEWYS BRACE — University of Exeter

UBV

Focusing on InCel ideology, a misogynistic worldview whose proponents blame women for their lack of sexual activity, the Con.Cel project maps out the online 'InCelosphere' and tracks its dynamics of contagion.

ARTICLES

- A Data-Driven Analysis of Incelosphere Engagement by UK-Based Users
- A Short Introduction to the Involuntary Celibate Sub-Culture
- The 'Incelosphere' and Incel Violence: a Worsening Problem?
- What Does Netflix's Drama 'Adolescence' Tell us about Incels and the Manosphere?

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Baele, S., Brace, L., & Ging, D. (2023). A Diachronic Cross-Platforms Analysis of Violent Extremist Language in the Incel Online Ecosystem. *Terrorism and Political Violence, 36*(3), 382–405. https://doi.org/10.1080/09546553.2022.2161373

POLICY BRIEFS

- How Worried Should We Be About Incel-Related Violence?

REPORTS

- Incel and the Incelosphere: An Overview of Current Research and Understanding

Conspiracy Theories and Extremism

» PAUL GILL & BETTINA ROTTWEILER — University College London

UBV
AR

This project makes significant advances in understanding the relationship between beliefs in conspiracy theories and extremist causes, by demonstrating whether certain types of conspiracy theories are more closely aligned with violent intentions (e.g., belief in QAnon vs. flat-earth) as well as articulating the relevance of conspiracy and extremist beliefs to one another.

ARTICLES

- Conspiratorial Thinking and Far-Right Extremist Attitudes
- Risk Factors for Violent Extremist Beliefs and Parallel Problem Areas

GUIDES

- Conspiracy Theories and Extremism: Meta-Analysis of Psychological, Cognitive and Personality Correlates of Conspiracy Beliefs
- The Personality Types That Amplify or Diminish the Relationship Between COVID-19 Conspiracy Theories and Support for Anti-government Violence

Detecting Hybrid Social Identities: A Computational Analysis of Influence and Resilience in Online RWE Communities

» ANASTASIA KORDONI — Lancaster University

UBV

The project aims to provide evidence-based guidelines on the identity dynamics and types of norms that are effective in building influence within hybrid Right-Wing Extremist online communities as well as the dynamics that weaken influence.

ARTICLES

- Investigating the Influence of Hybrid Social Identities in Online Communities

REPORTS

- Detecting Hybrid Social Identities: A Computational Analysis of Influence & Resilience in Online (RWE) Communities

Environment and Interventions: Assessing the Environmental Risk of Terrorism

» NOÉMIE BOUHANA — University College London

AR

Operationalising an existing SAT (Situational Action Theory)-supported framework known as "S5" the resulting risk assessment framework from this project seeks to aid the design and evaluation of interventions aimed at preventing radicalisation through influencing context.

REPORTS

- Assessing the Environmental Risk Factors for Terrorism: Operationalising S5 (ASSESS-5)

Evaluating Security Interventions in Public Locations: Developing and Testing a Co-created Framework for Protective Security

» DAVID MCILHATTON — Coventry University

DT

This project helps to understand unintended consequences of flawed protective security logic, and more importantly to provide a framework to consider success from the earliest possible stage across the protective security spectrum (e.g., training, physical security, people and personnel, and procedural).

ARTICLES

- Evaluating Security Interventions for Venues and Public Spaces

REPORTS

- Evaluation Approaches for the Protection of Venues and Public Spaces from Terrorism

Mapping and Modelling Influence Interactions Between Conspiracy Communities and Extremist Entities (MICE2)

» MARTIN INNES — Cardiff University

This project develops an empirically informed, conceptual model of the interactive influences between contemporary forms of political extremism and conspiracy theories.

UBV

REPORTS

- Introducing SHIFT Analysis and Understanding Intra-actions within QAnon: Co-presence of Conspiracy Beliefs and Extremism
- Understanding Interactions between Conspiracy Communities and Far Right Groups on Telegram and the Role of Figureheads

Misogyny, Hostile Beliefs and the Transmission of Extremism: A Comparison of the Far-Right in the UK and Australia

» ALEXANDRA PHELAN — Monash University

This project examines the role of online channels in amplifying gender ideology and misogyny across transnational networks.

UBV

ARTICLES

- Misogyny and Masculinity: Toward a Typology of Gendered Narratives amongst the Far-Right

GUIDES

- Introductory Guide to Understanding Misogyny and the Far-Right

REPORTS

- Misogyny, Hostile Beliefs and the Transmission of Extremism: A Comparison of the Far-Right in the UK and Australia

Digital Emerging Biometrics

» SOPHIE NIGHTINGALE — Lancaster University

This project provides summaries of cutting-edge research and knowledge with the aim of offering user-friendly guidance to help the NCA to put evidence into practice as well as guide future planning and policy.

AR

GUIDES

- AI In Recruitment: Is It Possible to Use it Responsibly?
- Multimodal Biometrics: A Better Security System?

REPORTS

- Bias in Emerging Biometric Systems: A Scoping Review

Prosecuting Extremists in the United Kingdom: An Exploration of Charging, Prosecution and Sentencing Outcomes

» RACHEL MONAGHAN — Coventry University

This project delivers a comprehensive insight into the prosecution landscape for extremist actors in the UK from charges brought, offences prosecuted, and for those extremist actors guilty of criminal offences, the sentences received using an interdisciplinary mixed method approach.

DT

ARTICLES

- The Prosecution Landscape for Extremist Actors in the UK

POSTERS

- Prosecuting Extremists in the United Kingdom Q&A

REPORTS

- Prosecuting Extremists in the UK: An Exploration of Charging, Prosecution, and Sentencing Outcomes

Situational Threat and Response Signals (STARS): Public-Facing Counter-Terrorism Strategic Communication Campaigns

» CHARIS RICE — Coventry University

DT

The project establishes and elaborates a sophisticated and flexible appreciation of how and why communication campaigns designed to deter terrorism and deliver influence over public behaviour, achieve differing outcomes.

ARTICLES

- What's New, What Works? Countering Terrorism With Public-Facing Strategic Communication Campaigns

JOUNALS

- Rice, C., Innes, M., & Ratcliffe, J. (2024). "Frame, Fame and Fear Traps: The Dialectic of Counter-Terrorism Strategic Communication." *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 1–21. https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610X.2024.2360669

POSTERS

- The STARS Framework

REPORTS

- Situational Threat and Response Signals (STARS): Public-Facing Counter-Terrorism Strategic Communication Campaigns [Full Literature Review & Summary Briefing]
- Situational Threat and Response Signals (STARS): Public-Facing Counter-Terrorism Strategic Communication Campaigns [Social Media Analysis]

The Effect of Different Online Mediums and Variable Formats on Information Disclosure in Vetting Interviews

» CALVIN BURNS — University of Greenwich

GI

What do we know about how different online mediums (audio and video) affect disclosure of information? This project aims to establish an evidence base to help understand the implications of online interviewing.

CONTEST

» SARAH MARSDEN — University of St Andrews

This project provides academic evidence to inform the refresh of the UK's CONTEST strategy. It provides a series of literature reviews on key CONTEST topics, led by Dr Sarah Marsden.

UBV
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REPORTS

- Lived Experiences of Contact with Counter-Terrorism Policies and Practices
- Online Radicalisation: A Rapid Review of the Literature
- Public Mitigation of Terrorism Risk: A Rapid Review of the Literature
- Secondary Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Interventions: A Rapid Review of the Literature

The Psychology of Interoperability: Building Better Multi-Agency Counter-Terrorism Training (INTEROP)

» NICOLA POWER — Lancaster University

This project reviews past challenges to interoperability between the UK Emergency Services and identifies a framework to systematically identify the behavioural and verbal indicators of these, with the aim of testing and refining a proof-of-concept training intervention to promote interoperability.

DT

ARTICLES

- The Psychology of Interoperability: Improving Emergency Services' Teamwork

GUIDES

- Enhancing Interoperability Training: Insights From UK Emergency Responders
- The Psychology of Interoperability – Study One Summary
- The Psychology of Interoperability – Study Two Summary

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Power, N., Philpot, R., Levine, M., & Alcock, J. (2025b). Bridging the Principle Implementation Gap: Evaluating organizational change to achieve interoperability between the UK Emergency Services. *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology, 98*(1). https://doi.org/10.1111/joop.70010
- Power, N., Alcock, J., Philpot, R., & Levine, M. (2023). The psychology of interoperability: A systematic review of joint working between the UK emergency services. *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology, 97*(1), 233–252. https://doi.org/10.1111/joop.12469

REPORTS

- The Psychology of Interoperability: A Systematic Review of Joint Working Between the UK Emergency Services

SPECIALS

- Bridging the Principle–Implementation Gap: Evaluating Organisational Change to Achieve Interoperability Between the UK Emergency Services
- Enhancing Interoperability Training: Insights From UK Emergency Responders
- The Psychology of Interoperability: A Systematic Review and Case Study From the UK Emergency Services

Trauma, Adversity & Violent Extremism

» SARAH MARSDEN — University of St Andrews

The project focuses on understanding how trauma and adversity are implicated in violent extremism's causes, processes, and outcomes. It also considers the significance of these insights for intervention policy and practice.

UBV
AR
DT

ARTICLES

- Trauma & Violent Extremism: Implications for Interventions

REPORTS

- Operation Jusan in Year 4: Understanding and Addressing Present and Future Needs
- The Psychological Effects of Criminal Justice Measures: A Review of Evidence Related to Terrorist Offending
- Trauma, Adversity & Violent Extremism
- Trauma, Adversity & Violent Extremism: A Systematic Review
- Trauma, Adversity & Violent Extremism: Workshop Report
- Trauma, Adversity and Violent Extremism: Implications for Risk Assessment

New CREST Projects

These projects have recently begun and are currently in the early stages of research.

Best Practice Interoperability and Interoperability Training

» NICOLA POWER — University of Liverpool

AR At the foundation of effective national security is an ability for responders to work effectively and efficiently together in any response. This project builds on CREST's ongoing commissioned project examining joint decision making and leadership within major incidents, testing both existing doctrine and identifying ways of assessing and improving performance going forward.

Facilitators and Barriers to Public Adherence to Protective Security

» STACEY CONCHIE — Lancaster University

DT This project will examine the psycho-social factors that shape adherence to protective security. It will model these factors to identify the main drivers and barriers, and will be tested across groups for points of divergence. The model will inform a number of tools, which will be directed at promoting adherence.

Measuring the Impacts of State Disinformation Targeting in the UK

» MARTIN INNES — Cardiff University

AR This project is designed to improve understanding of the strategic impacts and effects of state backed information operations and disinformation campaigns. Delivery of this aim will involve developing conceptual, methodological, and empirical innovations to the contemporary state-of-the-art in studying state-backed information operations.

Rapid Evidence Assessment 1 Outline: Social Movement Theory Perspectives on Group Mobilisation and Radicalisation

» SARAH MARSDEN — University of St Andrews

UBV This project will synthesise and critically analyse the existing research that has considered whether and how political contention and protest relate to radicalisation and terrorism. Taking a social-ecological approach that considers individual, group, and societal levels of analysis and their interactions, the research will focus on what informs group and mass radicalisation, what constrains them, the transnational features of these processes, how they relate to legal forms of contention, and individual radicalisation processes.

Transnational Repression in a Digital Age: A Framework for Analysis

» BASIL GERMOND — Lancaster University

AR Transnational Repression (TNR) is increasingly employed by authoritarian states as a tool to control and suppress individuals or communities perceived as a threat or a means for political opportunity. This project aims to address the call for a framework of analysis that accounts for the high compatibility of TNR's objectives and practice with post-territorial, post-jurisdictional technologies that makes it difficult to trace illegal and disruptive activities while limiting accountability.

CREST Security Review

Magazine

***CREST Security Review (CSR)* is a magazine that presents clear, accessible summaries of the latest behavioural and social science research relevant to security. Over the past decade, *CSR* has become a trusted resource for those addressing today's complex security challenges.**

Articles are written by leading UK and international experts, translating cutting-edge research into practical insights for government, police, and security professionals. Each issue of *CSR* focuses on a particular theme, such as cyber security, trust, and misinformation, while also including timely articles that showcase new research beyond any set topic.

Written for busy professionals outside academia, *CSR* addresses the crucial 'so what?', demonstrating why this research matters and how it can be applied in practice. Whether you are a civil servant, policymaker, practitioner or simply interested in the human dimensions of security threats, *CSR* provides a gateway to robust, evidence-based knowledge that supports informed decision-making.

Free to read online, with a limited print run for those in the field, *CSR* connects the UK's and the world's foremost researchers with the practitioners who benefit most from their expertise.

If you have found any of our issues useful, please take a moment to fill in our short survey (just three questions). Your feedback helps us improve and ensure *CSR* continues to meet your needs. Simply scan the QR code or go to **www.crestresearch.ac.uk/csr-survey**

Eliciting Information

With a special focus on Information Elicitation this issue showcases research on why we are more trusting online, eliciting information the friendly way, and which lie detection techniques work. Other articles cover how your watch will soon know you better than yourself and what are the similarities and differences between Sunni and Shi'a Muslims.

CONTENTS

» **Eliciting Information Online**
Why are we more trusting online?

» **Improving Practice Through Research**
What is the impact of the US educing information study 10 years on?

» **The A-Z of Information Elicitation**
Home of one of the most valuable Zs

» **Eliciting Information the Friendly Way**
The tricks of master interrogator Hans Scharff uncovered

» **Science and the Lie Detectors**
Lie detection techniques abound. We review which ones work.

» **Turning Research Into Practice**
The story of how the investigative interview evolved

» **Mind Map on Elicitation**
We chart the lay of the evidence land

Beyond the theme

- **The Future of Wearable Tech**
  Your watch will soon know you better than you know yourself
- **The Promise of Social Science**
  Answering the human problems that are so central to security
- **How Does Memory Work?**
  It is fallible, malleable, and hugely impressive
- **Sunni and Shi'a Muslims**
  One religion, two branches. Their similarities and differences revealed
- **Creativity and Cyber Security**
  Art and tech are unlikely but insightful bedfollows

Cyber Security

This issue of *CSR* considers social science contributions to cyber security. It highlights research on 'everyday insider threats' to organisations, the threat from cyber enabled and cyber dependent crimes, and the hacker mindset. There's also a long-read on the future of religious belief and extremism as well as findings from research on English Defence League activists.

CONTENTS

» **PETRAS – Cyber Security of the Internet of Things**
Research to make the Internet of Things safer

» **Employees Behaving Badly?**
Understanding the problem of everyday insider threats

» **Everyday Security**
A manifesto for new approaches to security modelling

» **Cyber Security and the Politics of Time**
Why we shouldn't play catch-up to cyber crime

» **Cyber Crime and the Social Web**
Research on the new frontier for international security and crime fighting

» **The Hacker Mindset**
There is no one-size-fits all profile

» **Factcheck: The Cyber Security Attack Surface**
Seven facts on the size and complexity of vulnerable systems and devices

Beyond the theme

- **Terrorists' Use of Messaging Applications**
What features might be attractive to criminals and terrorists?
- **Building Good Rapport in Interviews**
How to be friendly and interview people
- **The Role of Technology in an Emergency**
How has technology changed responses to emergencies?
- **Expanding the Frontiers of Interrogation Research and Practice**
An insight into the US High-Value Detainee Interrogation Group
- **Loyal Footsoldiers**
The attractions of EDL activism
- **The Continuing Growth of Religious Extremism and How to Counter It**
Analysis of trends in religious extremism

Transmission

Understanding how extremist ideas are transmitted is a key priority of many governments and law enforcement, security, and intelligence agencies. This issue of *CSR* focuses on 'transmission' – the transmission of ideas, beliefs and values. Studying transmission focuses attention on how, where and by whom extremist ideologies are acquired and spread. Most ideas and values are not extreme, and the issue includes articles on transmission of religious identity within families and on how the internet has affected transmission.

CONTENTS

» **Why Transmission?**
What we learn from studying the transmission of ideas

» **Learning to be a Muslim**
How families nurture religious identity

» **Religious Transmission Among Young Adults in the Digital Age**
The internet helps young Sikhs explore their religion

» **Transmitting Terrorism – A Family Affair?**
Not everyone does what their parents tell them. Why?

» **How Beliefs May Come and Go**
Why do people join, and leave, cults?

» **Transmitting Legitimacy and Victimhood**
The use of prisoners in Northern Ireland to confer legitimacy

» **Transmission in Context**
Innovation in the suffragettes and loyalist family solidarity

» **From Ideological Material to Targeting Choice in Leaderless Jihad**
Does the consumption of jihadist material determine targets?

» **A Different Perspective on CVE**
An interview with Ray Hill, grassroots CVE activist

» **Disrupting Transmission of Extremist Messaging**
How can schools counter extremism?

» **How Radical Ideas Spread and Take Hold**
Progress is not irreversible

» **Just Another Face in the Crowd?**
What makes spotting unfamiliar faces difficult?

» **When Does Inconsistency Matter?**
Should we worry when interviewees change their stories?

» **Mindmap on Transmission**
Where does socialisation take place?

After Islamic State

The Islamic State's territory is in decline. Squeezed on all sides, it is facing a future where it can no longer lay claim to statehood. In this issue of *CSR*, leading scholars from around the globe consider 'what happens after Islamic State?' Topics include the plight of children forced to join Islamic State; the effects on countries like Yemen – which may become an ideal location for retreating fighters; and how al-Qaeda may benefit from Islamic State's decline.

CONTENTS

» **Yemen**
The next destination for IS' fleeing fighters?

» **Jordan**
An 'I told you so' for anti-IS jihadists

» **Iran**
Good news, but what next?

» **Tunisia**
IS might go, but the same problems remain

» **Libya**
IS may be scattered, but it hasn't gone

» **Remainers and Leavers: Foreign Fighters**
After the 'Islamic State', what are the options for the fighters facing defeat?

» **Lessons From the Decline of the North Caucasus Insurgency**
IS weren't the first to try to build a state. What can we learn from past failures?

» **The Place of Night Dream Inspiration and Propaganda**
Dreams are important to IS. How do they account for loss?

» **Transnational Activism Through the Ages**
People have long gone to fight abroad. How have past policies treated them on their return?

» **The Lost Boys**
What next for the children of the caliphate?

» **The Islamic State and Ayman Al-Zawahiri's 'Alternative Jihad'**
Rumours of al Qaeda's demise have been greatly exaggerated

» **What Next for Islamic State?**
Engrenage – the future non-strategy of IS?

Beyond the theme

- **Sri Lanka, Diaspora Politics and the End Of Violence**
- **Tamil Diasporas Have Helped Prevent a Return to Violence in Sri Lanka**
- **Everyone is a Conspiracy Theorist**
  Conspiracy theories in the age of Trump and Brexit
- **7 Things Worth Knowing About Groups**
  What do we know about groups, and how to make them fail?

Networks

Studying networks not only gives us an insight into our human behaviour. It also helps us understand weak points in critical networks, be it food or energy supply, or in the way a company is run. This issue of *CSR* highlights how studying networks can help us understand security threats and how understanding weak points in networks can be useful in both offensive and defensive applications.

CONTENTS

» **Why Networks Matter**
Networks and their implications for security practitioners

» **Leadership is a Social Network**
Rethinking leadership through a social network lens

» **Bad Apples**
Using networks to predict their impact on team performance

» **Predicting Failure of Complex Systems**
Can Kim Kardashian's photo break the internet?

» **Things That Spread**
Understanding how epidemics spread on network

» **Social Network Messaging**
How Islamic State uses Telegram to communicate

» **Covert Networks**
Social network analysis can help us study terrorist groups

» **Trust and Insider Threat**
How can organisations retain the trust of their employees?

» **Extremist Prose as Networks**
Analysing the structure of extremist communications

» **Bluffers Guide**
Learn the technical terms of network analysis

Beyond the theme

- **Rapport**
What is it and how can you increase it?
- **Community Reporting**
The key to defeating terrorism?
- **Female Participation in Violence**
Did the women of the Red Army Faction aid social progress?
- **The Far-Right**
An overview of the complex far-right landscape Networks

Decision Making

From teams operating in extreme environments, to the emergency services, to people responsible for cyber security, understanding decision making is very important. Current research can help decision makers avoid misleading biases, from being paralysed by the choices available, or failing to get information out to the people who need it. In this issue we feature some of the latest research, including decision making processes in cyber security, decision making under stress, and terrorist decision making.

CONTENTS

» **Decision Making Under Stress**
The effects of remote and extreme environments

» **Cyber Security Decisions**
Investigating cyber security decision making processes

» **Decision Making During Emergencies**
What have we learned and where do we go from here?

» **Assessing Threats of Violence**
Does professional experience lead to better assessments?

» **Measuring Decision Making**
Field-testing nudges in behaviour

» **Naturalistic Decision Making**
Moving research on decision making from the lab to the real world

» **Terrorist Decision Making**
8 things you need to know

» **A-Z of Decision Making**
Learn to tell your anchoring from your heuristics

Beyond the theme

- **Communicating With Casualties**
Helping casualties help themselves
- **Understanding Engagement in Violent Extremism**
Lessons from Northern Ireland
- **Social Engineering**
How we're tricked into falling for scams
- **Error Handling**
Getting past mistakes in interviews and negotiations
- **How Smugglers Behave**
Research disproves the myth that jittery behaviour is easy to spot

Transitions

From helping extremists reintegrate back into society, to looking at cults and the reasons why people both leave and stay, this issue explores the series of difficult transitions some individuals and groups make. It includes research on programmes that help extremists make the transition from violent groups back into society; research that helps crisis negotiators train successful negotiation techniques, and research that looks at Russian interference on Twitter following the 2017 UK terror attacks.

CONTENTS

» **'Deradicalisation' and Desistance**
A framework for supporting the reintegration of extremists

» **Talking Someone Down**
Research shows crisis negotiators which tactics work and when

» **Exiting Extremism**
Re-socialising extremists in a Swedish programme

» **The Refugee Journey**
Risks from displacement and repeated transitions

» **Leaving Cults**
Why people leave, and how to help them

Beyond the theme

- **Intelligence ethics: not an oxymoron**
  Applying intelligence and security activities to ethical concepts of the 'Just War' tradition
- **Sikh Radicalisation in Britain**
  Events in 1984 changed Sikh activism in Britain, but did they lead to radicalisation?
- **Russian Interference on Twitter**
  Evidence of attempts to influence UK public discourse following the 2017 terror attacks
- **Communicating Across Cultures**
  We're awful at spotting deception across cultures. Why?
- **Mindmap: 'I Don't Know'**
  What are the reasons why sources say 'I don't know'?

Beyond the theme

- **The Far Right and Reciprocal Radicalisation**
  Could fragmentation within the far right contribute to increasingly extreme responses to Islamist terrorism?
- **Mental Disorder in Terrorism, Mass Murder and Violence**
- **Moving Away From Pathologising Violence**

Influence

This issue gives an insight into some of the latest research on influence, from the ethical challenges of some techniques, through how people can be primed to be persuaded, to how to inoculate people against being influenced by fake news. Other articles in this extra-long issue cover understanding how cultural stereotypes can improve rapport in interviews, the need to find a way to account for mental disorder in terrorism and mass murder without pathologising violence, and whether or not being under the influence of alcohol makes for more unreliable witnesses.

CONTENTS

» **The Power of Persuasion and Pre-suasion to Produce Change**
Preparing people to agree with a message, before they receive it

» **Subtle Influence and Information Disclosure**
How priming works in intelligence interviews

» **Gaining Influence Through Genuine Connection and Rapport**
Eliciting information without force or trickery

» **Can We Inoculate Against Fake News?**
Combating misinformation by preventing it from sticking in the first place

» **The Partisan Brain**
Why people are attracted to fake news and what to do about it

» **Did You Really See It, or Just Hear About It?**
In the misinformation age, remember that your memories might be fake news

» **Influence in Extremist Messaging**
Establishing patterns in the language of extremist groups

» **The Trade of the Tricks**
How principles of magic can influence people's understanding

» **Under the Influence**
Can intoxicated informants provide accurate information?

» **Lingering Problems with the Mr Big Technique**
Problems with a psychologically invasive and manipulative influence tactic

» **Positively Influencing Individuals During Organisational Change**
Strategies for mitigating the risk of insider threat from disillusioned employees

» **Try to See Things My Way?**
The role of perspective in influencing information elicitation

» **Cross-Cultural Dimensions Impacting Persuasion and Influence**
Influence tactics rooted in Western culture may fail in other cultures, what should we look out for?

» **Using Stereotypes to Prepare for Interviews**
Stereotypes can inform rapport building and increase information gain

» **A-Z of Influence Tactics and Topics**
Learn the difference between a door in the face and a foot in the door

Data

This issue highlights research on data, and in particular on how the social and behavioural sciences can help us see the value that data and computer science can bring to understanding and countering security threats. Articles include a look into how algorithmic decision making can be improved, to help build trust between governments and citizens; the challenges of applying big data solutions to small data problems; and the risks and opportunities in using big data to predict behaviour. Two further articles address issues relating to extremism: one on why some extremists or groups choose not to engage in violence; and the second provides us with an introduction to good practice in countering violent extremism.

CONTENTS

» **Data and the Social and Behavioural Sciences**
How can data science and behavioural science enhance each other?

» **Psychological Profiling Using Computational Language Analysis**
Understanding the person behind the text

» **Words as Data**
The vulnerability of language in an age of digital capitalism

» **The Challenges and Opportunities of Big Data**
What are the challenges in predicting behaviour based on our digital footprints?

» **Algorithmic Decision Making**
How can re-designing system interactions help build trust between governments and citizens?

» **From Data to Datum - What Should I Do in This Case**
How can security professionals succesfully combat the ecological inference problem?

» **A-Z of Data**
Master the difference between deep learning, machine learning, and unsupervised learning.

Beyond the theme

- **Untangling the Past**
Remembering details of repeated events
- **Cognitive Load at Interview: The Interviewer's Perspective**
Interviewers have a lot to process. How does it affect their performance?
- **Countering Violent Extremism: A Guide to Good Practice**
What good CVE practice should look like
- **The Role of 'Internal Brakes' on Violence**
New research helps explain why some extremists choose not to engage in violence

Stress and Resilience

To varying degrees, stress is a factor in all our lives, but security work is inherently stressful. Individuals working in security often make high-consequence decisions, in complex and potentially dangerous situations, and sometimes whilst exposed to extreme environments. It is therefore crucial to operational success to identify sources of stress and implement effective coping strategies. Guest edited by Emma Barrett and Nathan Smith, this 10th issue of *CSR* helps develop understanding on how we can identify, learn about, and apply lessons from how stress manifests as well as how resilience can be developed.

CONTENTS

» **Stress and Resilience in Security Contexts**
Guest editorial

» **Conflict Management in Extreme Environments**
Practical strategies for managing conflict in isolated teams

» **Challenge or Threat**
Understanding how people cope in demanding environments

» **Memory and Stress**
Examining the impact of stress on memory for high-pressure incidents

» **Stress and Resilience in Al-Qaeda Terrorists**
How al-Qaeda sought to train resilience to stress

» **Strengths and Vulnerabilities in (Covert) Network Structure**
How might terrorist networks be susceptible to disruption

» **Go With the (Information) Flow**
How to develop more resilient sociotechnical systems

» **Cyber Resilience**
What is it and how do we get it?

» **Developing Resilience for Sustained Success**
Optimising social and organisational environments to promote resilient responses to stress

» **Refugee Resilience**
Identifying the effects of stress and finding ways to strengthen resilience in refugee communities

» **The Deep Effects of Armed Conflict**
Intervening in the complexities of post-conflict reconciliation

» **Remote Combat Readines and Resiliency**
Supporting the resiliency and performance of remote combat operators

Beyond the theme

- **Increasing Accurate Recall in Human Sources**
How focusing on context can enhance memory recall

- **Understanding the Roles Women Play in Violent Extremism**
What role did female members of Islamic State play and why does it matter?

Risk

In this issue of *CREST Security Review* magazine, we highlight some of the latest research on risk and draw attention to the challenges and potential solutions to assessing and managing the risk of violent extremism.

CONTENTS

» **Risk, Benefits, and the Affect Heuristic in Security Behaviours**
How to reduce reliance on affective processes when making risk judgements

» **Communicating Effectively With the Public About Terrorism in Crowded Places**
How effective is public messaging in promoting protective health behaviours?

» **Protecting Publicly Accessible Locations From Terrorism**
What are the barriers to, and incentives for, the inclusion of protective security measures?

» **Terrorism Risk Assessment: What Makes a 'Good' Risk Assessor?**
Little is known about risk assessors and what they think is vital to the role

» **Violent Extremism: The Assessment and Management of Risk**
8 recommendations for improving assessment and management of risk

» **Risk Factors for Violent Extremist Beliefs and Parallel Problem Areas**
Does a strong conspiracy mentality lead to violent extremist intentions?

» **If This Then...What? Security and Privacy in Trigger-Action System**
Can people be primed to think about security and privacy when setting trigger-action rules for smart home devices?

» **A–Z of Risk Assessment Tools and Topics**
Understand the difference between quality assurance and quality control

Beyond the theme

- **Identifying Informant Motivation: The FIREPLACES Framework**
A mnemonic framework to help better identify and understand the motivations of informants
- **Narratives of the Far-Right**
A short guide to far-right narratives
- **Resilient Performance of Defence and Security Personnel**
New insights may help promote resilience in demanding environments
- **The Adaptable Law Enforcement Officer**
What is adaptive behaviour? How can it be measured?

Covid-19

The COVID-19 pandemic triggered the biggest global crisis of our time, with lasting changes to society from how we shake hands, where we work, how we hold meetings, travel and socialise, to our perceptions of risk, law and order, and privacy. As we grasp its continuing impact on society, this issue of *CSR* highlights some of the responses of behavioural and social science researchers to the pandemic, applying novel lessons to security threats caused or exacerbated by the outbreak.

CONTENTS

» **How Has Covid-19 Changed the Violent Extremist Landscape?**
The reordering of democratic state-citizen relations can breed violent extremist thinking

» **Lessons From a Rapid Response**
How one team's rapid response process to COVID-19 can be applied to similarly demanding situations

» **Where Was I Last Wednesday?**
Why contact tracing needs a dose of memory science

» **Intelligence Gathering During a Pandemic**
How did informant handlers adapt to the measures implemented during the pandemic?

» **Multi-Agency Emergency Response**
How can effective communication across agencies be maintained during crises?

» **The "Infodemic", Inoculation, and Insurrections**
A COVID-19 vaccination communication handbook tackles misinformation

» **The Ground TRUTH After-Action Review Tool**
The after-action review tool Ground TRUTH helps prepare for, adapt to, and recover from critical incidents

» **Balancing Cybersecurity and Privacy in the Remote Workforce**
As remote working increased during the pandemic, so too did the cyber-attacks aiming to exploit it

» **Covid-19 Conspiracy in Ireland and the Far-Right Nexus**
Is there a link between a rise of the far right and COVID-19 related conspiracy theories?

Beyond the theme

- **The Phoenix Model: Disengagement and Deradicalisation**
  A new model for understanding disengagement and deradicalisation processes
- **Islamic State, Filters, and Photoshop**
  How the Islamic State edits its images to support its narratives
- **The Eliciting Information Framework: A Vehicle for Research into Practice**
  A framework to help practitioners whose role is to elicit information, negotiate or build relationships with others

Technology

Emerging technology can give us a unique opportunity to anticipate, plan, counter, and respond to security threats as we move forward in an ever-changing world. But that same advancing technology can also be weaponised against us. This issue of *CSR* highlights the new opportunities and problems that advances in technology bring through a behavioural and social science lens.

CONTENTS

» **Bad Data, Worse Predictions**
How does measurement error in crime data affect crime prevention?

» **Identity Fraud in the Digital Age**
How are advances in technology bringing new problems to the task of detecting identity fraud?

» **"Give me a Ping, Vasili. One Ping Only"**
Why the success of machine learning depends on empowered people

» **Linguistic Threat Assessment: Challenges and Opportunities**
Large-scale linguistic analysis may help security practitioners make sense of violent communications

» **Converging Security**
Why cyber and physical security should collaborate, and what it takes to achieve this

» **SPECIAL: Lightning Articles**
- It's not what you typed, it's the way you typed it...
- The identity in everyone's pocket
- "OK Google, should I click on that email?"
- CCTV analysis of violent emergencies

» **Mapping a New Biometrics Landscape**
Law enforcement and researchers collaborate to develop an understanding of new biometrics

» **China's Digital Diplomacy**
We get the message... China's social media war on foreign criticism

» **Why AI Systems Need to Explain Themselves**
The question of 'explanation' in human interaction with Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems

Beyond the theme

- **NCITE**
A look at the designated counter terrorism and targeted violence research centre for the US Department of Homeland Security

- **Evaluating the Channel Programme's Vulnerability Assessment Framework**
An outline of the results of a process evaluation of the Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF)

- **How (Not) to Make a Violent Copycat: Lessons From 'Dark Fandoms'**
How 'Dark Fandoms' may incite 'copycats' – one path to violent extremism

Trust

Trust permeates most aspects of our lives and allows us to function on a daily basis. We trust the food we order has not been tampered with. We trust a vet to care for our sick pet. We trust our house to keep us warm, safe, and dry. Security contexts are no exception. Trust offers a mental shortcut that allows us to make immediate (and at times automatic) decisions. In some cases, this is useful as it frees up thinking space to focus on other tasks. In other cases, trust-as-a-heuristic, can be problematic.

CONTENTS

» **Trust in Security Contexts**
An overview of the articles focusing on our special topic of trust

» **Rapport and Trust: What's the Difference?**
Rapport and trust are not the same: how research is attempting to disentangle these concepts

» **Evaluating Trust And Rapport: A Practitioner's Guide**
Using the Eliciting Information Framework to distinguish between trust and rapport

» **Trust Thy Enemy: Trust and Relationship-Building Between Source Handlers and Informants**
A look at trust in information disclosure

» **Trust Signals**
Can our automatic behaviours tell us more about how much we trust than our thought-out beliefs?

» **Lessons for Security Practitioners from the Science of Betrayal**
Betrayal in defence, security, and policing contexts

» **Trust = Confidence + Vulnerability. The Role of the Leader**
How do leaders promote trust and reduce security risks?

» **Recovering From Failure: What Can Organisations Do to Repair Trust?**
Trust is crucial for organisational effectiveness, but how can companies respond if they violate stakeholder trust?

» **Emotional (Over) Trust in AI**
Emotional-based trust in AI can easily become a problematic over-trust

» **Trusting a Centre Model**
Trust is hard to earn, yet easy to lose. How can organisations rebuild trust?

» **A-Z of Trust**
Your guide to the multi-faceted nature of trust

Beyond the theme

- **Right-Wing Extremism Online – Can We Use Digital Data to Measure Risk?**
  Combining psychology and computational science methods to identify whether online behaviour can be used to infer risk offline
- **What is Siege Culture?**
  Siege Culture is the most extreme interpretation of fascism and national socialism seen yet

Beyond the theme

- **Proximity-Based Evidence Disclosure: Enhancing Evidence Reliability**

  How evidence disclosure can assist the broader investigation

- **Extremist Foreign Fighters in Ukraine**

  Has Ukraine become a new laboratory for the global far right?

Trauma

Trauma is pervasive. Perhaps 70% of us have experienced a traumatic event; this includes those who become involved in terrorism and political violence. The relationships between trauma and terrorism are complex and there is no straightforward causal link between the two. However, trauma's prevalence means most of us will encounter its impact, including those who engage with violent extremists. This issue of *CSR* brings together articles that reflect on trauma's role in terrorism and political violence.

CONTENTS

» **Trauma and Violent Extremism: Implications for Interventions**
An overview of the articles focusing on our special topic of trauma

» **Moving Away From 'Trauma' Towards 'Trauma And...**
Exploring the relationship between trauma and violent extremism and what it means for research and practice

» **What to Do About Mental Health in Pve: Insights From Central Asia**
The challenges of placing and scaling psychosocial support efforts in the prevention of violent extremism (PVE)

» **Police Violence and Child Trauma in the Brazilian Favelas**
The impact policing practices and state-mediated violence have on mental health and child trauma

» **Working With Victims of Torture**
Advice to practitioners on what they should hold in mind when working with victims

» **Finding the Story: Expanding the Tale**
The journey into and out of extremism

» **Trauma-Informed Policing**
Police officers' perceptions of trauma-informed practice interventions

» **"I Have Never Hurt Anybody"**
How do we responsibly navigate the complex relationship between mental illness, adversity, and violent extremism?

» **What Can We Learn From Exploring the Traumatised Past of Returnees?**
What happened in Central Asia, and what can the rest of the world learn from it?

» **The Radicalisation Pendulum: Introducing a Trauma-Based Model of Violent Extremist Radicalisation**
Understanding the dysfunctional relationship between the problem and the solutions

» **Trauma, Extremism & Criminology**
Based on extensive life history research with former far-right extremists

» **Prison Safety & Security: Exploring The Impact of Trauma-Informed Practice and Trauma-Responsive Interventions**
Examining the state of prison safety and security across England and Wales

» **Collective Victimhood and the Trauma of Political Violence**
Understanding how victimhood is experienced, politicised, and mobilised post-conflict

» **Trauma-Informed Care and Violent Extremism Prevention**
Introducing the 5Rs framework

Beyond the theme

- **Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism**
  This timeline is intended to give some insight into the extent of offending in the UK within the last 13 years
- **A Communication Perspective on Resilience**
  An important framework for understanding resilience
- **The 'Incelosphere' and Incel Violence: A Worsening Problem?**
  How has violent extremist language evolved across time in various platforms in the incel online ecosystem?
- **Misogyny and Masculinity: Toward a Typology of Gendered Narratives Amongst the Far-Right**
  Navigating the misogynistic discourses and gendered narratives prevalent amongst far-right groups in both the UK and Australia
- **When the Uniform Doesn't Fit**
  A look at social, physical health, mental health, and safety repercussions of the unisex police uniform

Innovation

From machine-learning to the metaverse; innovation enhances our opportunities to plan, counter, and respond to security threats in new ways. But we cannot ignore the problems that can arise from emerging technologies. Through a behavioural and social science lens, this issue of *CSR* brings together articles that highlight how innovation can, not only bring new opportunities, but increase risk too.

CONTENTS

» **Rolling the Dice on Algorithms: Increasing Understanding Through Boardgames**
An interactive approach to algorithm design and analysis, using boardgames

» **Violent Extremism, Innovation, and Recruitment in the Metaverse**
Exploring the interplay between trust building, emerging technologies, and innovation

» **The Disinformation Game: Finding New Ways to Fight 'Fake News'**
What innovating new effective ways can be used to tackle 'fake news' in the media?

» **AI Innovation Risks and Implications**
With the rise in popularity of ChatGPT, what are the risks and implications of using this kind of technology?

» **AI and Extremism: The Threat of Language Models for Propaganda Purposes**
Exploring the dangers of AI and extremism

» **Are Emerging Digital Behavioural Biometrics Able to Identify us?**
Understanding the current state of play in emerging behavioural biometrics

» **How did you Escape? A Rapport-based Framework for Time-Critical Questioning Involving Cooperative Interviewees**
How to obtain vital information in a time-critical manner, using an innovative methodology

» **What's New, What Works? Countering Terrorism with Public-Facing Strategic Communication Campaigns**
How can we communicate more effectively with the public about counter-terrorism?

» **Is 'Government' and 'Innovation' an Oxymoron? Public Sector Innovation: A Practitioner's Perspective**
Communication is key when it comes to helping research and evidence better inform public sector policy

Beyond the theme

- **How do Case Management Tools Work to Counter Radicalisation?**
  When examining CVE interventions, people often ask "what works". Few have focused on how they work.
- **The Psychology of Interoperability: Improving Emergency Services' Teamwork**
  Recognising the psychological dynamics of interoperability is vital to support joint working and optimise life saving

Misinformation

Misinformation isn't a new development, but its historical presence should not downplay its impact today. Despite unprecedented access to information, the surge of misinformation, with its far-reaching implications, has become a formidable and pressing challenge that transcends borders, cultures, and languages. This issue of *CSR* highlights the role of behavioural and social sciences in battling against the relentless spread of disinformation.

CONTENTS

» **OSINT vs Disinformation: The Information Threats 'Arms Race'**
Exploring the interplay between open-source intelligence (OSINT) and disinformation

» **Conspiratorial Thinking and Far-Right Extremist Attitudes**
The amplifying effect of conspiratorial thinking on socio-environmental and group-level risk factors in far-right extremism

» **Misleading a Group to Ineffectiveness**
Understand the effects of false information and distraction on group performance

» **Why do People Share False Political Information Online?**
The are six distinct sets of motives for sharing political information and misinformation

» **Addressing Algorithms in Disinformation**
A look at how people discuss false content online and how exploring social media discourses can help strengthen policy responses

» **Using Fuzzy Set Qualitative Comparative Analysis to Examine Heterogeneity in Conspiracy Believers**
FsQCA presents an interesting methodological solution to the intricacies of conspiracy beliefs

» **Hiding in Plain Site**
How do you decide that a social media profile is fake? What happens if your judgement is wrong?

» **What Kind of Digital Media Literacy?**
Building student resilience to misinformation through evidence-based approaches

» **Conspiracy Theories: Their Propagation and Links to Political Violence**
How can conspiracy theories exploit societal insecurities and incite political violence?

» **A Psychological Vaccine Against Misinformation**
An edited excerpt from the book 'Foolproof: Why We Fall for Misinformation and How to Build Immunity'

» **Psychological Interventions to Combat Misinformation**
Exploring misinformation's impact, resistance to correction, and psychological strategies for debunking false information

» **A-Z of Misinformation**
Examples of how false or misleading information can be spread and ways to combat it

Beyond the theme

- **Neurodivergence & Extremism: Considerations for Practice**
  Examining the contextual relevance of neurodivergence within extremist populations
- **Militant Leadership and the Severity of Terrorism in Conflict Environments**
  Can militant leaders' exposure to violence predict their tactics and strategies on the ground?
- **The Prosecution Landscape for Extremist Actors in the UK**
  What criminal offences are extremist actors being convicted of, what sentences do they receive, and is there any evidence of change over time?
- **Radicalisation and Counter-Radicalisation Research: Past, Present And Future**
  Exploring conceptual, empirical, and practical advances in this vibrant field of research
- **Resources on communication**
  Check out other CREST projects, reports, and *CSR* articles on the topic of communication

Communication

Communication; the transmission of information. This crucial aspect of human interaction bridges understanding, empowers action, and shapes responses to imminent dangers. In this issue of *CSR*, we unravel the behavioural and social science behind communication's role in deciphering, managing, and countering threats.

CONTENTS

» **How People Decide What to Disclose in Investigative Interviews**
A sensemaking approach to investigative interviewing that better anticipates what people may decide to divulge

» **Interpersonal Sensemaking: A Powerful Tool for Facilitating Cooperation in Suspects**
A framework for understanding the way people communicate and the goals and motivations that underlie those ways

» **Accelerating Influence: Challenging the Linear Paradigm of Suicide Negotiation**
New insights from crisis negotiation practitioners and researchers

» **Unexplored Interactions: Disentangling Trustworthiness, Trust and Rapport**
How does an interviewer's perceived trustworthiness and rapport-building influence interview outcomes?

» **Navigating the Cross-Cultural Challenges for Effective Rapport and Information Gathering**
How interviewers can prepare for successful rapport building and information gathering in cross-cultural interactions

» **"The Eyes Can't Lie": Misconceptions About Nonverbal Communication and Why They Matter**
Understanding body language and how practitioners can distinguish the 'wheat from the chaff'

» **Forensic Authorship Analysis**
Authorship analysis is an underestimated tool in forensic investigation

» **Law Enforcement Information Sharing for the 21st Century**
How effective law enforcement can be improved through identifying and communicating relevant and timely information

» **Digital Traces of Offline Mobilisation**
Exploring the relationship between online interactions and offline collective action

» **The Role of Digital Technologies (Gbvxtech) in Documenting Gender-Based Violence**
Should new digital technologies consider minimum best practice principles for interviewing victims face-to-face?

» **Investigating the Influence of Hybrid Social Identities in Online Communities**
Language is a perfect tool for expressing social identities and has the potential to influence online extreme communities

» **Love Bytes: Improving Romance Fraud Prevention**
Implementing effective countermeasures against cybercrimes

Beyond the theme

- **Lonely Boys and Misogynist Inceldom: Considerations for Practitioners who Encounter Boys and Men at Risk of Male Supremacist Thinking**

  Examining entry pathways into misogynist 'inceldom' and subsequent considerations for practitioners

- **Artful Insights: Enhancing Recall in Investigative Interviews Through Sketching**

  What does the research say about the effectiveness of sketching as an interview tool?

Deterrence

In this issue of *CREST Security Review*, we explore how cutting-edge research is transforming deterrence, from mitigating insider threats to combating cybercrime.

CONTENTS

» **From Research to Practice and Back Again: Implications of the Critical Pathway to Insider Risk for Current Personnel Security Practices**

An overview of recent developments of the Critical Pathway to Insider Risk™, highlighting the critical role that practitioners have had in its evolution

» **Ten Top Tips on Insider Risk**

Distilling the complex issues of insider risk and personnel security into a set of ten simple principles

» **Could Ransomware be the Key to Better Cyber Deterrence Strategies?**

How can policymakers, practitioners and academics collaborate to deliver an effective ransomware deterrence strategy?

» **The Unintended Consequences of Crime Prevention Measures**

Exploring the existing evidence base on crime displacement and benefit diffusion

» **Prosecuting Female Terrorists: What do we Know?**

Research on prosecuting female terrorists in England and Wales, the differences in sentencing between men and women, and the implications

» **Evaluating Security Interventions for Venues and Public Spaces**

Understanding how best to evaluate protective security measures in an increasingly complex threat environment

» **Risk Assessment and Polygraph Testing**

Should we be sceptical about the use of polygraph testing during interviews?

» **New International Dimensions in Community Reporting of Terrorist Involvement**

CREST research on community reporting is leading to an international policy-focused research study

» **Bystander Reporting Helps Prevent Mass Violence**

Why does bystander reporting's role in mitigating mass violence deserve much more attention?

» **Deterring the 'Enablers' of Illicit Finance**

A combination of approaches is needed to tackle the complex and multi-faceted problem of professional service providers enabling illicit finance related activities

Beyond the theme

- **A New Era of Trust in Policing?**
  Outlining the security risks associated with current vetting methods and the importance of continuous screening

Evaluation

In this 20th issue of *CREST Security Review* we focus on counterterrorism and counter-extremism evaluation. The articles reflect the challenges and opportunities of understanding 'what works' in this field, and describe recent developments in what is a vibrant field of research and practice.

CONTENTS

» **Key Considerations When Evaluating Counterterrorism Strategies**
Key areas to consider when attempting to evaluate CT strategies

» **Quality Control and Management in Countering Violent Extremism Programmes: A Guideline**
The quality assurance cycle outlined in this article provides a blueprint to a safer, more resilient society

» **Measuring Change in Terrorist Engagement: Challenges and Future Directions**
How can we measure the progress people make towards disengagement and how can this be sustained long-term?

» **Empirical Evidence for Terrorist Targeting Frameworks**
A review of existing risk assessment frameworks and how they actually inform target selection

» **Evaluating in Complex Policy Environments: A Practitioner's Perspective**
Top-tips on the evaluation of CT and security policy and programmes

» **Evaluating for Sustainability**
Implementation science provides insights that can inform the evaluation of community-based violence prevention programmes for long-term success

» **Operationalising the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda**
Gender equality and the WPS agenda are essential to sustainable peace. But how can we turn gender mainstreaming policy into practice?

» **Five Steps for Building Evaluation Culture in the P/CVE Field. Lessons Learnt from the Indeed Project and Beyond**
The INDEED project highlights that more work is needed to make evidence-based evaluations an integral and standard part of P/CVE field

» **Evaluating the Impact of Programmes to Counter Violent Extremism: What are the Options?**
Outcome evaluations of CVE programmes and the pros and cons of each

» **Greater Than the Sum of Its Parts: Using Shared Metrics to Compare Prevention Projects**
Advantages of a shared metrics approach in the Shared Endeavour Fund

» **Evaluating Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention Programmes: From What Works to How Programmes Work**
Greater emphasis on evaluating 'how' CVE and TVTP programmes work can help overcome the challenges facing efforts to understand 'what works'

» **Transparency, Evaluation, and Standards: Avoiding Pitfalls**
How transparent communication in the fields of CT and preventing P/CVE can be counter-productive, reducing public support

» **The Growing Importance of AI Evaluation in Addressing Security Risks**

The Centre for Research and Evidence on Security Threats (CREST) is funded by the UK's Home Office and security and intelligence agencies to identify and produce social science that enhances their understanding of security threats and capacity to counter them. CREST also receives funding from its core partners (the universities of Bath, Lancaster and Portsmouth). Its funding is administered by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC Award ES/V002775/1), one of seven UK Research Councils, which direct taxpayers' money towards academic research and training. The ESRC ensures the academic independence and rigour of CREST's work.

CREST has established a growing international network of over 225 researchers, commissioned research in priority areas, and is tackling some of the field's most pressing questions.

For more information on CREST and its work, visit
crestresearch.ac.uk