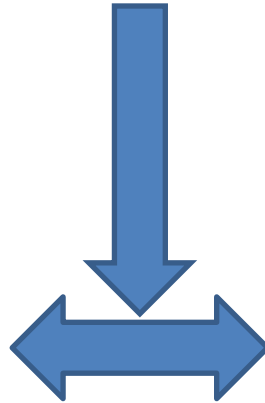


International Terrorism
Second Grade Students
International Relations Department
Lecture 4
causes of Terrorism
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Introduction

There are different forms of terrorism, and each form has its own causes. Terrorism happens in both poor and rich countries, and regardless of the type of government. What is most likely is that any certain form of terrorism is the result of a combination of factors.

There are two kind causes of Terrorism



Root causes

1- Economic factors

2- Political factors

3- Social factors

General Causes

Psychological Perspective

Ideological Perspective

Strategic Perspective

Psychological Perspective

Those who engage in terrorism may do so for purely personal reasons, based on their own psychological state of mind. Their motivation may be nothing more than hate or the desire for power.

For example, in 1893 Auguste Vaillant bombed the French Chamber of Deputies.

Prior to his conviction and subsequent execution Vaillant explained his motivation in terms of hate for the middle classes. Vaillant wanted to spoil the sense of economic and social success, by tainting it with his violence. In many respects this terrorist is interested in getting attention from others for his or her act, rather than some grand ideological or strategic goal.

Ideological Perspective

Ideology is defined as the beliefs, values, and principles by which a group identifies its particular aims and goals. Ideology may encompass religion or political philosophies and programs.

Examples of terrorist groups motivated by ideology include the Irish Republican Army (IRA). The IRA is motivated by a political program to oust the United Kingdom from Ireland and unite Ireland under one flag.

Strategic Perspective

Terrorism is sometimes seen as a logical extension of the failure of politics. When people seek redress of their grievances through government, but fail to win government's attention to their plight, they may resort to violence. If victory seems unlikely using more traditional means of opposition, then one might calculate that terrorism is a better option.

Of course, not just individuals may feel let down by the political process. States may use terrorists in the pursuit of their own strategic interests. States may sponsor terrorist groups, especially when the objectives of the state and the terrorist group are similar. For example, Libya used terrorists to explode a bomb aboard Pan Am 103 flying from London to New York in 1988, allegedly in response to U.S. and British bombing of Libya.

Root causes

Economic Factors

The **poverty** causes terrorism.

1- unemployment, and social inequality:

many societies have great potential yet there are many citizens left without jobs and this causes a lower standing of living.

When social inequality develops, many people become angry because they are unable to achieve what others are easily able to, thus creating internal conflict within certain geographic areas, and making it more likely for terrorism to occur as a result.

2- natural disasters create opportunities for terrorism.

For example, the floods that took place in Pakistan in 2010 weakened the government and its resources, therefore creating an environment in which the Taliban and other terrorist organizations were able to operate more freely.

This shows that the presence of overwhelming poverty within an area can definitely incite further activity by terrorist organizations because of the government's inability to combat it due to their resources being used elsewhere in the natural disaster relief efforts.

3- economic sanctions increase the chance of terrorism.

When economic sanctions are placed on a nation, the economic conditions within that nation begin to decrease drastically. Therefore, those who are already in poverty, or right on the threshold of it, are pushed over the edge ever further and forced to make due with even worse conditions available.

They are looking for those who believe that their only option is to rebel against the government because the government let them down and led them into poverty

Finally,

These variables can combine to produce a situation that is ideal for terrorist organizations to recruit. When the people of a given area are so dissatisfied with the state of their lives, they are more likely to turn to extreme measures, or are more likely to be persuaded to do so. All of this evidence shows that at least initially, economic factors may be an extremely strong predictor of terrorism.