



UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

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PROGRAMME TOWARDS A COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH TO COUNTER-TERRORISM

Monday 20 – Wednesday 22 March 2006

WILTON PARK CONFERENCE S06/5

in partnership with Demos

and with the support of:

The Home Office (Faith Community Unit)

United States Institute for Peace

Economic and Social Research Council

Arts and Humanities Research Council

Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO)

who are all contributing to the overall research project on “Towards a community-based approach to counter-terrorism” of which this conference is a key part.

MONDAY 20 MARCH

1230-1400 Buffet Lunch available

1400-1410 Introductions to the Conference
Robin HART, Associate Director, Wilton Park

1410-1440 Introduction to and overview of the research project
RACHEL BRIGGS, HEAD, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES, DEMOS, LONDON
Catherine FIESCHI, Senior Researcher, Demos, London
Hannah LOWNSBROUGH, Researcher, Demos, London

1440-1600 1 TOWARDS A COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH TO COUNTER-TERRORISM: SETTING THE SCENE, ASSESSING THE THREAT AND THE RESPONSE TO DATE
What is the scale of the terrorist threat in the UK and in Europe? What are the profiles and motivations of those undertaking or preparing to undertake terrorist acts? Are there distinctions between so-called “home-grown” bombers and those born outside the country? What can be learnt from recent terrorist acts such as the bombings and attempted bombings in London? To what extent are current counter-terrorism efforts being counter-productive in the longer-term? How

could a community-based approach assist in countering terrorism at a local level?

Chair: Robin HART, Associate Director, Wilton Park

A security perspective:

Senior speaker from the Security Service confirmed

A Muslim perspective:

Abdul Haqq BAKER

Chairman, Brixton Mosque, London

KHURSHID AHMED

Chair, British Muslim Forum; Commissioner, Commission for Racial Equality for Islamophobia and Muslim Affairs, Dudley

1600-1630 Tea

AFTERNOON CHAIR:

EMRAN MIAN, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR, PROSPECT MAGAZINE, LONDON

1630-1730 2 THE WIDER SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT
What is the wider socio-economic context in which Muslim communities in the UK exist and from which support for terrorism by a tiny minority has emerged? What can be learnt from comparisons to other communities and the process of economic and social integration, generational shifts etc? What are the lessons from analysing census and demographic information and from assessing crime? What are the possible intervention points for the communities and the state? What are the links to diaspora communities?
Marian FITZGERALD
Professor, Kent Crime and Justice Centre, University of Kent, Canterbury

1730-1830 3 THE WIDER POLITICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT:
Islam and globalisation and the role of foreign policy
How much is western foreign policy a factor in polarising the global debate within the Muslim community? How far does the responsibility of responding to disaffection with western foreign policy lie with the Muslim community? What issues are raised by the inter-face of western (secular) democracies and Islamic expressions of political and cultural solidarity? What are the challenges for governments in setting up cross-cutting strategies to deal with extremism?
Frances GUY
Head, Engaging with the Islamic World Group, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London
Nasreen SULEAMAN
Senior Broadcast Journalist, BBC, London

1900 Reception followed by Dinner
SPEAKER AT DINNER: TARIQ RAMADAN
Senior Research Fellow, Lokahi Foundation; Visiting Professor, St

Antony's College, Oxford

TUESDAY 21 MARCH

0915-1045 4 UNDERSTANDING BACKGROUND CAUSES I:

THE PORTRAYAL OF MUSLIMS IN THE MEDIA (HOME AND ABROAD)
To what extent is the portrayal of Muslims in the media a cause of extremism? How far can the Muslim communities influence the media and the way news and stories relating to Muslims are covered? What can be done through other media channels, including new media such as the internet etc?

Chair: Olga GORA, Former Intern, Demos, Peterborough
Fuad NAHDI
Editor, Q-News, London

HOW DO JOURNALISTS COVER THE TOPIC OF TERRORISM? WHY ARE THE PITFALLS IN THEIR WAY?

Frank GARDNER
Security Correspondent, BBC, London

1045-1115 Coffee

1115-1245 5 UNDERSTANDING BACKGROUND CAUSES II:

THE USE AND ABUSE OF FAITH

How much is faith a factor in persuading a small minority of Muslims to consider conducting terrorist acts? To what extent is the use of the Muslim faith by terrorist activists and supporters seen by others in the Muslim communities to be an abuse of the Muslim faith? What kind of arguments can be used to dissuade young people from abusing their faith? How can arguments be best put forward by communities to counter extremism in their midst?

Yahya BIRT
Research Fellow, Islam in Europe Unit, Islamic Foundation, Leicester

1300-1430 Lunch

1430-1600 6 POLICING TERRORISM: BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE POLICE AND MUSLIM COMMUNITIES

What is the effect of current CT policies on communities? What are the prevailing attitudes amongst Muslim communities about counter-terrorism policing? What does this mean for the engagement strategies of the police and for both explaining CT measures and for conducting intelligence and other operations with the wider Muslim communities? How can the needs for community policing be squared with the need for intelligence etc?

Chair: Robin HART, Associate Director, Wilton Park
Sir Ian BLAIR

Commissioner, Metropolitan Police, London

1600-1630 Tea

1630-1815 7 KEY INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS: PART OF THE PROBLEM, PART OF THE SOLUTION
Chair: Robin HART, Associate Director, Wilton Park

1630-1640 *COMMUNITY INITIATIVES: PERSPECTIVES OF THE HOME OFFICE*
TONY HEAL
HEAD OF FAITHS POLICY AND ENGAGEMENT, HOME OFFICE, LONDON

The conference will split into two groups – one focusing on Community-led Initiatives, the other on Institutions. In each group speakers will make short presentations to be followed by more in-depth discussion and focusing on examples of best practice. Participants will be asked which group they would like to join.

1645-1815 *community-LED INITIATIVES*
How can community led initiatives reduce radicalisation amongst the small minority of Muslim youngsters? What kind of projects and experiences work? What national or local government support should be offered, or is needed? What role can women play in countering terrorism amongst their communities?
Chair: Hannah LOWNSBROUGH, Researcher, Demos, London

MOSQUES
AHMED SHEIKH MOHAMED
Trustee, Finsbury Park Mosque, London

YOUTH
Adill HADI
Senior Youth Worker, Birmingham City Council

1645-1815 *INSTITUTIONS*
To what extent are institutions such as mosques, prisons and universities, where some younger Muslims become radicalised, part of the problem? What can institutions do to prevent radicalisation? What can governments do to support the prevention measures? What can communities do with and within the institutions to reduce radicalisation?
Chair: Rachel BRIGGS, Head, International Programmes, Demos, London

PRISONS
AbdurRahmaan ANDERSON

Leader, Race and Equalities Action Group, Prison Service, London
Bob LAMBERT
Head, Muslim Contact Unit, Metropolitan Police, London

UNIVERSITIES
Shiekh Musa abubaker ADMANI
University Imam, London Metropolitan University, London

- 1830-1930 8 FEEDBACK FROM WORKING GROUPS
Chair: Frank GREGORY, Jean Monnet Chair in European Political
Integration; Senior Lecturer, Department of Politics, University of
Southampton
- 1930 RECEPTION DRINKS FOLLOWED BY DINNER

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH

- 0915-1045 9 *KEY INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS: PART OF THE
PROBLEM, PART OF THE SOLUTION*
Chair: Catherine FIESCHI, Senior Researcher, Demos, London

PUBLIC SERVICES
The delivery of services such as education is one of the key points of
contact many Muslim communities have with the state. How can their
delivery at local level be such to prevent frustration and alienation
amongst the communities? To what extent can the delivery of services
act as a prevention of terrorism? What can communities do to use the
delivery of services as a means of countering terrorism?
Mohammed Abdul AZIZ
Commissioner, Commission for Racial Equality; private consultant,
London
Rushanara ALI
Associate Director, The Young Foundation, London

1045-1130 *Photograph and Coffee*

- 1130-1300 10 CONCLUDING SESSION: TOWARDS A COMMUNITY-BASED
APPROACH TO COUNTER-TERRORISM: WHAT NEXT STEPS CAN
BE TAKEN?
Chair: Robin HART, Associate Director, Wilton Park
ROBERT BECKLEY
Assistant Chief Constable, Hertfordshire Constabulary, Welwyn
Garden City
Huda JAWAD
Programme Director for Engaging Islam in the UK, Forward Thinking,

London
John DENHAM MP
Chair, Home Affairs Select Committee and former Home Office
Minister

1300

Lunch

1400

Participants depart