

The terrorist-criminal nexus

Type de contenu : Texte

Type de médiation : sans médiation

Titre(s) : The terrorist-criminal nexus : an alliance of international drug cartels, organized crime, and terror groups / Jennifer L. Hesterman

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Editeur, producteur : Boca Raton (Fla.) : London : New York (N.Y.) : CRC press, Taylor & Francis, cop. 2013

Description matérielle : 1 vol. (XXI-329 p.) : ill., graph., tabl. ; 24 cm

ISBN : 978-1-466-55761-1
1-466-55761-3

EAN : 9781466557611 rel.

Classification décimale Dewey : 327.117

Note sur les bibliographies et les index : Notes bibliogr. Glossaire. Index

Note sur le contenu : Machine generated contents note: References Multinational Corporate Sophistication Transnational Organized Crime on the Rise Scoping the TOC Challenge Eurasian Transnational Crime: Size, Wealth, Reach Italian Transnational Crime: Not Your Grandfather's Mafia Baltic Transnational Crime: Emergent and Deadly Asian Transnational Crime: Sophisticated and Multicultural African Criminal Enterprises: Internet Savvy and Vast Emerging Area of Concern: North Korea Fighting Transnational Crime Overseas... and within Our Borders Palermo Convention: First Strike on TOC National Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime Agencies and Methods INL DOJ FBI Major Areas of Concern, Progress, and Lessons Learned Counternarcotics Human Trafficking Money Laundering Corruption Lessons Learned References Postmodern Organizational Theory: The Rise of Modern Terrorism and Groups Genesis of Postmodern Groups and Thinking Contents note continued: Upstream Thinking Epistemology Deconstruction Deconstruction's Danger Postmodern Organizational Theory Neo-Marxist Organizational Theory Diagnostic Tools of Postmodernism Systems Theory Environmental Theory Symbolic Theory Postmodern Theory and the Rise of Modern Terrorism Final Thoughts on Postmodernism Modern Terrorism's Roots What Is Terrorism ? Terrorism's Target The New Anatomy of a Terrorist Group Life Cycle Study Terrorist Group Members Behavior Motivation Culture Environment How Terrorist Groups End International Terrorist Groups : The "Big 3" Al Qaeda and Affiliates The Ideology Rise of bin Laden and al Qaeda Emergent al Qaeda AQAP or Ansar al-Sharia Other Al Qaeda Splinter Groups Bin Laden Speaks Al Qaeda's New Goals and Tactics Al Qaeda and Nexus Hezbollah Unique Structure Methodology and Objectives Primary Area of Operations Contents

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Résumé ou extrait : "We are currently faced with a new national security challenge that is both vexing and complex. The once clear lines between the international drug trade, terrorism, organized crime, domestic terror, and Mexican drug cartels are blurring as groups increasingly join forces to further individual interests and goals. The synergistic potential of the alliance between nonstate actors and terrorists is alarming. Factor in a rise in domestic terror and cartel activity spilling over U.S. borders and the resulting impact to America is grave. This text highlights the often disregarded, misunderstood, or obscured criminal/terrorist nexus threat to the U.S. Destroying the myth that such liaisons don't exist due to differing ideologies, the book provides a thought-provoking and new look at the complexity and phenomena of the criminal/terrorist nexus."

"Chapter 1 A Poisonous Brew While organized crime is not a new phenomenon today, some governments find their authority besieged at home and their foreign policy interests imperiled abroad. Drug trafficking, links between drug traffickers and terrorists, smuggling of illegal aliens, massive financial and bank fraud, arms smuggling, potential involvement in the theft and sale of nuclear material, political intimidation, and corruption all constitute a poisonous brew--a mixture potentially as deadly as what we faced during the Cold War : R. James Woolsey Former Director, CIA Al Qaeda works with the mafia. The mafia works with outlaw motorcycle gangs. Biker gangs work with white supremacists. Surprised ? Ten years ago, when I wrote my first book on this subject, the number of experts who would acknowledge that a nexus may exist between terrorists and criminals could be counted on one hand. In fact, Mr. Woolsey's statement above was made in 1994, long before most people heard of al Qaeda, human trafficking and loose nukes. Unfortunately, the "poisonous brew" is becoming more toxic with time. Transnational organized crime is escalating, the cartels are global and undeterred, and the list of State Department Foreign Terrorist Organizations continues to grow. Transnational crime is a growing U.S. national security concern, and it threatens us in new, provoking ways. For example, Americans formerly viewed drug use as a law enforcement or health issue. Only very recently has drug trafficking been established as a global crime with a corresponding national security threat."

Sujet - Nom commun : Drogues -- Lutte contre -- Coopération internationale
Crime organisé
Terrorisme