

Presentation to AGERS

18 May 2006

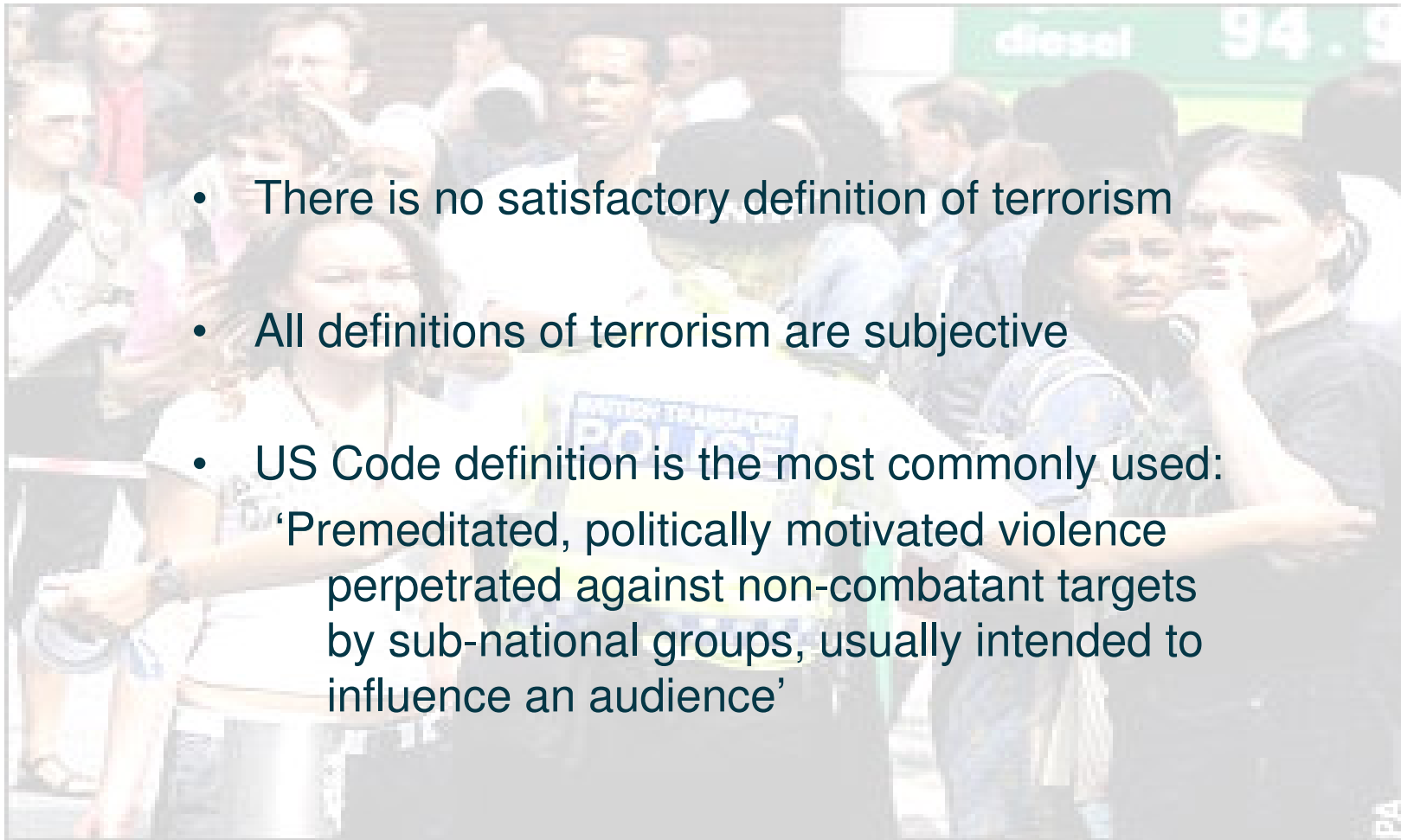
by

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TERRORISM TODAY
STATISTICS
EVOLUTION OF RISKS
WHAT BUSINESS CAN DO

What is terrorism?



- There is no satisfactory definition of terrorism
- All definitions of terrorism are subjective
- US Code definition is the most commonly used:
‘Premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by sub-national groups, usually intended to influence an audience’

Evolving threat in context



- Terrorism in context - democratisation of violence
- Falling technical and moral barriers pose growing threat to open societies
- Evolving nature of motivation, recruitment and profiles
- Al-Qaeda is dismantled; loose networks and imitators are main long-term threat

Operational background

- Terrorism is an obvious response to military inferiority
 - ‘Asymmetric warfare’
- Terrorists are able to adapt to and use technology more effectively than their opponents.
- Terrorists immediate objectives are easier to achieve than their opponents’. Attackers v defenders.

‘We only have to be lucky once. You will have to be lucky always’

IRA, 1984

Terrorist methods

- Kidnapping
- Hijacking
- Assaults on installations
- Bombings
- Barricade and hostage situations
- Assassinations and shootings
- Armed attacks

Terrorist targets

- Government and military installations
- Diplomatic institutions
- Commercial hubs
- High profile, symbolic companies
- Iconic buildings
- Critical infrastructure
- Aviation
- Tourists
- The general public

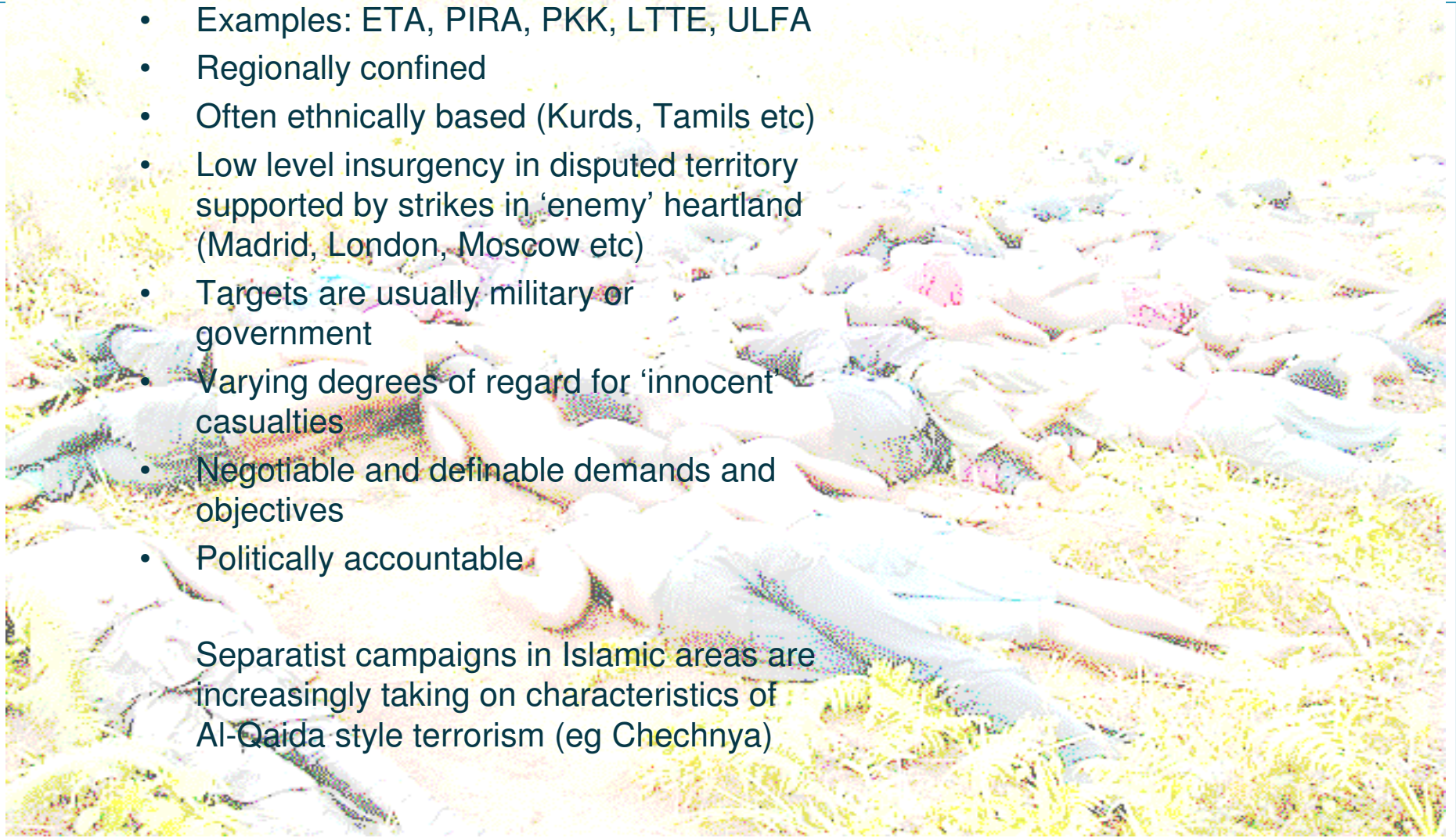
Types of terrorism

- Separatist terrorism (ETA, PIRA, PKK, FARC)
- Religious terrorism (Jemaah Islamiya)
- 'Single issue' terrorism (ALF, SHAC)

Separatist terrorism

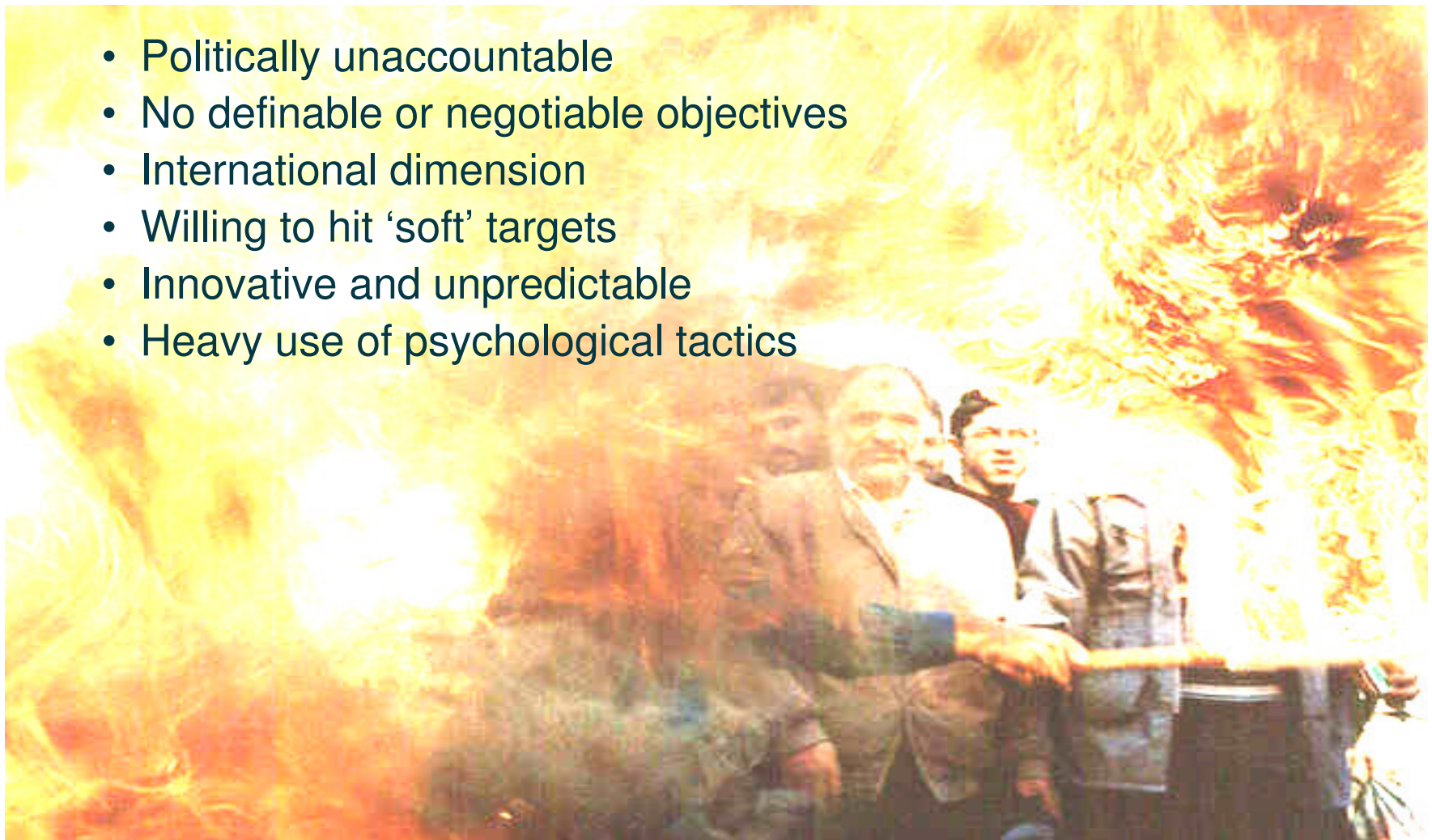
- Examples: ETA, PIRA, PKK, LTTE, ULFA
- Regionally confined
- Often ethnically based (Kurds, Tamils etc)
- Low level insurgency in disputed territory supported by strikes in 'enemy' heartland (Madrid, London, Moscow etc)
- Targets are usually military or government
- Varying degrees of regard for 'innocent' casualties
- Negotiable and definable demands and objectives
- Politically accountable

Separatist campaigns in Islamic areas are increasingly taking on characteristics of Al-Qaida style terrorism (eg Chechnya)



Religious terrorism - the al-Qaida phenomenon

- Politically unaccountable
- No definable or negotiable objectives
- International dimension
- Willing to hit 'soft' targets
- Innovative and unpredictable
- Heavy use of psychological tactics



Single issue terrorism

- Usually found in the developed world
- Typical issues: ecology; animal welfare; globalisation; abortion
- Intimidation more prevalent than physical attacks
- Terrorist capabilities usually weak
- Trend towards secondary, tertiary targeting
- For example:
 - Animal Liberation Front (UK)
 - Army of God (US)
 - The Peasant Federation (France)



State sponsored terrorism

- support (logistical and financial) and refuge to designated terrorist groups.
- US designates Libya, Sudan, North Korea, Iran, Cuba and Syria as state sponsors of terrorism (and previously Iraq)
- Libya and Sudan have taken significant steps towards improvement
- North Korea refuses to sign global anti-terrorism protocols
- Cuba harbours ETA and FARC terrorists
- Syria and Iran support Palestinian-based terrorist organisations/ Iran is becoming involved in the unrest in Iraq

Who are the terrorists?

- 42 designated foreign terrorist organisations according to US State Department, 2005 (27 in 2000)

‘New’ terrorist organisations:

- Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade
- Ansar al-Islam
- Asbat al-Ansar
- Jaish-e-Mohammed
- Jemaah Islamiya
- Lashkar-e-Tayyiba
- Lashkar-i-Jhangvi
- Al-Qaida in Iraq
- United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC)
- Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group (GICM)

Terrorism knowledge base (TKB)

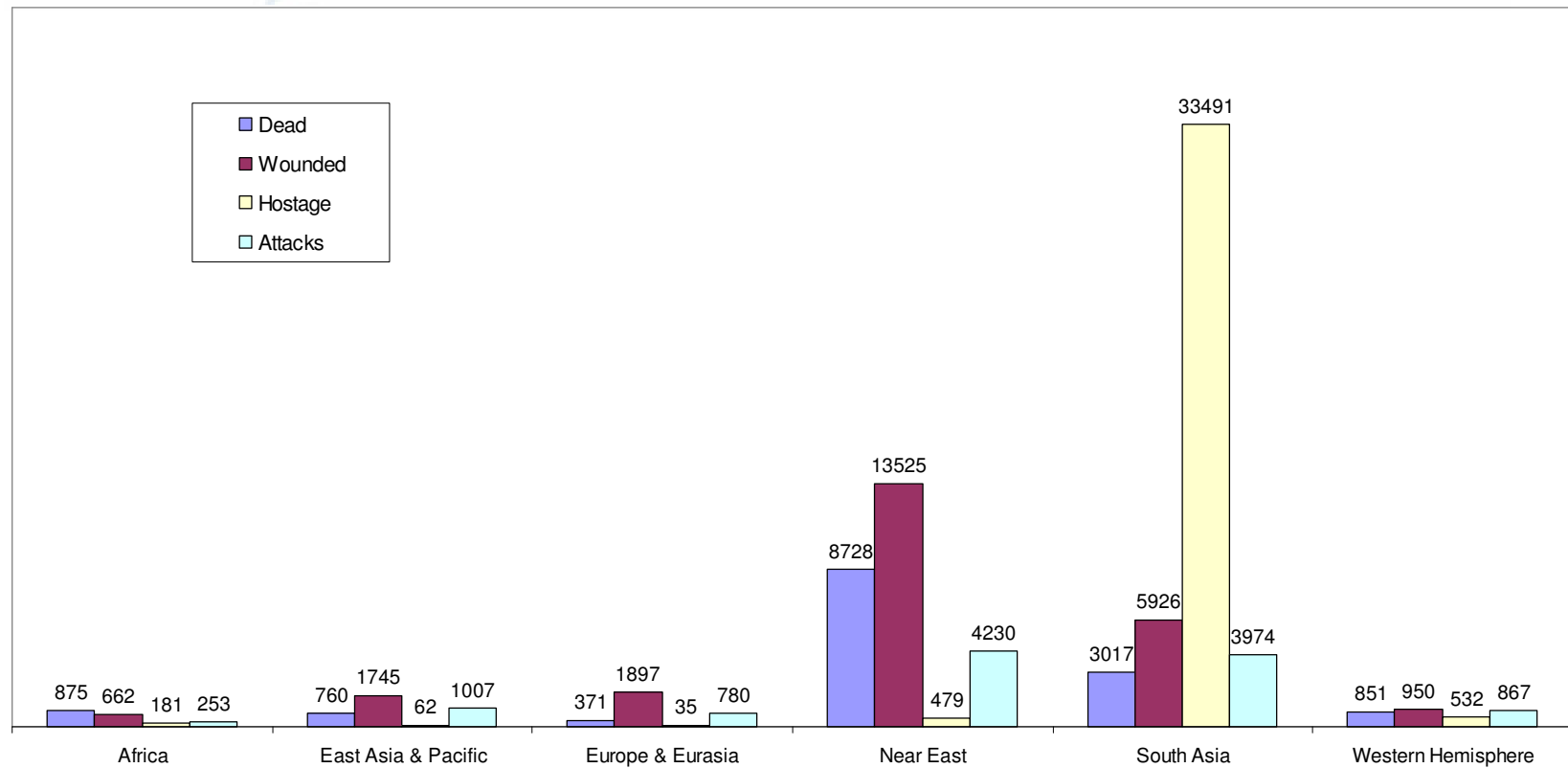
Statistics on worldwide terrorism can be found on:

www.tkb.org/home



NCTC Report on Incidents of Terrorism 2005

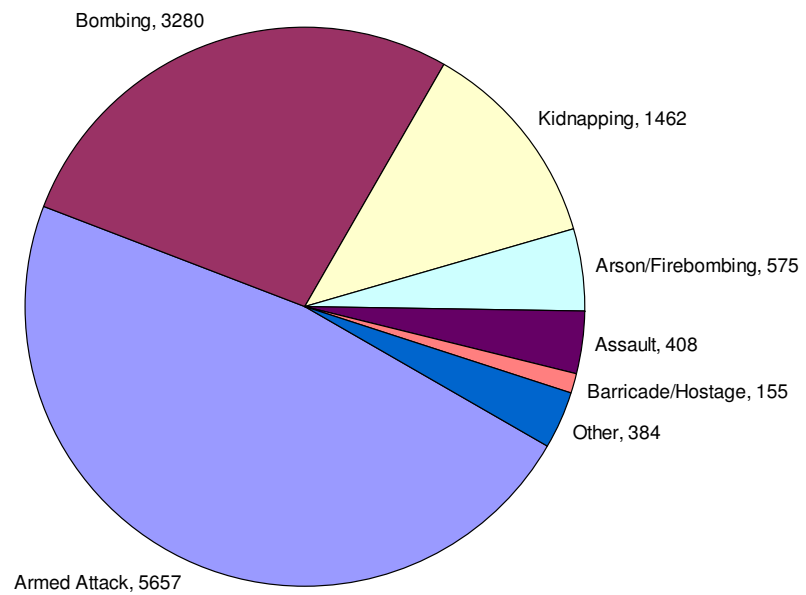
Comparison of Attacks and Victims by Region, 2005





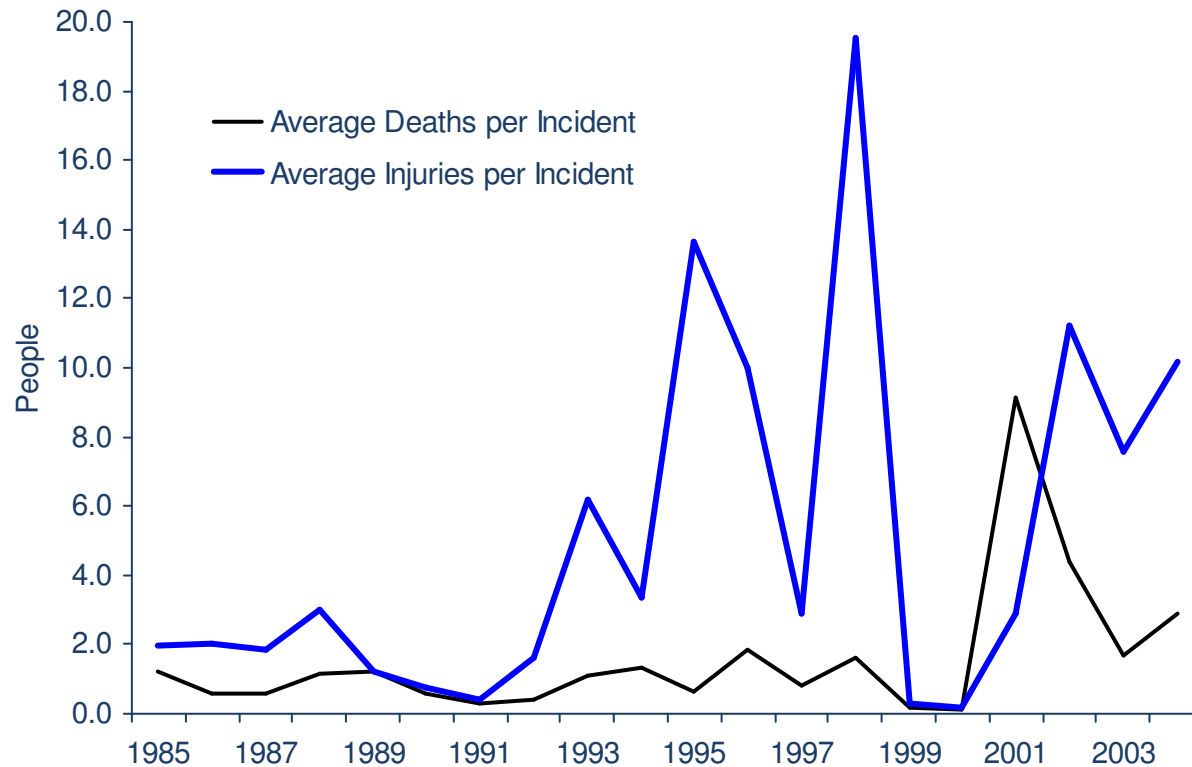
NCTC Report on Incidents of Terrorism 2005

Primary Method of Terrorist Attacks, 2005



... and rising average lethality

Casualties from International Terrorist Attacks, 1985-2004

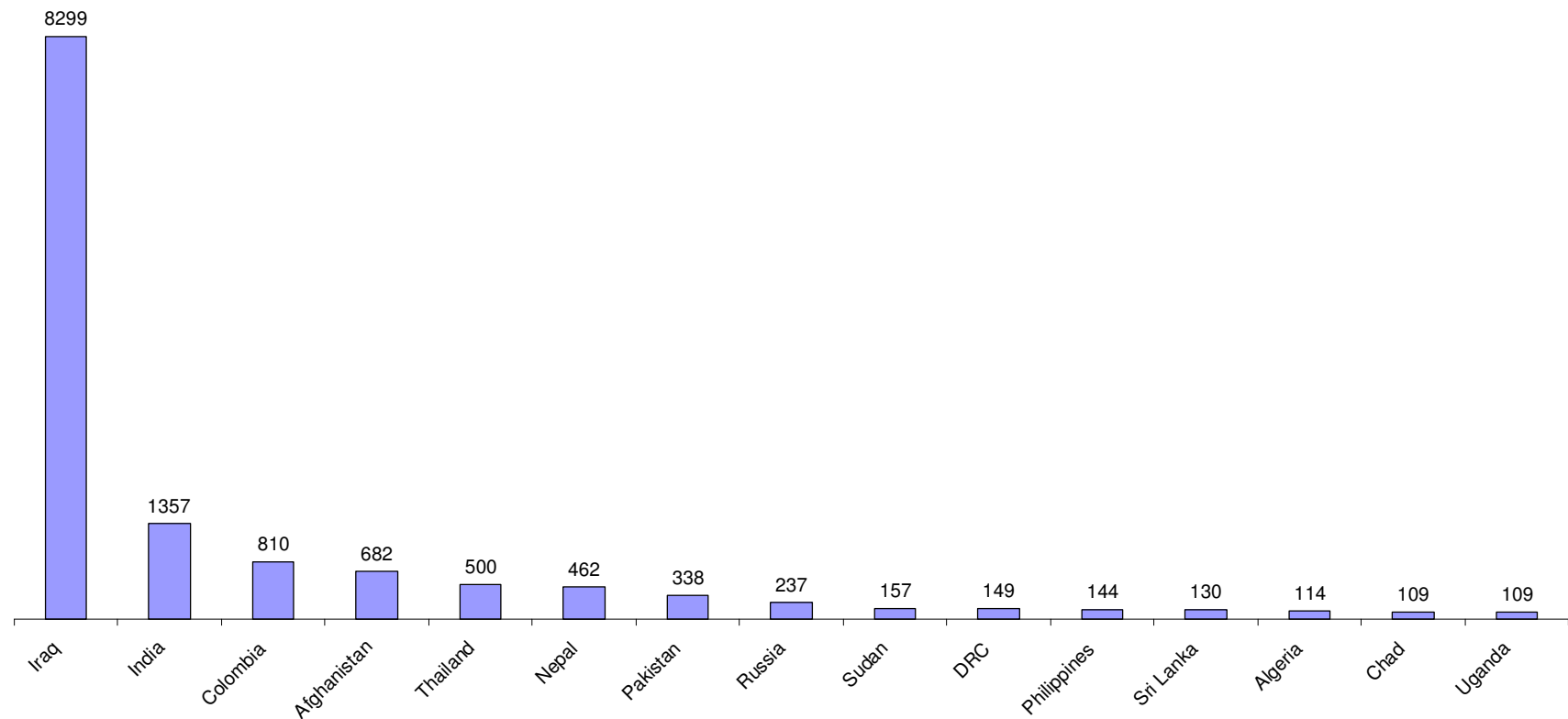


Source: MIPT/RAND Database



NCTC Report on Incidents of Terrorism 2005

Top 15 Countries by Fatalities



Terrorism since 9/11: A balance sheet

Credits	Debits
Sanctuaries eliminated	Mobilization in weak states, via internet
Leadership neutralized	Decentralization and shift to soft targets. Need for agreed standards on detainees
Terrorist financing crackdown	Money trail easily concealed, attacks remain cheap
Recognition of social roots	Failure to engage struggle of ideas
Intelligence reform	Unclear if reform will deliver desired results
Renewed emphasis on WMD	Slow, uneven progress; programs to secure nuclear material in Russia & FSU lagging
Foreign liaison and capacity building	Allies' capabilities uneven; 'anti-terror' an alibi for repression
Strengthen first responders	Insufficient funding for mandates
Focus on border & transportation security	Legitimate visitors being deterred; porous borders in Europe
Critical infrastructure protection	Heavy reliance on voluntary measures

Changing nature of the Islamist threat

- Extremist groups evolving -more decentralized and autonomous
- Threat is feeding off itself and growing.
- Recent attacks show less technical sophistication and planning, less evidence of central command and control
- Internet for propaganda and training, not recruitment
- Consistent interest in mass casualty attacks and crude attempts to obtain/use WMD



Research sheds light on movement

Characteristic	
Intact families	90%
University education	63%
Professional or semi-professional	75%
Married	73%
Joined jihad outside country of origin	70%
Joined jihad through friends	68%
Joined jihad through family	20%
Psychological disorder	1%
Cluster in institutions	60%
Average age when joined jihad	26

Source: Marc Sageman, FPRI

- Study of 400 trans-national terrorists provides rare empirical insight
- No common profile, but similar trajectories
- Almost all were volunteers, not recruits
- Social networks of friends and family are key entry point
- Small number of clusters account for majority of militants

Recent trends

- Suicide attacks
- 'Internet terrorism'
- Supply chain targeting
- CBRN



Terrorist financing

Terrorists raise finance through:

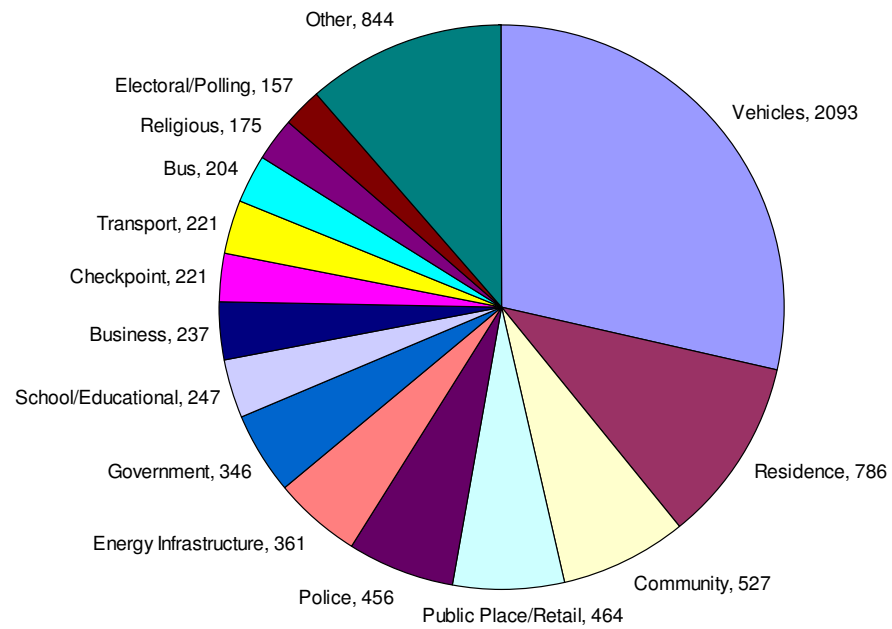
- 'Front' businesses
- Illicit business (drug smuggling, counterfeiting etc)
- Extortion (racketeering, war taxes, kidnap ransoms)
- Donations from sympathisers
- Sympathetic governments

Targets of terrorism



NCTC Report on Incidents of Terrorism 2005

Attacks by Type of Target, 2005



Business and terrorism

It is not the role of business to prevent terrorism, but to limit its consequences.

The responsibilities of companies include:

- Preparing and informing their employees about terrorist threats
- Protecting their assets (including staff)
- Ensuring business continuity

Business preparation and defense

- Contingency plans need comprehend the collateral damage of an incident
- Business recovery centres need to be separated from the normal place of work by some considerable distance – (some businesses found that their recovery sites were within the area affected by the attacks in London on 7 July 2005)
- International companies need to brief their travelling staff to ensure they have the knowledge to avoid danger and to enable them to take action in emergencies.
- Mobile telephone systems are quickly overloaded or shut down and cannot be relied upon – but PDAs, VOIP and email continued to work
- Corporate crisis management centre, if it is located within an attack area, may not be able to support its satellite offices. Alternative arrangements should be possible.
- CCTV coverage – location, capability and serviceability

Fundamental solutions

Terrorism can be contained but not eradicated by a combination of social and military means. Like water, it will always find a gap in badly constructed defense.

The underlying causes of Islamic terrorism have to be addressed:

- The Israel-Palestine conflict
- Engagement in the battle for ideas, providing adequate alternatives to extremism

Society and politics are constantly evolving. New issues will emerge to inspire new categories of terrorism

Business is not the 'soft' target it used. It has to maintain vigilance to minimise the risk of attack in certain regions and countries of the world.