



GLOBAL TRENDS AND DYNAMICS OF TERRORISM

2024 REPORT



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Contents

Overview	3
General Tendencies	4
1. Europe	
1.1. Magdeburg Christmas Market Attack	9
1.2. Attack on the French Railway Network	10
1.3. The Crocus City Hall Attack	12
1.4. Dagestan Attacks	13
2. Asia	
2.1. Series of Terrorist Attacks in Pakistan	15
2.2. Nasrallah’s Assassination	17
2.3. Kerman Bombings	18
3. Africa	
3.1. Genocide in Barsalogho (Burkina Faso)	20
3.2. Lido Beach Attack	20
Terrorism and Artificial Intelligence	21

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Overview

Terrorism remains an important issue on the global agenda and still presents one of the greatest challenges for the international community. Even superpowers turn out to be vulnerable to modern terrorism and often lack effective defense mechanisms.

The year 2024 was marked by rather active terrorist activity, both in terms of the frequency of attacks and the resulting casualties. The number of terrorist incidents rose significantly, doubling in Europe and increasing sharply in the Sahel region, which continues to be one of the most fragile areas in terms of terrorism. This surge in risks and losses was closely linked to ongoing geopolitical crises, particularly Russia's full-scale war in Ukraine and the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. The correlation between terrorism and the geopolitical interests of states is considerable, as emphasized in various cases presented in this paper.

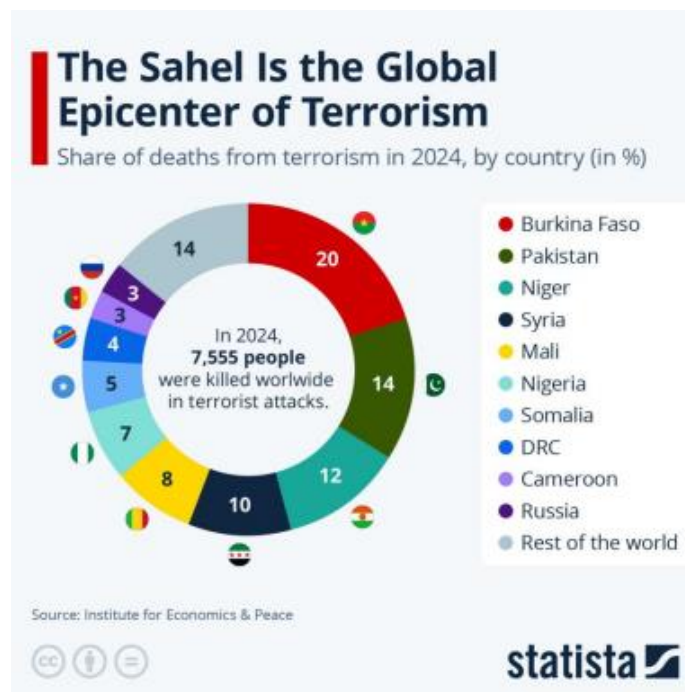
The following report provides an overview the dynamics and trends of terrorism in 2024. It examines the geographical distribution of terrorist incidents, the tactics and mechanisms employed against civil societies, and the scale of human losses, and offers a comparative analysis with previous years.

In addition, the study emphasizes the paradox of progress. In other words, the report analyzes the role of artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies in diversifying terrorist tactics and amplifying the consequences of radicalism.

Finally, the paper reviews findings from leading international research institutions, including the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and the Institute for Economics & Peace. Both secondary sources and statistical evidence have been used to ensure a comprehensive assessment.

General Tendencies

- The international terrorist organizations responsible for the majority of terrorist attacks in 2024 were the Islamic State (IS), Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM), Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), and Al-Shabaab. The number of deaths caused by these organizations increased by 11% in 2024 compared to the previous year, reaching 4,204.
- The total number of terrorist attacks in 2024 decreased by 3% compared to the previous year. However, this overall decline was largely the result of an 85% reduction in terrorist activity in Myanmar. If Myanmar's figures are excluded, the data instead show an 8% increase in global terrorist attacks during 2024.
- The Sahel region in Africa remains the epicenter of global terrorism, accounting for more than half of all terrorism-related deaths worldwide.¹



¹Global Terrorist Index 2025, Institute for Economics & Peace.

- In terms of the number of deaths caused by terrorism in 2024, it decreased by 13% compared to the previous year. Such a decline should be explained by the mass killings carried out by Hamas in 2023. If this factor is excluded, the results of deaths caused by terrorism in 2023 and 2024 are nearly equal;
- The number of terrorist incidents committed in Europe doubled compared to 2023. While in 2023 it constituted 34, in 2024 the same figure reached 67;
- Among the main terrorist organizations, the TTP showed the largest increase in deaths in 2024 (90%).

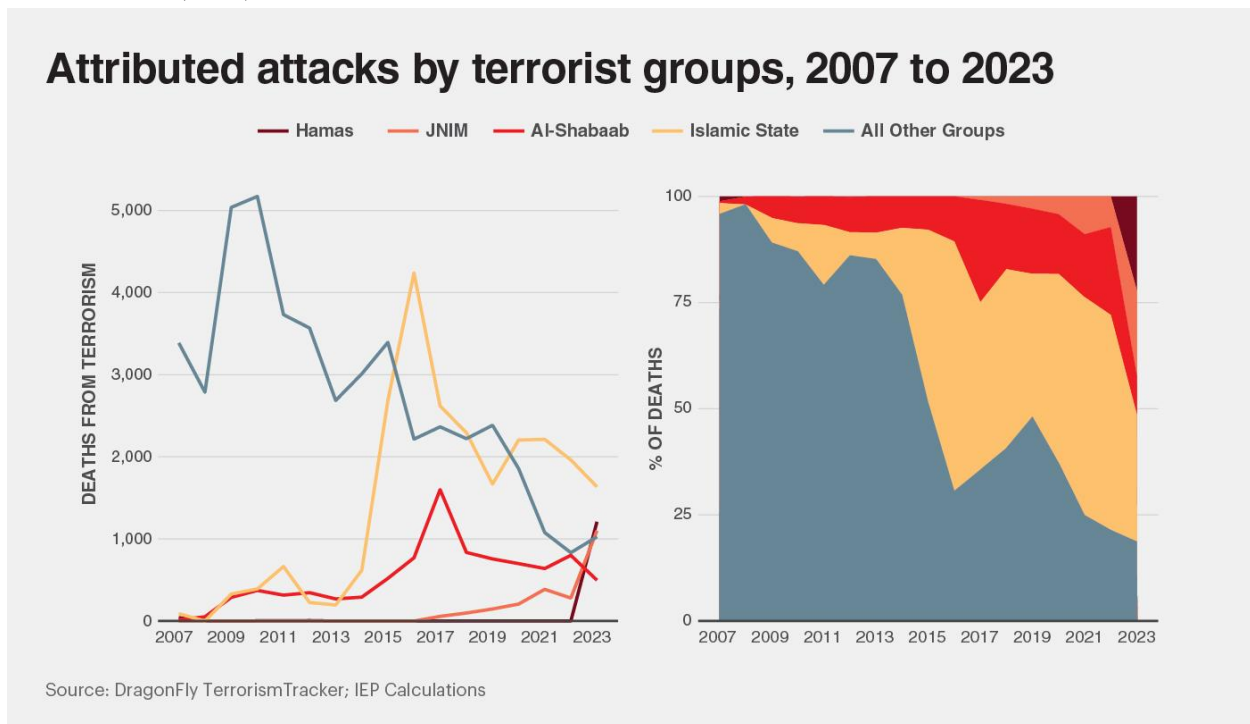


Image Source: Global Terrorism Index 2025

Islamic State (IS)

The Islamic State, with its affiliates Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISK) and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWA), remains the deadliest terrorist organization in 2024. Although the number of deaths as a result of its military operations fell by 10% compared to the previous year, it continues to pose a serious challenge to the global community. In 2024, its activities were recorded in 23 countries—an increase of one compared to 2023.¹

¹Global Terrorist Index 2025, Institute for Economics & Peace.

Islamic State Attack Claims in 2024

■ Countries Where IS Provinces Have Claimed an Attack ■ Countries Where IS Has Claimed an Attack



Map: Liam Kerr, Critical Threats Project at the American Enterprise Institute • Source: Aaron Y. Zelin, Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Islamic State Worldwide Activity Map • Created with Datawrapper

Image Source: Washington Institute for Near East Policy

Jamaat Nusrat Al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM)

This terrorist organization operates mainly in the Sahel region. Compared to the previous year, the number of terrorist acts committed by this organization increased, resulting in the loss of 1,204 lives.

Terrorism in the Sahel region is primarily caused by ethnic conflicts, weak governments, and environmental degradation. In addition, Africa is distinguished by its large reserves of gold, which are a source of financial support for state and non-state actors, including terrorist organizations. For example, Niger is the seventh largest uranium producer in the world, that increases the interest of China and other developed countries interested in nuclear weapons in this country. It is noteworthy that the number of terrorist acts in Niger has increased significantly.

Russia often emphasizes the rise in terrorist acts and security risks in the Sahel for its own political purposes, blaming the United States and the West in general for the situation. Russia has been conducting a large-scale propaganda campaign in African countries, trying to create negative sentiments towards former colonizers, such as France. This has worked successfully in Burkina Faso and Mali, where France is now perceived as a colonizer and invader.¹

¹Global Terrorist Index, Institute for Economics & Peace.

Interestingly, 19% of the number of terrorist acts committed worldwide in 2024 occurred in the Sahel region. When it comes to the number of victims of terrorism, 51% of those killed globally in 2024 were in the Sahel region.



Image Source: Britannica

Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)

The Taliban is an Islamic military group whose main area of operations is Afghanistan and Pakistan. It was formed in 2007 and aimed to overthrow the Pakistani government through terrorism and violent means. The number of people killed by the TTP has increased by 90% compared to 2023. It has increased the frequency of operations in the Balochistan region (western Pakistan) and the North-West Province of Pakistan.

Al-Shabaab

Al-Shabaab is one of the most serious terrorist organizations in Somalia, being responsible for roughly 90% of all terrorist attacks in the country. In 2024, its largest operation took place in Mogadishu, resulting in the deaths of 37 people.¹

¹Global Terrorist Index, Institute for Economics & Peace.

Boko Haram

Boko Haram is an extremist Sunni Muslim group that was originally formed in 1995 as a religious unity. However, since 2003, it has actively begun to use violence against the military and civilians. Its main sources of funding are trafficking, bank robberies, and theft. ¹

Interestingly, Boko Haram's influence decreased in 2024 compared to previous years, but it remains a significant challenge in Nigeria and Cameroon. ²

Hamas

This terrorist organization, created to destroy the state of Israel and protect Palestine, operates mainly in the Gaza Strip. Most of the media even rejects calling it a terrorist organization and uses various terms: militants, military, etc. Moreover, for many, Hamas is more associated with a military regime rather than with a terrorist organization. In general, it is a military regime established by a political party in Palestinian territory, which uses terrorism in order to achieve political goals, mainly against Israel.² Hamas's terrorist activity increased considerably in Syria and Palestine in 2024. ³

¹<https://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/what-australia-is-doing/terrorist-organisations/listed-terrorist-organisations/boko-haram>

²<https://www.adl.org/resources/article/responsible-reporting-labeling-hamas-terrorist-organization>

³Global Terrorist Index 2025, Institute for Economics & Peace.

Europe

In 2024, Europe witnessed a sharp rise in terrorist incidents, with the number of attacks doubling compared to the previous year. The most high-profile cases occurred in Germany, France, Russia, and Dagestan. Both Russia and Ukraine showed a significant increase in terrorist activity compared to 2023. A further concern is the issue of uncontrolled migration, which continues to pose a terrorist threat across European countries. Nevertheless, the most significant terrorist challenge for Europe in 2024 remains the Islamic State (IS).¹

1.1. Magdeburg Christmas Market Attack

On December 20, 2024, a car rammed into a crowded Christmas market in the German city of Magdeburg at high speed, killing five people and injuring more than 200. The suspect, a doctor who had moved to Germany from Saudi Arabia in 2006, was subsequently arrested. He lived in Saxony and worked as a doctor, specifically in the field of psychotherapy. He had been granted political refugee status since 2016 and was a contact person for other asylum seekers.

Along with German politicians and state officials, even French President Macron responded to the tragedy in Magdeburg, calling the above-mentioned incident shocking. The terrorist act that occurred also indicated potential threats. In the context of uncontrolled immigration, which has become a daily problem for German citizens, a terrorist act committed by an immigrant becomes even more painful and alarming.³

The Magdeburg tragedy of December 2024 turned out to be a continuation of a similar incident that occurred seven years ago, on December 19, 2016, when a terrorist drove a truck into a Christmas market in Berlin, killing 12 people and injuring more than 70.

¹Global Terrorist Index 2025, Institute for Economics & Peace.

²<https://www.dw.com/en/magdeburg-mourners-gather-for-christmas-market-vigil/live-71129061>

³<https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/gesellschaft/magdeburg-weihnachtsmarkt-104.html>

In 2021, additional 13 of the victims succumbed to their injuries. The terrorist fled to Italy, where he was later shot and killed by local police.

It is noteworthy that the Magdeburg tragedy occurred two months before the German parliamentary elections and had a considerable impact on the pre-election campaigns and public sentiment. The center-right Christian Democratic Party (CDU), led by Friedrich Merz, took first place, while the radical right-wing force, Alternative for Germany (AfD), led by Alice Weidel, gained an unprecedented 21% of the vote. This proves the increased popularity of far-right political parties among the German population.²

1.2 Attack on the French Railway Network

On July 26, 2024, just hours before the beginning of the Summer Olympics, arsonists opened fire on high-speed TGV lines that connect Paris with the west, north, and east of the country. The attack caused widespread unrest and tension among society. Although the railway itself was not seriously damaged, the incident caused delays in transportation, which was particularly problematic given that only a few hours were left before the opening of the Olympics. At the same time, it revived fears of a larger threat, as Europe has witnessed terrorist attacks linked to the Olympic Games before. In 1972, for example, 11 Israeli athletes were killed by a Palestinian terrorist organization before the Munich Olympics. Paris, too, has a long and tragic history of terrorist violence, which added to the sense of anxiety. In 2015, Islamic State (IS) militants killed 130 people in Paris. Given all of the above-mentioned incidents, the attack on the railway caused anxiety in France.³

¹<https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/gesellschaft/magdeburg-weihnachtsmarkt-104.html>

²[Results Germany - The Federal Returning Officer](#)

³<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/article/2024/jul/26/vandals-target-french-rail-network-olympics-opening-ceremony>

No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, prompting nationwide investigation. However, the identity of the terrorist remains unknown.

According to the French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal, the terrorist act was most likely organized by far-right extremists, the far-left, or radical environmentalists. According to the version of the French author, Jerome Poirot, Russia should be held responsible for the incident, although the exact details have not been investigated due to a lack of sufficient evidence.¹



Interestingly, despite taking strict security measures by the French government, which included the mobilization of 45,000 police officers, 10,000 soldiers, and 2,000 private agents, the terrorists still managed to achieve their goal and send the appropriate message.²

¹<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/article/2024/jul/26/vandals-target-french-rail-network-olympics-opening-ceremony>

²<https://foreignpolicy.com/2024/07/26/france-arson-attack-railways-paris-olympics/>

1.3 The Crocus City Hall Attack

On March 22, 2024, just days after Vladimir Putin was sworn in for his fifth term as president, a group of gunmen stormed the Crocus Concert Hall, killing 145 people and injuring more than 500. The Islamic State (IS) claimed responsibility for the attack, announcing that four of its members had organized the attack, one of the deadliest in Russian history. Crocus City Hall is located 45 km from the Kremlin. On the day of the incident, the rock band “Picnic” was to perform there.

Interestingly, two weeks before March 22, US intelligence had warned the Kremlin about the likelihood of a terrorist attack, but President Vladimir Putin did not take this warning into account and, instead, accused the West of spreading fear and destabilization among Russian citizens. ¹

At the same time, even though the Islamic State (IS) confirmed its involvement in the incident, Russia continued to criticize the West, while also blaming Ukraine for the incident. Vladimir Putin tried to prove that the four detained suspects intended to fly to Ukraine after the plan was accomplished. Therefore, it is clear how the Kremlin tried to use the incident for its own political interests and gain moral superiority in the context of Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine by trying to accuse its opponent of terrorism. However, in response, US intelligence claimed that the Islamic State acted alone.

It is interesting to consider the motives behind the Islamic State’s decision to target Russia in this attack. First, Russia’s support for Bashar al-Assad’s regime has long provoked anger among jihadist groups, which may have motivated such a radical response. Moreover, Islamic State propaganda frequently portrays Russia as part of the Western coalition defending Christianity ²

¹<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-68645755>

²<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/mar/25/moscow-crocus-city-concert-hall-shooting-details-is-islamic-state-vladimir-putin>

In addition, jihadists still remember the Soviet military operations in Afghanistan and its efforts to extend control over the country for a decade. The attack on Crocus City Hall could have had other, more practical reasons. Targeting a long-range target has always been more effective for the Islamic State, as it has been able to demoralize its enemies while also mobilizing its own supporters. Therefore, the Islamic State's actions were motivated by practical, ideological, and historical circumstances.¹

1.4. Dagestan Attacks

On June 23, 2024, a synagogue, an Orthodox church, and a police station in two cities in Dagestan (Makhachkala and Derbent) were attacked and opened fire by armed groups, killing a priest and several police officers. Five attackers also died. Interestingly, this incident was preceded by a terrorist act organized by the Islamic State in the concert hall in Russia three months ago.²



¹<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/mar/25/moscow-crocus-city-concert-hall-shooting-details-is-islamic-state-vladimir-putin>

²<https://www.euractiv.com/section/global-europe/news/orthodox-priest-multiple-police-killed-in-terrorist-attack-in-russias-dagestan/>

As a result of the terrorist incident, 21 people were killed and 46-injured, according to the final figures.¹

In addition, Dagestan has long been one of the most turbulent regions of Russia, with high poverty and unemployment rates, a strong tendency towards Islamic fundamentalism, and risks of terrorism. It is noteworthy that massive protests were held in Dagestan against the escalation of Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine in 2022, and it was the most difficult region in terms of COVID and the difficulties it caused in 2020.

Although no one has claimed responsibility for the attack, given that Dagestan has been a frequent target of the Islamic State in recent years, the central government has been fighting the growing Islam in the region since 2000, and three months ago, the Islamic State was the author of the attack on Crocus City Hall, experts believe that the Caucasian branch of the Islamic State - Vilayat Kavkaz - is responsible for the attack.

In addition, the fact that Russia was not capable of preventing organized terrorism in Dagestan further highlights the negative impact of the war against Ukraine on Russia and the difficulty of mobilizing resources.

In order to avoid confrontation between ethnic groups and emotional turmoil in society, high-ranking Russian politicians considered the incident a provocation and called on the citizens to remain calm.²

¹<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/mar/25/moscow-crocus-city-concert-hall-shooting-details-is-islamic-state-vladimir-putin>

²<https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/jun/24/dagestan-attack-highlights-russias-islamist-terror-threat-as-forces-are-engaged-in-ukraine>

Asia

Pakistan remains the epicenter of terrorism in South Asia, with a 45% increase in deaths compared to 2023. The safest country in Asia in terms of terrorism in 2024 was Sri Lanka, where no incidents were reported for the fifth year in a row. Nepal took second place after three years of stability. The following paragraph provides a review of terrorist attacks in Pakistan and Iran, as well as the high-profile assassination of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah.¹

2.1 Series of terrorist attacks in Pakistan

On 7 February 2024, two bombs exploded in the Balochistan region of southwestern Pakistan, killing at least 28 people and injuring many more. Interestingly, the attack came a day before Pakistan's election, and the Islamic State (IS) claimed responsibility.³

The first attack targeted the office of independent presidential candidate Asfandiyar Khan Qakar, near the Afghan border. A bomb attached to a motorcycle killed 16 people and injured about 20. The second attack was aimed at the office of the religious party JUI (Jamiat Ulema Islam). The party has been a frequent target of terrorists.

The attack on Wednesday significantly increased security risks on the day of the presidential election. In response, the government shut down the internet on Thursday, mobilized the entire police force, and announced the closure of the country's western border. No less dangerous has become the northwestern region of Pakistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where the Pakistani Taliban (TTP) has intensified its violent activities.²

¹Global Terrorist Index 2025, Institute for Economics & Peace.

²<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/2/7/blast-kills-at-least-six-people-in-pakistan-ahead-of-elections>

³<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/2/7/blast-kills-at-least-six-people-in-pakistan-ahead-of-elections>



Image Source: Al Jazeera

On October 7, 2024, another explosion occurred in Pakistan. This time, the epicenter was located near Jinnah International Airport, where two Chinese nationals were killed. It is worth noting that this was not the first case of violence against Chinese workers in Pakistan, and this practice has been prevalent in the country for years.

In order to better understand the context and reasons for the controversy, it is important to first understand what the Chinese are doing in Pakistan. Chinese workers living in the country are involved in the “China-Pakistan Economic Corridor” program, which is part of China's famous "Belt and Road Initiative" policy. China launched this economic program in 2015, and one of its goals was to use Pakistan as a transit point and provide a short sea route by deepening cooperation with it.

However, the liberalization of Chinese activities has caused certain problems in the Balochistan region, which is the poorest region in Pakistan. In particular, the Chinese use and exploit local natural resources (fishing). It should also be taken into account that the Balochistan region borders Iran and Afghanistan, countries that sponsor and support terrorism. This further increases the locals' hostility towards the Chinese and paves the way for conflict.¹

¹<https://www.dw.com/en/pakistan-what-is-behind-attacks-on-chinese-nationals/a-70425841>

On November 9, a terrorist attack was carried out on a railway in southwestern Pakistan, for which separatists claimed responsibility. At least 26 people were killed, and many more were injured in the bomb explosion.¹

The above-mentioned acts are significantly intertwined with political goals and indicate the need to overcome separatism.

2.2. Nasrallah's Assassination

On September 27, 2024, the Israeli Air Force dropped a bomb on Hezbollah's headquarters in southern Beirut, killing its leader, Hassan Nasrallah. Ali Karaki, the commander of Hezbollah's southern Lebanon branch, also died in the terrorist attack. He had been targeted by Israel before, more specifically on September 23, but the special operation failed. By deliberately assassinating Hezbollah's leader, Israel sent certain political messages to the terrorist organization.

Firstly, the incident showed that Israel has significant information about the movements and anticipated actions of Hezbollah leaders, which it can leverage to its advantage when necessary. In addition, the September 27 terrorist attack showed how deeply Israel can penetrate Lebanon. It used the bombing of the office as a means of intimidation.

On the one hand, the chaos following the death of Hezbollah's leader may give Lebanese authorities greater room for unilateral action, potentially motivating them to enter negotiations with Israel. In this context, it is crucial for Israel to clearly demonstrate its readiness for dialogue. On the other hand, Hezbollah's weakening could also create an opportunity for Israel to take the offensive and bring southern Lebanon under its control.²

¹<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20241109-pakistani-separatists-kill-22-in-railway-station-blast>

²<https://carnegieendowment.org/middle-east/diwan/2024/09/israel-has-assassinated-the-secretary-general-of-hezbollah-hassan-nasrallah?lang=en>

The assassination of Hassan Nasrallah is also a considerable warning to Iran, which sees Hezbollah as a backbone for its terrorist intentions against Israel and the United States. Despite Israel's bold move, it is unlikely that Iran will get revenge and launch a large-scale operation against Israel. The important thing here is whether Iran's silence and vulnerability will lead to a reconfiguration of the power distribution in the region ¹

2.3. Kerman Bombings

On January 3, 2024, on the third anniversary of the assassination of Iranian General Qassem Soleimani, two bombs fell on the Iranian city of Kerman, where he was buried. At least 89 people were killed in the terrorist attack.

Iranian media immediately blamed Israel and the United States for the incident. Moreover, after the Islamic State Khorasan Province claimed responsibility for the incident, they continued to blame the West. This is not the first attempt to use terrorism to score political points. Authoritarian and totalitarian regimes often use this method to blame the West and influence the perceptions of the population. A clear example of this is Russia, which blamed the West and Ukraine for the attack on Crocus City Hall.

It is interesting why Iran, and especially the tomb of Qassem Suleimani, became a target of the Islamic State. Qassem commanded the Iranian military forces, which were supposed to support the Bashar al-Assad regime during the civil war in Syria in 2013. The army, composed of Shiite Muslims, actively participated in the civil war and even called on Russia to intervene on Assad's side.²

¹<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/6-consequences-israel-killing-hezbollahs-hassan-nasrallah>

²<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/terrorist-bombings-iran-implications-and-potential-responses>

Kerman Suleimani also led military units against the Islamic State in Iraq between 2011 and 2017.¹

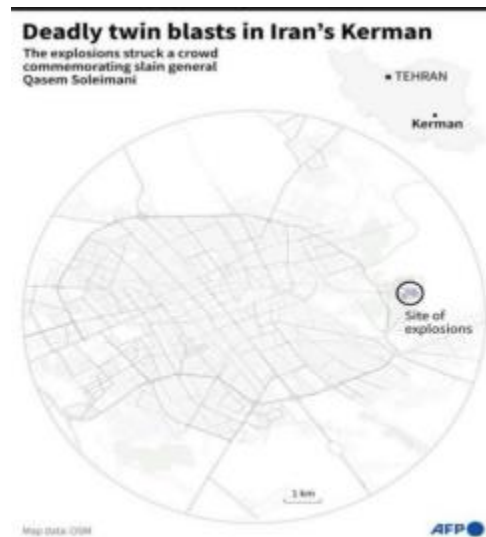


Image Source: France-Press

Africa

Both the number of terrorist acts and the resulting deaths in Africa have decreased compared to 2023 statistics. However, some countries still showed an increase in the number of terrorist incidents, namely Niger, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, and Mozambique. In Niger, the death toll increased by 94%. One of the challenges for the region remains Mali, which is considered the second most vulnerable country to terrorism. The cases of terrorism in Burkina Faso and Mali are discussed below.²

¹<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/terrorist-bombings-iran-implications-and-potential-responses>

²Global Terrorist Index 2025, Institute for Economics & Peace.

3.1. Genocide in Barsalogho (Burkina Faso)

On August 24, 2024, a terrorist attack took place in the city of Barsalogho, Burkina Faso, killing approximately 600 people. It was one of the bloodiest and largest terrorist attacks in Africa in recent decades, carried out by JNIM. It is one of the branches of al-Qaeda based in Mali and has actively organized attacks in Burkina Faso.

The genocide was also facilitated by the fact that the military ordered Burkina Faso citizens to dig trenches in order to prevent jihadists from entering the city. However, opponents used this to their advantage and killed citizens under the pretext of participating in military operations and being perceived as soldiers.¹ In 2024, Burkina Faso was ranked first among the states affected by terrorism, which indicates the serious destabilization and weak government in the country.

Although peacekeepers from various European countries have been present here for years and have been engaged in an anti-terrorist campaign, for instance, the armies of France and Russia (Wagner), this could not alleviate the security crisis.²

3.2. Lido Beach Attack

On August 2, 2024, al-Shabaab organized a terrorist incident on the coast of the Somali capital, Mogadishu, killing at least 32 people. Al-Shabab is an East African terrorist organization affiliated with Al-Qaeda, whose main area of operation is Somalia.³

¹<https://edition.cnn.com/2024/10/04/africa/burkina-faso-massacre-600-dead-french-intel-intl/index.html>

²Global Terrorist Index 2025, Institute for Economics & Peace.

³<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/8/3/al-shabab-lido-beach-attack-somalia-mogadishu>

Al-Shabaab has been trying to overthrow the Somali government for 17 years by dropping bombs and sowing terror. The regime in Somalia is financed from external sources, and the existing government is increasingly reinforced by US and African Union military forces.¹

The suicide bombing by a terrorist on the beach, that killed dozens of citizens, was followed by protests against al-Shabaab by the local population.

Terrorism and Artificial Intelligence

Technological development has reached unprecedented heights. On the one hand, computer advances, which in many cases have replaced humans with technology and made it possible for systems to make independent decisions without human intervention, have simplified people's lives, and created opportunities to save time and energy. However, on the other hand, they have contributed to the increase in the effectiveness and scale of terrorist activities. The given case is clearly demonstrated by the term - the paradox of progress: progress that is associated with positive results in many ways and at the same time poses a serious threat to society and national security.

Artificial intelligence has significantly expanded the scope of terrorism and diversified the mechanisms of its implementation, ranging from disinformation-propaganda to drone attacks. This poses serious threats to national security and cannot be resolved without the responsible use of technological advancements and effective measures against opponents.

International terrorist organizations use AI algorithms to obtain valuable information, which they then use for planning terrorist incidents. Thanks to technological breakthroughs, it has become possible to identify target individuals, determine their location, and consider the security measures taken against them.²

¹<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/8/3/al-shabab-lido-beach-attack-somalia-mogadishu>

²[https://www.vifindia.org/article/2023/august/29/Artificial-Intelligence-assisted-Terrorism-A-New-Era-of-Conflict?slide=\\$slideshow\\$](https://www.vifindia.org/article/2023/august/29/Artificial-Intelligence-assisted-Terrorism-A-New-Era-of-Conflict?slide=$slideshow$)

Open access to artificial intelligence has created opportunities for non-state actors to achieve goals that would otherwise require significant financial resources. 3D-printed weapons, which are made partly through additive manufacturing, are often used by terrorists, since they are easy to manufacture and more financially accessible.

When we talk about the connection between artificial intelligence and international terrorism, we should not forget about Unmanned Aerial Systems (UASs), otherwise known as drones. Over time, technological advances have made drones more affordable, useful, and versatile. They are successfully used in agriculture, photography, and courier services. However, they have proven to be very useful for terrorists as well. In this regard, the Iranian-funded Hezbollah, which has the most experience and a long history of using drones, is noteworthy. The Islamic State began using drones in 2013, and today they serve as an effective weapon of attack. Even more dangerous is the synchronous attack of more than one drone (swarm drone attack), which is a completely different phenomenon and significantly changes the balance of power.¹

Thus, artificial intelligence, along with many benefits, has contributed to the intensification of international terrorism and undermined national security. Technological advances are completely changing the nature of war and hybrid warfare, in which a variety of mechanisms are used to demonstrate force and destroy targets, including drones, disinformation, theft of valuable data, illegal penetration of computer systems, etc.

¹[https://www.vifindia.org/article/2023/august/29/Artificial-Intelligence-assisted-Terrorism-A-New-Era-of-Conflict?slide=\\$slideshow\\$](https://www.vifindia.org/article/2023/august/29/Artificial-Intelligence-assisted-Terrorism-A-New-Era-of-Conflict?slide=$slideshow$)

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