



**Research Paper**

**No. 187**

**March 2023**

**From Rivals to Allies;**  
*Understanding the importance  
of security relationship on combatting transnational organized crime,  
terrorism and radicalization: The case of USA and Russia*

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**ISSN: 2241-6358**

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**(RIEAS)**

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**RIEAS web site: <http://www.rieas.gr>**

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**Abstract:**

*This analysis will focus on a security partnership between Russia and the United States as we look to tackle the threat of global terrorism. Despite the Russian Federations' cooperation with NATO following the attacks on 9/11, a stronger bilateral relationship with US and Russian security and intelligence agencies, aside from NATO, is paramount. We will analyze historical security trends from the late nineties till the present day to provide law enforcement agencies and scholars with a clear understanding of the unique strategic opportunity that exists between*

*these two nations. We will also analyze other international security relationships, highlighting possible weak points and strengths, thus providing us with some options with ways to create global security relationships efficiently; through diplomacy, and humanitarian actions. Because of relevance, we will focus closely on the Northern Caucasus region, a region of constant instability, high organized crime rates, and a large presence of terrorist organization membership. Conclusions will be drawn, providing policymakers and law enforcement agencies with recommendations regarding future of intelligence policies.*

**Key Words:** Illegal Migration, Russia, United States, Intelligence, Intelligence-led policing, Terrorism, Community, Northern Caucasus, Jihad, Security, Diplomacy

### **Introduction:**

Whether we like it or not, terrorism worldwide is here to stay, threatening the lives of civilians worldwide. With the advancement of modern technology, recruiting, ratification, funding, and supplying weapons has become a much easier task for terrorist organizations.<sup>1</sup> The internet has become a marketplace for scammers, drug dealers, white-collar crime, hackers, terrorists' leaders, and extremist groups. This radically more unpredictable form of crime means that in many cases, lawmakers, policymakers, and law enforcement agencies must rethink the way they respond or intercept criminal and terrorist organizations' communication, sometimes done through telecommunications or the web in Extremist Online Communities.<sup>2</sup> While the United States and its allies have made tremendous strides with law enforcement cooperation on domestic and international levels, much more work needs to be done to smooth intelligence transition between local, federal, and international groups.

Nevertheless, some countries have spent a significant amount of time and effort tightening information and cyber security, including the Russian Federation. While it is evident that there are vast differences between the United States and Russia domestically through policy, the common principle still exists amongst all of us to protect the lives of our nation's citizens. Since domestic politics are also very reliant on specific international issues, creating a better international partnership and exchanging and sharing information on the tactics used to intercept an outsider's communication services is essential to fighting terrorism as a global phenomenon.

The period after the 9/11 attack was an era of a new threat for the United States and Russia, and globally. The event was quickly followed by conspiracies and xenophobia, creating even more fear and terror within society about the Muslim world. Approximately simultaneously, two bloody conflicts in Northern Caucasus were marked by its cruelty, aggression, and separatist movements. These two wars were rooted in the collapse of the Soviet Union and the weakening of security between the now Russian Federation, European Union and its allies. Many conspiracies centered around the First Chechen War which took place in 1994-1996, and the Second Chechen War in 1999-2009; as the Northern Caucasus became a huge flashpoint, there was a shift from secularity to radicalization.<sup>3</sup> The result was the victory of Russian Federal troops; which has now caused a new reality where the ratification process has thrived.

Even today Russia and the US have achieved many things individually to fight terrorism. However, the main goal of terrorists, to promote terror and mistrust, has continued to succeed and become even more challenging to overcome. One significant setback for many countries, not just the United States, is that we have seen a considerable amount of domestic extremist terrorist groups in the last half a decade,<sup>4</sup> which due to a harsh political climate and the fear of more terrorist acts was put on the back-burner of the political agenda. Parallel to Russia, which has forever dealt with terrorism domestically. For the Russians, terrorism is a common topic of fear. According to the 'public opinion fund' in 2017, 56% of respondents in Russia answered that they are afraid of terrorist attacks in Russia, while 42% of respondents said they are not scared of it. In contrast, the 2017 Gallup Poll in the United States reported that 60% of Americans feel that it is very or somewhat likely that a terrorist attack will occur.<sup>5</sup>

Despite both their histories in and around the region, specifically regarding Afghanistan both the United States and Russia, have separately had little success intervening in flashpoints. Critiques can be made for both nations however, the discussion of 'right or a wrong' decisions lead us nowhere closer to concise strategic relations. While collaboration amongst the United States and the Russian government may seem immediately too different, it is not the first time that it has been thought that cooperation might yield a strengthening in security matters. President John F. Kennedy, in his Strategy of Peace speech in 1963, speaks to the positives that would come from US and Russian cooperation, expressing his hope for the perseverance of the two nations to come together in the search for peace.

We are not here distributing blame or pointing the finger of judgment. We must deal with the world as it is, not as it might have been... We must be there and persevere in the search

for peace in the hopes that constructive changes within the communist block which might bring within reach solutions that now seem beyond us.<sup>6</sup>

For many, Russia and the United States share nothing in common but the cold war, but these two hegemon's countries have maintained one of the most important, critical, and strategic foreign relations in the world. Hegemon shares interests in nuclear safety and security, nonproliferation, counterterrorism, and space exploration. While differencing ideologies and geological makeups may lead us to different discussions on how we act internationally, that does not exclude possible intelligence systems collaboration. In this analysis, we will focus rather on how we can combat the spread of radicalized thought through shared intelligence. Given the political and social unrest and the rise of domestic cyber-based terrorism, intelligence sharing is a crucial component in creating strong security relationships. For the United States and Russia, two Hegemons, sharing intelligence in nuclear safety, security, nonproliferation, counterterrorism, and space exploration could lead to a safer world.

### **Russian National Security Perspective:**

#### ***Islamization and its effect on Russian Federation following 9/11 & Chechen wars***

Russia and the United States have historically involved themselves in many conflicts; however, the only difference being, while US involvement is usually in response to distant threats, Russia focuses on domestic threats due to its location on the globe. Because of its location Islamization, is quite common today in Moscow and Northern Caucasus region; as it has become more common for women and girls of Caucasus ethnicities to cover their heads; something that was not commonly practiced before. Unfortunately, from the time the Soviet Union fell, a radicalized form of Islam was being used to divide and radicalize people in the Northern Caucasus region who had scarce knowledge to the real teachings of the Koran.

When tackling this issue of radical Islamization, it is important to remember that we are dealing with people and human nature. Thirty percent of youth in the Northern Caucasus identify as radicals—attributed to the fact that they were born during the era of radical Islamization and the manipulation of religious texts. Because religious expression was limited in the Soviet Union the Post-Soviet territory was hungry for their own spiritual guidance which was a turning point for a radical form of Islam. <sup>7</sup> Thus, the religious oppressions quickly turned to hatred and pain for those oppressed which it spread throughout the region. For some, the same reasoning exists for joining different sects and cults. For or Russians is why some religious sects and cults might also be seen as threatening the security of the Russian Federation. This people-first mentality found

in many sects, cults, and terrorist organizations makes it hard for members to decide what is right or wrong finding themselves disillusioned by the little hope for a completely just world; making it extremely easy to impose radical ideas on them.

The same story took place with Islamization in the Northern Caucasus region. When the country collapsed, people didn't know how to adjust to the new reality, and as a result, the new generation found comfort in a radical form of Islam. After the collapse of the Soviet Union and after the two Chechen wars, many people remained traumatized. Although it has been a decade since a really violent terrorism attack due to radical Islamic factions' the consequences of global migration remains a threat to all of us.

The main consequence of Radicalized Islamization is the power it can give to online extremists' groups and lone wolf actors. One example is Doku Umarov. When the first Chechen war took place, he immediately joined a militant squad and once even called himself the first President of Ichkeria, this boastful move was an attempt to show his strength against a system that previous oppressed him. Many ethnic minorities who were confined to specific regions went through deportation and the oppression by the Soviet government, including the region where Djohar Dudaev was born and deported from at the age of one year old. Doku Umarov was the leader of an International Terrorist Organization in Emirate Caucasus, who was finally recognized as an international terrorist by the United States intelligence services, in June of 2010.<sup>8</sup> That was a long time ago; here, Soslan Beef from Kabardino-Balkaria was accused of joining a terrorist unit while being in jail from 2015-2017, into which he was attracting other prisoners. The unit was promoting terrorism and finding excuses for it. Today's most radical subjects of the Russian Federation are Chechnya, Ingushetia, and Dagestan. Although this issue is more of a threat to the Russian Federation geographically, due to the ease of the spread of misinformation the problem has become global.

### ***Illegal migration and Russian security:***

Another issue Russia faces today is illegal migration. In Russia, there are more than one million illegal migrants from CIS states, mostly from Central Asia. For Russia, the fear is that with high immigration from the Islamic regions of Central Asia; it could further the fear of radical Islamic factions. With struggling economics and the increased fear of outsiders the possibility for domestic terrorist organizations to take action, and commit crimes against those who come to Russia illegally is likely. However, unlike some other states, the law will not protect them. Almost every country is facing an illegal migration issue; no matter how much action we take, migrants will always find a way to cross the border or stay illegally in Russia or the United States.

The Islamization of Central Asia came after the collapse of the Soviet Union, at a time when many religions popularity increased drastically. Many people who came to Russia from Central Asia and other post-Soviet states were people of the lower class; many of them never completed schooling. While there is literature to suggest that many leaders of terrorist organizations are of middle to upper class backgrounds, high amounts of crime do exist more in lower income, and lower educated communities. The fear here is that it could lead to a rise in ethnic and religious conflicts; where the process of radicalization becomes easier. Thus, the issue becomes a security threat for ethnic and non-ethnic Russians. One example of the impact that a collective movement can have on individual ideology is a case involving a baby-sitter in Russia in 2016.

In 2016, a babysitter from Uzbekistan who was Tajik by nationality killed a four-year-old girl who was her pupil by cutting off her head, later explaining it that Allah (God) asked her to do it. She further stated that she wanted to take revenge on the Russian government for its actions in Syria.<sup>9</sup> Although security focuses on Islamic migrants, the threat to Russia does not just exist with international threats but domestic radicalization as well.

Poor education of religion and domestic ethnic based radicalization remains one of the largest threats to civilians in Russia and globally. Joint security efforts will allow a deeper understanding on the process of becoming radicalized, giving policy makers and law enforcement agencies a better opportunity to search for and dismantle terrorist before their violent acts occur.

One issues that occurs with religious texts is that they are easily manipulated. For example, the Quran says, "The one who dies while defending his property is a martyr; The one who dies while defending his life is a martyr; The one who dies while defending his faith is a martyr; The one who dies while defending his family is a martyr."<sup>10</sup> While to the religiously uneducated mind may see these verses as violent; Or if we read them for the first time, or out of context; the meaning can also be seen as giving you the right to protect yourself and your family. However, only if someone is trying to cause them any harm. This is a problem with many religions and is just one of the reasons for the disillusionment of formal religious organizations.

## **U.S National Security Perspective:**

### ***Post 9/11 security relations with external forces***

While wildly different in the application, fighting against global terrorist organizations is much like containing a global pandemic. One state can have much success containing and neutralizing a deadly disease before it devastates communities; however, if two or more states create policies that help both their states, both states will see a likely decrease in the spread. Problems occur when there are gaps in the communication between states or even domestically amongst federal and regional agencies. If one state's policies offset another state's political agenda, there is the potential for one state or both states to be left exposed; less prepared in an outbreak.

Another problem that arises when combating global crises is when nations cannot decide on a universal definition of the crises they are trying to combat. While the definition of a virus is clear through biological analysis, the definition of a phenomenon like a Global Terrorist Organization is a little less statistically probable. "Some analysts determine an act of terror depending on whether its motivation is legitimate: for example, as part of a struggle for national liberation or based on a political ideology or religion."<sup>11</sup> For the United States and many others, the problems with defining a terrorist organization create many difficulties in the search, apprehension, and conviction of individuals suspected or caught in the act of committing terrorism. When we translate this to the development of Counter-Terrorism and Intelligence Agencies, these problems still exist.

### ***Fighting Global Terrorism:***

The fight against global terrorist organizations for the United States and its allies kicked off around two decades ago. On September 11, 2001, four planes were hijacked, two were crashed into the World Trade Center, one hit the United States Pentagon, and another was downed in the mountains of Pennsylvania. This event would change National Security in the United States and the rest of the world forever. Following the attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, legislation on counter-terrorism became the front of the political agenda. Most importantly, the Homeland Security Act, which was fundamental in the creation of the Department of State, looks to prevent terrorist attacks within the United States and try to minimize the damage of an attack

and assist in the recovery following an attack.<sup>12</sup> A strong national stand against terrorism is a good thing; however, a strong internal-external relationship is paramount to the success of combatant's agents' global terrorism. Unlike Russia, whose terrorist threats come from many different countries, the United States is very much isolated, sharing its borders with only two countries; sharing of intelligence with other nations is essential to the effectiveness of its national security.

### ***Transatlantic Cooperation:***

For the United States creating strong transatlantic cooperation is a critical part of their counter-terrorism strategy. In 2004, the United States turned to their European counterparts in hopes of creating a system for intelligence sharing, known as the 'EU-US Declaration on Combating Terrorism.'<sup>13</sup> Although there was a natural relationship between the two. After the fall of the Soviet Union, there remained some key differences between the United States and European politics and law enforcement. While the declaration in 2004 looked to solve some of these differences, differences in systems and culture still create some hurdles for intelligence agencies to overcome. First, the United States and Europe differed greatly in their investment in policing. Furthermore, prosecution methods varied greatly, creating the fear that European courts may undermine evidence found by US officials when in court.<sup>14</sup> The second challenge came after 9/11 when US legislation increased law enforcement agencies' surveillance power through cyber technology and interviews, catching much scrutiny from European officials.

Lastly, US involvement with Europol came with much disillusionment as the speed of information sharing was believed to be too slow, and Europe had other regional security matters that showed a more immediate threat. It wasn't until after the terrorist attacks, in 2001, that the US-Europol relationship strengthened. The FBI paved the way for international cooperation and broke down an invisible barrier that existed between the two countries' law enforcement agencies signing into order the US Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act or (FISA). Allowing for the exchange of liaison officers facilitates the exchange of strategic information and/or intelligence. Although issues in the Judicial branches still exist and usually are a result of differences in social philosophies. The United States and Europe have continued to strengthen this relationship, but more work needs to be done.

### ***Illegal migration and US security:***

In comparison, the United States has much less of a regional threat to its National Security. Subsequently, information sharing and risk-management focus has moved away from its borders, focusing on the more distant threat of terrorist factions like, ISIS and Al-Qaida.

However, this focus changed with the Trump Administration, who most notably argued for a wall to be constructed on the entire United States southern border. While this action can be described as a political move, the administration did steer DHS resources and policies away from disaster response, weapons of mass destruction, and cyber security focusing more on low-risk undocumented asylum seekers and migrants. However, what was not recognized was a rise of a new form of terrorism tearing its way through the states. This new form of terrorism, radicalized individuals or “lone wolves” are people who are United States or European citizens raised in the US, whom manifestos or their ideologies have influenced them to commit crimes of terrorism against the United States civilians.<sup>16</sup>

Due to a couple of factors this is particularly dangerous. The promotion of anti-outsider mentality and the increased anger in the lower-middle class who is at constant battle for representation creates the perfect atmosphere for radicalization and anti-government movements. Although in different regions of the world, the United States and Russia share a common growing threat.

### ***Common threat:***

The Russians have been fighting their form of domestic terrorism in the Northern Caucasus region for the longest time. During the fall of the USSR, many citizens looked for other means of religion as, under Soviet rule, people were forced to follow the Russian Orthodox Church. Unfortunately, radical Islamists from the region took advantage of the weak identity of the Chechen people spreading the word of radical Islam throughout the region. People were quickly radicalized, having little understanding of their religion. While the Russian Federation has fought agents diligently, the diverse radical diaspora groups' radicalism in the region still exists and is likely to continue due to the growing legitimacy of radical Islamist groups. While for the Russians, this problem causes an immediate threat to the lives of citizens of the Russian Federation, radical Islamists' attacks and threats to assets abroad cause it to be also a threat to the United States. When the Soviets withdrew from Afghanistan, in 1989, and the Americans pulled out of Somalia, and the United States withdrawal from Afghanistan, in 2021, powers shifted and violent jihadists gained more legitimacy.<sup>17</sup> Although there is little the United States can do militarily in the North Caucasus region due to its location in proximity to the homeland and bad relations with the region, a common threat creates good grounds for an intelligence relationship to be born.

## **Recommendations:**

### ***Open-Source intelligence and institutions:***

#### ***Recommendations United States.***

Another strategy for combating extremism is to expand cooperation and information sharing with Russian intelligence and police services. Intelligence sharing is crucial and it comes in many forms. Normally when we hear about governments sharing information it comes through joint surveillance strategies and military cooperation. However, I want to offer information sharing between governments and law enforcement agencies and through the use of Open-Source Intelligence.<sup>18</sup> The best way to create strong flows of intelligence is through academics. Many scholars become analysts who help government and law enforcement agencies with analytical positions. I believe creating a strong exchange program between the United States and Russia for those interested in national security and international relations would create a system where researchers have the tools and the cultural experience to do their work with more objective outcomes. Information sharing is about ‘trust,’ educational institutions provide a perfect opportunity for relationships outside government sectors to grow.

#### ***Recommendations Russia.***

One of the most important strategic initiatives that law enforcement agencies can take is through academia. Collaboration between these agencies with the education ministry will allow for a better understanding of the socioeconomic circumstances that allow radicalism and violence to occur. These initiatives would include mandatory Histories of the World classes that promote differing cultures and prospective in the world in a positive light. A strong emphasis will be put on youths, as they are more vulnerable to alienation in their social spheres. Classes would be re-introduced during the later years of education, in universities.

This suggestion rests on two ideas; first, that youths have a high rate of alienation.<sup>19</sup> And second, radicalism doesn’t just exist among migrants but also among ethnic Russians. The promotion of a multicultural country and a clearer understanding of the history of many differing people will help us to reduce stereotyping and alienation in school systems. In turn helping our ability to thrive in a multicultural society with more expectancy. This should be seen as a concern to all nationalities of the Russian Federation. Recently, Russia signed a new facial-recognition

system contract named “Orwell” that will be working in all of its schools; more than 43,000 in total. <sup>20</sup>The monitoring system is put into place with intent to monitor children movement and look to identify outcasts, on school grounds. Which is said to help increase the safety at our schools. The continuation of the broadening of the relationship between law enforcement agencies and educational institutions is crucial to the success of security relations domestically as well as internationally.

### ***Legislation & Migration:***

#### ***Recommendations Russia.***

For Russia, legislation centered around illegal migration is essential to the fight against ethnic and social unrest and violent disagreements. I would therefore suggest that every illegal migrant’s case be individually investigated. This recommendation does not touch on the extremist acts coming from ethnic Russians, as those recommendations were previously mentioned. This structural change will promote more psychological and sociological experts to conduct checkups on a half-yearly basis. If violators of the law commit acts that violate the same laws that an ethnic Russian citizen commits, punishments should remain as strict as deportation. Case workers work with families with young children, supporting them to find babysitters and other necessary things that are helpful for the family's cohesion and economic growth, within the law. While a full shift in law enforcement agencies focus towards immigration, may lend to other weak areas, a slight shift may yield positive results.

#### ***Recommendations United States.***

One of the most cited pieces of legislation regarding intervention on foreign soil is Triangular Diplomacy also known as the Kissinger doctrine. This piece of legislation argues that military power and diplomacy are needed to maintain order, bringing benefits to all players involved. However, there have been several calls to re-work the doctrine over the years as many believe it gives too much leeway for military intervention. I believe that to promote national security the doctrine is needed; however, it should be revised to emphasize intelligence and surveillance strategies on foreign land. This will keep boots off the ground while giving the military more surveillance capabilities before military intervention.

Furthermore, the United States must look at the current legislations passed in the last two presidential terms and rework, any actions that may deem low results. Such as its extreme focus on international students and legal migrant workers, and first-generation college students of

illegal migrant families. Like Russia however, strong measures should still exist for those illegal migrants who break or intend to break the new laws of their migrated country.

## **Strategic collaboration Efforts; public security, Economics & more:**

### ***Public Security:***

To best help security, both the United States and Russia must exchange their experiences fighting terrorism and extremism. While the United States may provide useful information on how to intercept and resolve intelligence from a distance, through agency collaborations, Russia can exchange its fundamental knowledge on fighting terrorism on the home-front.

For Russia, it is a normal experience to be subject to a physical scanning by intelligence members while within metropolitan areas. While in the United States this happens sometimes, when entering higher traffic areas, such as airports; little of this exists in the transportation systems within the confines of a city. Further regulations in Russia's metropolitan areas include the removal of garbage bins and other storage places where an attacker could hide an explosive device. Many of these regulations came following the Chechen war, and the Subway terrorist attack in the Moscow subways, in 2010. The United States whose regulations changed following the 2001 attack may look to Russia for suggestions for safer transportation policies in the future.

### ***Economies:***

Historically, the relationship between the United States and Russia has been tainted by competition, ideological differences, and two different authentic views on how to conduct domestic policies and economics. To maintain a balance of power these two countries have denoted their relationship as one of constant competition; despite the reality that this relationship could lend for a strong security relationship. Even with these differing ideologies on political dealings, one thing that drives a good partnership is business collaborations. To gain a stronger understanding of the workings of terrorist organizations in the North Caucasus region, promoting joint private and public sector infrastructure projects will allow both Russian and US intelligence agencies to collect and analyze criminal structures in the region. This will in turn force cooperation between US and Russian law enforcement agencies to share and inform each other through risk assessments, through Open-Source Intelligence, and the compiling of criminal data. Using infrastructure to create security relationships will prove a viable step for creating a stronger intelligence community. <sup>21</sup>

***History:***

One thing that all analyst must do is look upon what we have done in the past. To create strong collaboration with Russia or with any foreign power, we must look back on what we have done in the past; highlighting the positives and negatives that came with the relationships. This will allow us to understand where our weaknesses and strengths are. I think it is important that we look at our successes and failures with the EU, Europol and Interpol. Over the years, our unique security relationship could shed some light on what will work and what doesn't work, and make our future relationships stronger.

***Intelligence-led policing:***

One of the most important switches that law enforcement agencies must go through is the movement to more Intelligence-led policing. This means that we spend more attention on the collaboration between analysis, the criminal environment, and policing leadership.<sup>22</sup> This will enable us to save law enforcement and military lives while keeping the average citizen safe. For the United States, the biggest speedbump that we must maneuver around is the strong US legislation that keeps the government from surveillance and collecting personal information. In the modern world, I believe that we must revise some of this legislation to help intelligence agencies gain the access they need to keep a safer world for our nation's citizens.

***The Community:***

One of the most obvious ways to slow the spread of radicalization is to pay more attention to the ethnic diasporas in the region. It is important to note that violence, like an infectious disease does not occur in a vacuum. One example, of how the community level plays an important role in regional violence is through a program called Cure Violence. Cure Violence is an organization that focuses on violent crime reduction in high-risk communities worldwide. With a significant emphasis on youth gang prevention. Founded by Gary Slutkin, the former head of the World Health Organization's Intervention Development Unit, Cure Violence was launched in West Garfield Park, Chicago, in 2000, and within the first year, they reported a drop in shootings by sixty-seven percent. The mission is to reduce violence using disease control and behavioral methods.<sup>23</sup> This included a strong emphasis on conflict resolution teams, and community collaboration, through law enforcement, religious groups and community organizers. I believe the

same strategy can be used to combat radicalization in the Northern Caucasus region; it starts with understanding the different ethnic groups.

### **Conclusions:**

As technology advances, so should our intelligence agencies. Creating a more connected information-sharing system will allow for a faster, more cohesive way to pass information from the local level to the international level. Because many international events extremism and terrorist acts, rely on local causes, such as economic status, miseducation, and at the individual level, seen in adolescent alienation and home life— Providing law enforcement agencies with the tools they need is paramount to the disruption of global criminal organizations. 24

This will not change overnight. It will take numerous agencies' cooperation, internationally and domestically. While an academic approach may prove slow, special attention must be put on higher-level international educational exchange programs. Creating an institutional bond will enable the natural transition of open-source shared intelligence while providing future decision-makers and analysts a chance to understand some of the global conflicts that exist.

Because business and shared intelligence relationships require trust, it is in our best interest to strengthen collaboration through infrastructure initiatives with the Russian Federation in mutually strategic locations. This can be done through the public or private sector, allowing for intelligence teams from the United States and Russia to begin collaboration on matters of security. Thus, boosting cooperation between the two governments.

We must also stress the importance of shared information on public security measures. Although the United States has many surveillance systems, Russia's new additions to their domestic security could help provide US law enforcement agencies with more tools to combat domestic threats. I believe the necessary steps need to be taken to keep our public transportation systems and schools safe from extremist attacks.

Trust is the basis of any good relationship. Despite our differences, we agree on the common principle to protect our nation's citizens. We live in a world that is ever-changing and evolving. To combat radicalized thought, we must create multicultural agencies with the mission of collecting, analyzing, and sharing intelligence information, which can only be done through state and multi-international collaboration.

## Definitions:

- I. **Flashpoint:** “conflict zones in various parts of the world” Reveron, D. S., & Murer, J. S. (2006). Flashpoints in the War on Terrorism. Taylor and Francis.
- II. **Radicalization:** “is a process of developing extremist beliefs, emotions, and behaviors.” Trip, S., Bora, C. H., Marian, M., Halmajan, A., & Drugs, M. I. (2019). Psychological mechanisms involved in radicalization and extremism. A rational emotive behavioral conceptualization. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 10. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00437>
- III. **Auspicious:** “(Conductive to success; favorable), Central Asia was an auspicious soil for the Islamization, because after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the post-Soviet states started to declare and representing their independence and individualism. C.Poujol, 2017” [Redalyc.CENTRAL ASIA GOING ON “HYPER-ISLAMISATION”: BETWEEN ADAPTATION TO POST-COMMUNISM AND CALLS FOR RADICALIZATION](#)
- IV. **Shahid:** “The word shahid in Islam is also used to denote a “martyr. It's used as an honorific for Muslims who have died fulfilling a religious commandment, especially those who die wielding jihad, or historically in the military expansion of Islam. Those who dies while protecting their territory, faith, honor, and the family. Another meaning for shahid is the witness at the court.” - Abu Daoud Tirmizi (The Islamic scholar and the theologian).  
<https://islam.global/verouchenie/vera/muchenicheskaya-smert-islam-shahid/>
- V. **National security Relationship:** “National security has been described as the ability of a state to cater for the protection and defense of its citizenry” United Nations. (n.d.). National Security Versus Global Security. United Nations. Retrieved February 1, 2022, from <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/national-security-versus-global-security>

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