

Chapter 4

Advances of Forensic Remote Sensing Applications in the Face of Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism

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ABSTRACT

This chapter aims to investigate advance and relevance of remote sensing in detecting the increasing transnational terrorist and crimes acts. This work should take into the widest definition of transnational crimes and terrorist activities and the link between. Geopolitics has created a favor climate for the setting of transnational crimes and terrorism at the Tunisian-Libyan borders. A possible future scenario is the fall of a military base with high technology arms in the hand of terrorist groups. Remote would be relevant by monitoring of terrorist mobility and their number evolution, arms quality and quantity within the base and the region, linked illegal activities funding terrorist groups (human trafficking from Africa to Europe, arms trade towards Mali, and smuggling).

1. INTRODUCTION

According to the academic definition of criminologists, a simple crime occurred, but it may be not recorded neither reported due to spatial and temporal constraints.

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Further, transnational organized crimes and terrorism are of great complexity for two main reasons: victims fail to report crimes and law enforcement agents are unable to detect crimes, because transnational crimes take place in remote or hidden location or because of a lack of technology and staff to carry out a complete surveillance. Transnational organized crime and terrorism were considered two crimes with different aspects. Transnational organized crimes mainly focus on economic profit and acquire illegal markets. On the other hand, terrorism is motivated by an ideological background and an aim for a political revamp. Criminal terrorism which is defined as the systematic use of acts of terror was excluded from transnational organized crimes typology. Two separate bodies of criminology literature have emerged due to this distinction between organized crime and terrorism. Nonetheless, the hypothesis of transnational organized crimes and terrorism convergence has been recently defended (Kadir, 2020; Mirdad, 2020; Omelicheva and Markowitz, 2021; Petrich, 2021). Actually, some link between the two phenomena has been suggested. The idea raised in the 1980s with the discovery of narco-terrorism mixing drug trafficking and terrorist activities (Atsa'am et al., 2021; Rosen, 2021). A symbiosis ever seen before between terrorism and organized crime has recently taken place (Singh, 2021). Due to accelerated global interaction of the globalisation, transnational organized crime and international terrorism are flourishing. Other scholars (Fisabillah and Pujiyono, 2021) went further and suggested the theoretical possibility that in concrete cases, terrorism can change into organized crime and vice versa. A number of geopolitical and economic emerging conditions have led to metamorphosis of terrorism and organized crime (Perry, 2020). Also, clear structural similarities make collaboration advantageous for both of them. There not difference between transnational crimes wrongdoers and terrorists throwing bombs. In general, the state by its law enforcement is common enemy of both of them. In the underworld, both crimes secretly operate using the similar infrastructures for their activities. Further, they use the same networks of white-collar crime and corruption. Both use the same type of tactics: they engage in cross-border smuggling, money laundering, counterfeiting, kidnapping, extortion and various kinds of violence (Puttonen and Romiti, 2020). In their literatures, transnational organized crime wrongdoers and terrorists theorize to the use the mechanism of the political life to create the social and economic instable climate making their profitable activities feasible and to push their own agendas. These two types of complex crimes need an international collaboration to follow their spatial evolution without political limits and temporal metamorphosis without any obvious rule. Nonetheless, this collaboration is not quite evident because the confidence between countries does not ensure the organized work to face these issues. As a matter of fact, since the Cold War, terrorism was set and helped by official states. For these reasons, many countries refused to open their frontiers for any foreign military or security activity on their lands. Actually, the

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