

Chapter 2

General Framework for Counter–Terrorism and Extremism Strategy: Administrative and Organizational Perspectives

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ABSTRACT

The Arab world has suffered a great deal from different types and forms of terrorism and extremism, which has not only resulted in major life losses, injuries, economic disturbances, and damage to the infrastructure, but also has posed a major threat to both the state and citizens. This chapter presents a general framework for counter-terrorism and extremism strategy that can be used as a guide to adopt effective strategies to counter-terrorism and extremism in the Arab world. In its first three parts, the chapter covers the conceptual basis and theoretical underpinnings of the study, and in part four, it elaborates on the issues and challenges associated with the practical implementation of the counter-terrorism and extremism in the Arab world. The chapter is concluded with recommendations and suggested solutions to ensure the effectiveness of the adopted strategy to counter-terrorism and extremism.

INTRODUCTION

It is a well-known fact, based on the reality we live in, that the phenomenon of terrorism and extremism in the Arab world has become a de facto, rather than a temporary occurrence, because of failures and evident inability to address this phenomenon, and reduce its severity, in addition to a widespread senseless rush behind incorrect and destructive emotions and slogans.

A subject as critical as this that is handled by an attitude as naïve as this, necessitates the need to explore a suitable strategic framework to prepare an effective strategy to fight terrorism and extrem-

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General Framework for Counter-Terrorism and Extremism Strategy

ism; a strategy that is capable of foiling terrorist schemes, and limiting their various damaging effects, especially on business organizations and investment operations.

The research on hand aims at building such a strategy to combat terrorism and extremism in the Arab world, by relying on relevant statistical analysis and field studies, and extracting as an outcome key ideas, factors and indicators, in a way that shows the conceptual foundations to create the basis for a common understanding of this hideous phenomenon, leading to understanding its dimensions, then identifying the intellectual structures of this strategy; all from an integrated managerial and organizational perspective. The research structure comprises four parts:

The first part, explains the general framework of the research in terms of its justifications, objectives and basic directions.

The second part, presents the conceptual basis of terrorism and extremism, by discussing the following topics; the concept of terrorism, extremism and violence, the causes of terrorism and extremism, types of terrorism and extremism, and the repercussions of terrorism and extremism.

The third part, discusses the intellectual structures of the strategy of combating terrorism and extremism, by discussing the following pillars; structure of the justification for the strategy of combating terrorism and extremism; the goals of the strategy of combating terrorism and extremism; and the structure of the strategy of combating terrorism and extremism which included the following steps: The first step is to conduct Environmental Analysis. The second step is concerned with drafting the strategy, proactive strategy, preventive strategy, remedial strategy, and then building a strategic approach that represents an objective methodology that identifies the country and outlines its expected pathways in the future by building vision, mission and core values as well as formulating of objectives. The third step is to implement the strategy, which means putting strategic plans into practice. The fourth step involves evaluating the strategy, which is concerned with determining the effectiveness of the strategy.

The fourth part of the research is concerned with presenting a set of scientific and practical recommendations that contribute to the development of understanding and recognizing the dangers of this phenomenon and the ways and methods to deal with it.

PART 1: GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF THE RESEARCH

The general framework of the research is defined through the affirmation of the research and clearly defining the research goals prior to exploring the intellectual trends of the research.

Research Justifications

There is a set of justifications for conducting the current research that can be summarized as follows:

- The rapid increase in the phenomenon of terrorism and extremism, and the upsurge in the number of attacks and the size of human sufferings and material sacrifices.
- The weakness of the economic structure due to the decline in investments in the Arab world as it becomes a discouraging environment for investments because of the phenomenon of terrorism and extremism.
- The prevalence of unacceptable and intolerable social practices and behaviors that drive hatred and weaken the social cohesion and solidarity.

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