## PHILOSOPHY OF MODERN TERRORISM

Dzhamal Mutagirov Saint Petersburg State University

**ABSTRACT:** Terrorism is a social disease both of individual societies and humanity as a whole and, as any illness, is the result of deviations from the natural course of their life. If contamination of human habitation gives rise to physical illnesses, and epidemics, "filth" of social habitation, i.e. social injustice, anarchy and violence of certain groups over others gives rise to dangerous social diseases, one of which terrorism is. To prevent the disease and treat them effectively after their appearance, it is necessary to define the correct diagnosis and to determine the causes of the disease. But so far, the attitude of people towards terrorism comes down to fight only its external manifestations without giving proper attention to their causes. In the article the problem of terrorism is considered with an emphasis on its main causes. Actuality of the studied problem is that terrorism as a social disease accepts in contemporaneous world the pandemic character and the reasons for this must be found. The article purports to establish the diagnosis of this disease to facilitate her treatment. Attentive and impartial analysis of the terrorist acts of the past decades by scholars from different countries gives the right to suggest that many of these acts were some kind of spontaneous responses to illegitimate acts of the states. Injustices of social relations, incapability of the institutions of power to effectively carry out their constitutional duties (protection of human rights and ensure their security) provoke some individuals and groups of people to no less unlawful and cruel acts. Terrorist movements are often the creations of the competing in different regions of the world States seeking "pull the chestnuts out of the fire by somebody's ells hands." The article shows how some of the greater powers of the world, shortsightedly treating terrorists as additional tools in their fight against rival and providing them with material resources, generate their own enemies. This finding was confirmed in all studies on this issue, especially in studies of the English School of international relations. But so far, more attention has been given to show the activities of terrorist organizations, its effects and to justification of the need to combat them. This article investigates terrorism as a social phenomenon with an aim to establish its nature and causes, as well as effective means of its prevention. Materials and the conclusions of the study may be useful to the state institutions in defining their strategy for the protection of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, as well as for further research on the causes and ways of preventing negative phenomena in the life of societies and in relations between them.

**Keywords:** people, society, State, social disease, terrorism, revenge, violence, human rights, rivalry, international law.



## **1. INTRODUCTION**

(In the past three or four decades terrorism in general and international terrorism, in particular, turned into serious factors of national and global politics. Its threat is sometimes compared with those of fascism, following the example of the joint fight which people call for a unified anti-terrorist front. But for some reasons, the nature of terrorism, its underlying causes, and ways to eliminate, without understanding of which any effective fight against it is impossible, remain without due attention. This article has an aim to eliminate this gap. In it, on the basis of an analysis of the phenomenon according to historical, logical, comparative and other research methods, terrorism is consider as a social disease of any society and humankind as a whole, resulting from violations of the human and people's rights by certain states, as well as from the forceful intervention into the affairs of other countries with the purpose of forcing them into submission and imposition on them own socio-political values. Particular emphasis is placed on the evaluation of contemporary international terrorism as an outcome of a rivalry between the leading nations of the world, as the permanent members of the UN Security Council bearing a special responsibility for peace and security on the Earth, but do not stop in a fight between before a nothing, without considering the possible consequences of their policies).

Terrorism in general and international terrorism, in particular, turned in the last decades into a serious threat to peace and security of peoples and therefore to the most negative "actor" of national and world politics. Its causes, nature and ways to overcome are the focus of scientists in almost all areas of social sciences. [1]. Strategy to combat this threat to peace and security on the Earth had been developed collectively in the framework of the UN and regional organizations [2] but not all members of the UN adhere to it. The problems of the nature of terrorism, its causes are discussed at international conferences and forums with the participation of scientists from different countries [3]. The threat of terrorism is sometimes compared with those of fascism, following the example of the joint fight which calls for a unified anti-terrorist front. However, the nature and the real cause of terrorism without clearly establishing of which cannot be any effective fight against it are poorly studied. The article is carried out by relying on investigations of the predecessors from all countries [4]. The study aims to address this gap. It is an outcome of the study and generalization of terrorist acts around the world, and the reaction of the States to these acts.

Historical, logical, comparative and content analysis methods used by the author enabled find out that terrorism is a social disease of the societies and humankind as a whole. The serious violations of human rights by certain states, as well as the intervention in the affairs of other countries to force them to submission and imposition on them the values of the aggressors are the main causes of terrorism. Comparative analysis of terrorist movements demonstrates that the rivalry between the leading nations of the world, bearing a special responsibility for peace and security on the Earth, is a breeding soil for international terrorism. Till the rivalry and mistrust among the states not to make way for a policy of mutually beneficial cooperation of all the peoples of the world, as stipulated by the UN Charter [5, Preamble, Chapter IX], terrorism will repeat itself again and again in new forms.



Terrorism as a social phenomenon has very deep roots in history of Humankind. Since the appearance of man on the Earth force and fear, on the one side, and awareness of the need for joint action for survival, on the other, become factors determined a nature of the relations between people. Gradually the societies and states, as social and military-political organizations of the peoples, occupied a place of the individuals; tools, methods and ways of fighting and rivalry also were perfected. The state as a political-military institution of the society with a monopoly on use of force becomes the main institute of violence, which people both worship and fear. As Thomas Hobbes testified, modern international relations were similar to the maneuvers of the states in gladiators' pose with arms and looks aimed at each other and constantly spying for their neighbors. The philosopher called it "the posture of war" [6, p. 115]. It is no coincidence that he identified a state with the biblical Monster Leviathan.

Even "holy books" evidence that extermination of entire peoples and atrocities to disobedient people characterized activity of many states. Terroristic even against its own citizens were the Roman Republic during the reign of the C. Sulla, all absolute monarchies, the military-fascist states and dictatorships. There is another type of terrorist regimes as well: relative freedom within countries, but a complete negation of such for other peoples with menace of penalty and interventions.

But, as the saying goes, every act has it's counteract. All living things in nature resist the threat and, if it is possible, try, even risking with their lives, to avenge for the insults they painted. Individuals and groups of people copy in such cases the methods of the state violence and terrorism.

Institute of taleon (retribution) is as ancient, as humankind itself. Authors and organizers of the criminal from the 'avenger's' point of view acts should be turned to objects of retribution. It is no coincidence therefore that many acts of an individual terrorism were perpetrated and committed mainly against the heads of the states and their representatives, military commanders, as well as against persons whose activity represented a threat to the existing social system. In one case, the assassinations were carried out with a view to eliminate dangerous persons and in edification of the lovers to repeat such actions, in other cases – for revenge.

It is important not to huddle together all violent acts of the individuals and groups of people. Extermination of tyrants, self-sacrifice in the name of freedom and independence at all times considered as the most noble and heroic acts. French Marquis Lafayette, Venezuelan Patriot Francisco de Miranda and others fought for the freedom and independence of the United States, English poet John Byron died fighting for the independence of Greece. Thousands of people from different countries joined the ranks of participants of the American, French, Chinese, Russian and other revolutions. Exclamation of the prominent figures of the American Revolution, Patrick Henry, "give me liberty or give me die" was and remains valid for all freedom-loving people.

Legitimate and noble is also the extermination of the occupiers of the native country and their collaborators by any available to the patriots' ways and means, many of which are akin to terrorist. Some acts, committed in defense of social justice, especially if the legal ways to do that are unacceptable because of corruption and inaction of the law would



be included to the row. When thinking about the phenomenon of individual terror, it is necessary to take into account one more important aspect arising from the basic rules and regulations of objective life formed under the influence of national systems of values, including the world's religions.

As the French scientist M. Block has noticed, "All people of the Middle Ages in general and feudalism in particular lived under the sign of revenge. Revenge was a sacred duty of the insulting. It does not replace even the insulting's death... Then the whole group of kinsmen included into revenge.... And there was no more valuable moral obligation than that one" [7, p. 126]. The world religions, containing the desirable standards of conduct for their followers, called to act on the principle of "life for life» and to render the enemy multiple measure. Therefore, any exhortations like 'be civilized', 'act according to the law' or the threat of punishment do not influence on many adherents of these faiths. Especially when there are no institutions, capable evaluate objectively the actions of the rapists and to punish them according to law. The victims of injustice and violence, being convinced in the necessity of punishing the violators, "take the role of judges" on themselves. In doing so, they consider themselves as "fighters for justice". According to American analyst B. Hoffman, "terrorist ... believes that he serves the cause of "goodness", aimed at the achievement of greater good for the broader masses of people - real or imagined, that he and his organization supposedly represent " [8, p. 43].

Modern international terrorism is mostly derived from the struggle and rivalry of the states for influence in the world, and in all probability, will maintain, manifesting itself in different ways, until there will remain discriminatory relations between individuals, groups and countries of the world.

On the conduct of the states and groups of people in the world it can be predicted the possible geography and character of terrorism. It is no coincidence that in the past decades, the main targets of terrorist attacks became the Russian Federation, the United States, and their allies. In the late 1990's and in the early noughties the Russian leadership has provoked senseless and fratricidal war in the Chechen Republic, having destabilized situation in the entire northern Caucasus, and this led to a series of terrorist acts across the country. The legal settlement of this unjust action assisted to decrease the number of terrorist acts. The destabilization of the situation in Ukraine and Syria, which the current leadership of Russia wants to fix, can generate new terrorist acts against it.

The United States and some of their allies also behaved themselves in the world, not always thinking about the consequences of their acts. They mindlessly used napalm and chemical weapons in Vietnam, destroyed by cruise missiles the cities, bridges, hospitals, schools and homes in Libya, Iraq and Yugoslavia, destroyed social order and national institutions in Somalia and Afghanistan. According to estimates of the prominent American lawyer and ex-Minister of Justice Ramsey Clark, during the intervention in Yugoslavia in 1999, NATO forces, led by the United States, have committed 19 international crimes [9]. Tens of thousands of innocent people were maimed, orphaned, deprived their homes and property of; millions of people were forced to leave the native



land, turned into refugees and displaced persons, among whom there were many of those, who tried to take revenge on the perpetrators of their troubles and misfortunes.

In 1993 the World Trade Center in New York was bombed. In year 1998 almost simultaneously the United States Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were blew up. In 2000 there was an attack on the US destroyer 'Cole' in the Yemeni port of Aden, in 2002 - an explosion of Israeli-owned hotel in Kenya and coordinated missile bombardment of Israeli passenger Boeing 757. In 2003-year, suicide bombers detonated trucks near two synagogues in Istanbul, and then attacked the British Consulate and a branch of a big London-based Bank in Istanbul. In the year 2004 on suburban trains in Madrid were perpetrated coordinated bombings, etc. [10, p. 13].

Australia fought alongside the United States in Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq. It was therefore not surprising that it also became the target of terrorist attacks. The country's Prime Minister was in Washington in September 11, 2001 when blew up the houses in New York and carried out the attack on the Pentagon. A year later, October 12, 2002 such act called "Australia 9/11" was repeated in Bali's (Indonesia) nightclub, where the Australians rested. 202 people, including 88 Australians, were killed and more than 300 injured. In October 2003, the Marriott Hotel and September 2004 - the Australian Embassy in Jakarta were blown up [10, p. 16, 66].

Revenge can be justified if it is directed only against the perpetrators of the tragedies, who escaped punishment. Annihilation of the murderers of Israeli athletes during the Olympics in Munich in 1972, was a very legitimate act, but somehow differently should be evaluated other acts of the Israeli authorities to murder three leaders of Fatah and the Popular front for the liberation of Palestine in April 1973 in Beirut by undermining the seven-story building, inhabited by members of the PFLP and many Lebanon's civilians [11].

After the shelling of the Russian aircraft over Syria by Turkish authorities, and shooting the descending on parachutes pilots in November 2015, there were voices in Russia to "search and destroy" the perpetrators. The Russian President said that "we will pursue terrorists wherever we can find them". He ordered to destroy any force, which may be a threat to Russian troops in Syria. It is obvious that the outrage here has replaced the law. On the reasonable standards of public and international life it is necessary first to prove the culpability in all cases, and then to punish the criminals depending on the severity of their guilt.

The occupiers, aggressors and dictators always have declared people's resistance movements terroristic and fighters for freedom and independence -terrorists and ordered to shot them without any trial. The residents of the occupied countries rightly believed and believe that their partisans are heroes and patriots. Due to impossibility and futility of open appearances for resisting to violence of the illegitimate states (foreign or own) people resorted to spot dead-blows with objectives, firstly, to take revenge and to escalate of fear in the enemy's camp and, secondly, to bring the world's attention to their troubles.



Apparently, the Arab officials 'opinion that "the reason for the spread of terrorism is not the absence of democracy but the general discontent with the policies of the United States, and that the only way to achieve stability in the region is to change the United States policy toward the Arab world" [12, p. 144] is not so far from the truth. According to them, the Arabs belligerence and growing from its terror are a reaction of the Islamic world upon attempts to impose on him overseas values considered here as immoral.

By 2015, the international community had 19 agreements on combating terrorism. They oblige the states to freeze the assets of the terrorist organizations and to create conditions for cooperation among the states, to cooperate through exchange of the intelligence information, carry out a strict border control to prevent the movement of terrorists, to deny them access to weapons, and safe havens [13, p. 6). But in fact, the 'war against international terrorism' has led not to reducing the number of pain points in the world and strengthening the rule of law in it, but to further destabilizing of the international system. The invasions of the United States and its allies into a number of countries, declared by the American President as terroristic, occurred by bringing here a fear, death and devastation. As justly observed the head of the law school at Notre Dame Mary Ellen O'Connell, President Bush, appropriating the law of war (to kill without warning and detain people without trial), completely forgot about responsibilities under the international law. Detained persons were exposed to tortures, which techniques were borrowed from fascism (baiting dogs, ears burn, sleep deprivation, prolonged standing, harassment of a sexual nature, etc.) [14, p. 93 – 94).

If the objective processes of internationalization and globalization, formation of the universal civil society do reduce the importance of the states as national political institutions, the fear of terrorism strengthens and amplifies them, contributes to the further expansion of the repressive bodies and restricts democracy, and therefore the states themselves could generate it and exaggerate the possible dangers. So, the events of September 11, 2001 became the reason for establishment of the Department of the Homeland Security in the structure of administration of the United States, which was not existed in previous two hundred and twenty-five years. That is, "the war on terror gently followed after the prospect of war with Iraq allowed the State to accumulate more power" [15, p. 17].

The terrorist act in Beslan (Russia, 2004) has become a cause for the limitations of democracy in the country by abolishing gubernatorial elections and forcing 'power vertical', substituting the elected by the people and responsible to them representatives for appointees of the President and responsible personally before him. The terrorist attacks 31 October over Sinai and November 14, 2015 over Syria helped temporarily divert the population's attention from internal problems generated by the crisis, inflation and the government's inability to cope with them. Bombings in Paris (November 13, 2015) led to propose the revision of the Constitution of the Fifth Republic with empowerment of the President of France. So, the old maxima "divide and rule!" may be amended and extended: "and do originate fear!"



Though the terrorists may be terribly bothersome, they are unlikely to pose a danger to the public or the security of the State, the American political scientist Kenneth Waltz believes. Terrorism does not change the first basic fact of international politics - the gross imbalance of power in the world in favor of the United States. Instead of, the effect of September 11 became an increasing of the American power and increasing their military presence in the world "[16, p. 348-352]. With Waltz is solidary his compatriot Amitai Etzioni. The construction of the American half-Empire considerably accelerated after September 11, 2001, although many of his blocks were put in place much earlier, he writes [17, p. 96].

In connection with, the observers and analysts of the biggest terrorist attacks of the past two decades have raised credible assumptions that the states themselves might have organized some of them to achieve certain goals. According to the part of the American public, the slogan "kill the few to run the flow of money" became the guide that country's politics. They believe that after September 11, 2001 followed the war in Iraq, for which Bush's and Blair's governments have spent one trillion United States dollars. The same amount was spent by Obama's and Cameron's governments in the second decade of the "war on terror". The American organization 'Active democracy' justly ironized over the fact that the powerful and terrible enemies of humanity have been broken during six years of the Second World War, but the mighty powers find themselves helpless before forces without aircrafts, fleets, tanks and many others [18].

Now the term 'terrorism' is pronounced roughly with the same sense as the words 'heretic' in the middle Ages and 'communism' were pronounced in the XIX - XX centuries, i. e. with horror and contempt. The labels 'terrorism', 'terrorist organization' is given as frank killers, motivated by personal animosity, so combatants, justly struggling for the freedom and independence of their peoples. The term is used also by rival political and social forces against each other. So, in Burma (Myanmar), the military government presented all critics of the regime as 'terrorists', while dissidents considered the same regime as terroristic. In May, 2016 some entrepreneurs of France tried to accuse even the participants of the strikes against the tightening of the labour law in terrorism.

The thesis that the policy of the ruling circles of certain states generates terrorism is reaffirmed by the political history of Turkey. About 20 million representatives of the divided Kurdish ethnic group live here historically. About the same number live in neighboring Iraq, Iran and Syria. According to International Covenants on human rights "All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development....The States Parties to the present Covenant, including those having responsibility for the administration of Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories, shall promote the realization of the right of self-determination, and shall respect that right, in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations" [19, Article I, par. 1, 3]. And all of them "undertake to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or



other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status" [19, Article 2, par. 1]. Due to the unwillingness of the Turkish authorities to respect the rights of citizens of Kurdish origin, as well as the natural desire of the ethnical minority to defend their inherent and inalienable rights there is a very tense relationship between the authorities and the Kurdish population, until an armed resistance, which in the late twentieth century has led the Kurdistan Workers Party (KWP). In view of the rapid evolution of the situation in the Middle East, formation of the ISIL and resistance of Kurdish troops to this new international terrorist center, the KWR announced the need to join the efforts to combat the new threat and the cessation of the armed struggle for the right to self-determination of the Kurds in Turkey.

When the sound meditation, the movement of Arabs for own statehood, relying on true national values, is a consequence of the most flagrant interference by foreign States in all spheres the region's life. When British and American troops invaded Iraq in 2003, half of the nearly half-million army forces of that country as if "disappeared" somewhere with almost all their equipment. The population of the entire Arab world, and not just Arabic, indignant by cruelty and unceremoniousness of the interventionists in the region and inability of the number of countries' leaders in the region to fight together against external danger. It is possible to assume that part of the people decided, how this has often happened in occupied countries, to start a resistance movement and to take the destiny of their country into their own hands, and to form new institutions guided by national system of values, as they had imagined them. According to political theory, it is a split of the society and the commencement of the civil war to abolish the form of government became destructive, since "it is the Right of the People to alter or... to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their Safety and Happiness" [18]. Religion became a unifying of the little educated in his most part people factor. Thousands of representatives of other countries and nations have joined the ranks of the rebels. Why? Everybody more or less knowledgeable history can easily find the right answers to the question. For the same reasons, why hundreds and thousands of foreigners fought in the ranks G. Washington's army during the war of independence in the United States and participated in the revolutions of the XIX -XX centuries.

The noble objectives should be achieved by the noble means. But the leadership of the movement from the beginning has chosen wrong and illegitimate direction. Instead of supporting truly national-patriotic forces in the region for its independence and progress it, with the hidden support of the Saudi monarchy and the United Arab Emirates, declared all, who does not adhere to the Wahhabi version of Islam, infidels to be killed, mobilized children from 14 years of age, what are prohibited by international law, organized public executions of fallen into their hands foreign journalists and experts, working in the region, as well as barbarically destroyed pre-Islamic times artifacts of humanity. Humankind considers all this as international crimes, which it has to suspend and the perpetrators to punish. As a result, the movement obtained the nature of international movement of the criminals, against which the Kurdish self-defense groups from Iraqi and Syrian Kurdistan



actively fought. The Turkish President R. Erdogan forbade Turkish Kurds to help their fellow men on the other side of the border. But the feelings of consanguinity and solidarity at times are stronger than any taboos, and Turkish Kurds travelled to Syria to fight with terrorists. They have been accused by Turkish authorities in Islamism, and their living areas were bombed at the end of July 2015, killing a dozen patriots, to what the Kurds, in turn, responded with organization explosions near Turkish police centers, as well as with assassination of Turkish servicemen.

Where is the cause and where is the consequence? Official Turkish press estimated these steps of the Kurds as terroristic. But the Kurds, forced to defend themselves and respond to State violence by relatively small pinpricks, with no less a reason believe that the actions of the Turkish authorities are terroristic.

It was said that the rivalry leading Nations of the world is one of the factors that feed international terrorism. This is well illustrated in the case of the ISIL. July 1, 2015 the leader of ISIL Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi called Russia, helping the government of Syria, and the United States, bombing a part of the controlled by him territories, his enemies. Logically, the opponents of the ISIL had to come together for a joint fight with it, but instead, the United States authorities announced in September of the same year that the main danger for them originates from 'Islamic State' and ... Russia, placing them in the same row. An elusive mind puzzle has originated. Russia has acted as a de facto ally of the United States in combating the ISIL. But 'struggling' verbally with the radical wing of the terrorists, the United States along with the Saudi Arabia actually continued to provide the so-called 'moderate' wing with the anti-tank missile complexes BGM 71 TOW [20], "turning a blind eye" to the fact that the lion's share of aid going to the 'moderates', went for the 'radicals'. So, according to an American expert on Syria, Professor D. Landis, from 60 to 80% passed America weapons fell into the hands of Al-Qaida and its affiliates [21]. American public organization "Active democracy" on its website provides evidence how the United States authorities and their allies support terrorist in different parts of the world, including the IGIL. This practice shows that the true object of the policy of all participating in taking place in the region processes states in the region is to strengthen their influence here, for achieving what they are willing to cooperate with anyone, at least with the Satan.

This was confirmed by the terrorists themselves in their video message to United States President Barack Obama [22, 16.12.15 21:05), calling him "a great leader". They recognized that the United States President stood at the origins of the Caliphate and Jihad rose to a new level. "George Bush has brought us Iraq, but the real hero is Obama, who stood at the origins of our Caliphate. Thanks to him, we were able to get rid of dissenting governments who did not follow Sharia law. Obama was able to save us from Gaddafi that was an obstacle for us in the development of the law... Now, thanks to the gracious God, all our factions are united. ... Obama, you gave us the weapons, we use against your enemies. You did a lot for us, Obama, so we announce you our Caliph, our guide on the path to Allah", Islamists said [23].



Perhaps this is the terrorists' maneuver to embroil Russia and the United States. Is it true or not, the future will show.

## 2. CONCLUSION

The individual terrorism grows out from the state terrorism. False understanding of the national interests, resulting inter-state conflicts and rivalry, also serves as breeding grounds for international terrorism; they make any joint and effective combat with it impossible. Moreover, this leads to the reproduction of terrorism in new forms and manifestations. The most effective ways of overcoming terrorism are respectful attitude to the rights and freedoms of all individuals and peoples, and benevolent participation in resolving all conflicts between them in strict compliance with the norms of international law. It is appropriate to add to the above that an inconsistency and ambiguity some of the norms of international law (guarantee of territorial integrity and the inviolability of state borders on the one hand, and the right of peoples to self-determination, on the other) also make it difficult to distinguish a legitimate struggle for the rights and freedoms of individuals and peoples from terrorist movements.

The ways to remove threats of international terrorism are, approximately the same as within individual countries - democratization of public life de-facto, the rule of law within countries and the democratization of international relations and the rule of law in solving all the world's problems [24, pp. 467 - 490). "Such is the moral construction of the world, that no national crime passes unpunished in the long run...", the prominent theorist and practices of democracy Thomas Jefferson wrote, "Were your present oppressors to reflect on the same truth, they would spare to their own countries the penalties on their present wrongs which will be inflicted on them in future times" [25, p. 130]. Many of these 'wrongs' have the appearance of terrorism.

Objectively minded American scientists also see the true causes of terrorism and real ways to its remedy. Americans, the well-known political scientist Robert Keohane writes, could try to understand more about global politics, to become less arrogant towards other cultures and political systems, and more determined to play a positive role in improving of the appalling living conditions often conducive to support terrorism and other forms of violence [26, p. 17].

It is hard to disagree with that opinion of the distinguished scientists. Institutions of democratic societies could not ignore the findings of the scientists, including those of the study.

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