

From:	(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Program on Extremism Newsletter
Date:	2015/12/17 12:25:36
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 12:24 PM
To: Selim, George; (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Program on Extremism Newsletter

That works.

From: Selim, George
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 12:22 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Program on Extremism Newsletter

I'm happy to call him if you want.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 12:01:02 PM
To: Selim, George; (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Program on Extremism Newsletter

George, how should we handle? (b)(6) is a member of the CVE subcommittee stood up by the HSAC but is not on the HSAC.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:53 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Program on Extremism Newsletter

Just flagging for you both, listed below:

"Deputy Director Seamus Hughes was named as a member of DHS Secretary's Homeland Security Advisory Council."

I am assuming that he was just brought on the CVE Sub Cmte and not the principle body.

You may want to reach out and advise they clarify moving forward.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

From: Program on Extremism [mailto:(b)(6)] **On Behalf Of**
Program on Extremism
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:26 AM
To: Snyder, Nathaniel
Subject: Program on Extremism Newsletter

DEC | ISSUE |
2015 | No. 1 |

Newsletter



From the Desk of the Director

Since launching just six months ago, the Program on Extremism has achieved results that have transcended our rosiest expectations. In this short time we have managed to become a trusted source of research and analysis for policymakers, the media, and the general public. Our work has frequently been utilized by and cited in some of the most prestigious venues in the U.S. and overseas - a testament to the quality and hard work of our small but dedicated staff. We are also extremely proud of our collaborations with several government agencies, think tanks, and study centers.

The next few months will be equally important for the Program, as we expand our staff through several high-caliber hires and embark on new exciting research projects. All this while maintaining the Program's spirit of producing cutting-edge and policy-relevant research through innovative

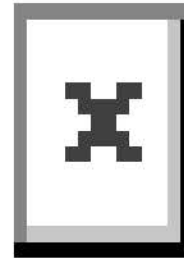
and thoughtful academic inquiry. The necessity of this approach is only heightened by the dramatic events we have sadly witnessed with increasing frequency, from the Middle East to Paris to San Bernardino.

We thank you for your attention and support as we seek to provide much-needed nuance in the discourse on extremism during these challenging days.

Dr. Lorenzo Vidino
Program on Extremism's Director

Reports and Publications

On December 1, the Program on Extremism released the report *ISIS in America: From Retweets to Raqqa*. The culmination of six months of research, it is the first-of-its-kind comprehensive report on ISIS-related mobilization in the U.S. The report, which was coincidentally released just hours before the terrorist attack in San Bernardino, received extensive coverage by national and international media, including *The New York Times* (featuring on its front page twice in a week), *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Boston Globe*, NPR, PBS, CBS ([here](#) and [here](#)), NBC, ABC, CNN ([here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)), MSNBC, Fox News, Al Jazeera, El Pais, Corriere della Sera, France 24, and [many others](#).



Cover of the Program's report *ISIS in America: From Retweets to Raqqa*

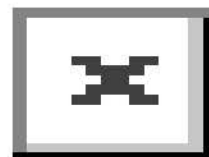
The report also generated substantial interest in the policymaking community. The report's authors, Program on Extremism Director, Lorenzo Vidino, and Deputy Director, Seamus Hughes, have been asked to brief the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and the House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security on the findings of the report. A further demonstration of the report's impact, Senator Feinstein, the Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, opened her questioning of FBI Director James B. Comey before the Senate Judiciary Committee by citing the report.

In June 2015 the Program released its first report, titled *Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) in America*. The study evaluated current CVE strategies and initiatives in the U.S., providing policy recommendations to advance a stagnant debate on the subject. The report was followed by op-eds in *The Washington Post* and Brookings Institution's *Lawfare* in which Program on Extremism staffers further outlined their policy recommendations.

In October, the Program released five occasional papers by prominent experts examining various aspects of CVE around the world. Topics covered spanned the United Kingdom's domestic CVE strategy, Prevent; policy suggestions for the reintegration of violent extremist offenders; the discussion on CVE within the Muslim American community; and the role of identity in radicalization to jihadist-inspired terrorism.

Events

The Program on Extremism has hosted several well-attended events since its launch in June 2015. On July 31, the Program hosted a discussion on the threats and dynamics of the American and European foreign terrorist fighter phenomenon. The panel, moderated by CCHS director Frank Cilluffo, featured Lorenzo



From right: Assistant Attorney General John Carlin, Lorenzo Vidino, and SPLC's Heidi Beirich

Vidino; Peter Nuemann, director of the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence at King's College London; and Fernando Reinares, senior analyst at Real Instituto Elcano in Madrid. The event was broadcast live by C-SPAN.

Together with the Southern Poverty Law Center, on October 14 the Program hosted Assistant Attorney General John Carlin for a discussion on domestic terrorism. Mr. Carlin used the venue to announce the appointment of a new Domestic Terrorism Counsel within the Department of Justice to serve as the primary point of contact for U.S. Attorneys across the country working on domestic terrorism matters. The event was broadcast live by C-SPAN and reported on by a number of major news outlets, including PBS News Hour and CBS.

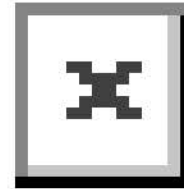
On November 9, the Program, in conjunction with the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World at The Brookings Institution and the Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD), hosted a panel to discuss the causes of and possible alternative solutions to radicalization. The event, titled "Countering Violent Extremism through Early Interventions," featured Lorenzo Vidino; Daniel Koehler, a fellow at the Program on Extremism and a counselor for Hayat, a German intervention program; Rashad Ali, a senior fellow at ISD and a former member of Hizb ut-Tahrir who has worked on de-radicalization initiatives in the U.K.; and Angela King, deputy director of U.S.-based Life After Hate and co-founder of its Exit USA program, supporting individuals leaving far-right organizations. The event, moderated by Brookings' William McCants, was broadcast live by C-SPAN.

To announce the release of the report *ISIS in America: From Retweets to Raqqa*, the Program hosted Ambassador Alberto Fernandez, former Coordinator of the Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications, and Michael Downing, Deputy Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department, for a discussion on the threat ISIS poses to the U.S. and its implications for law enforcement officials. Lorenzo Vidino and Seamus Hughes used the event as a platform to announce the Program's launch of one of the largest online libraries of U.S. ISIS-related legal documents.

Activities

In addition to hosting panel discussions, the staff of the Program on Extremism has participated in a number of high-level discussions with policymakers and civic leaders on topics ranging from the contours of the current terrorist threat to strategies to counter violent extremism. Some of the highlights of these continuous activities include:

- • * On July 15, Deputy Director Seamus Hughes testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security on "The Rise of Radicalization: Is the U.S. Government Failing to Counter International and Domestic Terrorism?"
- • * Deputy Director Seamus Hughes was named as a member of DHS Secretary's Homeland Security Advisory Council.
- • * Director Lorenzo Vidino traveled overseas on several occasions to provide lectures and briefings to audiences that included the Canadian Senate, the Swiss Federal Police, various entities within the British government, the United Arab Emirates National Defense College, and academic institutions in the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, and Austria.



Seamus Hughes testifying before the House Committee on Homeland Security

ABOUT THE PROGRAM ON EXTREMISM

The Program on Extremism provides analysis on issues related to violent and non-violent extremism. The Program spearheads innovative and thoughtful academic inquiry, producing empirical work that strengthens extremism research as a distinct field of study. The Program aims to develop pragmatic policy solutions that resonate with policymakers, civic leaders, and the general public. The Program is part of the Center for Cyber and Homeland Security (CCHS) at the George Washington University in Washington, DC.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

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GW Center for Cyber and Homeland Security | 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW | Washington | DC | 20052

Sender:	(b)(6)	
Recipient:		
Sent Date:	2015/12/17 12:25:36	