

Understanding Terrorism: Challenges, Perspectives, and Issues


By Gus Martin


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Understanding Terrorism: Challenges, Perspectives, and Issues offers a multidisciplinary, comprehensive exploration of contemporary terrorism that helps readers develop the knowledge and skills they need to critically assess terrorism in general and terrorist incidents. The **Fifth Edition** has been comprehensively updated with new information on terrorist incidents, evolving terrorist environments, and emerging perspectives on counterterrorism and security. Author Gus Martin provides a fresh analysis of violent extremism throughout, with discussions of both international and domestic challenges and options. Focused discussion is provided on contemporary threats, new movements and tendencies, and the effectiveness of responses to these scenarios. Profiles are provided of prominent individuals, including updated information on longstanding extremist personalities. Discussion of policies and responses to terrorist environments has been augmented to include new perspectives on counterterrorist options, comparisons of domestic and international scenarios, and the contexts of promoting regional and national security. The effectiveness of policy options is discussed within the contexts of international threat scenarios, as well as domestic scenarios, including regional security challenges and responses.

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Editorial Review

Review

“This is the type of text you want to keep and refer to it for information of other topics. It is a complete text that any student can learn from” (Greg Allen)

“[Understand Terrorism] is very easy for students to grasp the concepts of what they are reading, the timeline is a phenomenal resource for students in tracking terrorist activity, and the explanations of different terrorist acts are a wonderful tool to enhance student engagement and discussion.” (Ronda M. Blevins)

“The Student Study Site looks like a great resource for students. The amount of detail in the text is great...The writing style is clear and concise. All of the material is presented in a manner that is conducive to learning.” (Matthew Costello)

“The length and writing style is appropriate for our student body, is interactive and certain to maintain student attention, and is conceptual....This book is excellent.” (Shawn L. Schwaner, Ph.D.)

About the Author

C. Augustus “Gus” Martin is a Professor of Criminal Justice Administration at California State University, Dominguez Hills, where he regularly teaches a course on the subject of terrorism and extremism. He has also served as Associate Vice President for Human Resources Management, acting Associate Dean of the College of Business Administration and Public Policy, Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs, and Chair of the Department of Public Administration and Public Policy. He began his academic career as a member of the faculty of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, where he was an Administration of Justice professor. His current research and professional interests are terrorism and extremism, homeland security, administration of justice, and juvenile justice.

Dr. Martin is author of several books on the subjects of terrorism and homeland security, including *Understanding Homeland Security* (SAGE Publications, 2017); *Essentials of Terrorism: Concepts and Controversies* (SAGE Publications, 2017); *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Terrorism*, Second Edition (SAGE Publications, 2011); *Terrorism and Homeland Security* (SAGE Publications, 2011); and *The New Era of Terrorism: Selected Readings* (SAGE Publications, 2004). He is also author of *Juvenile Justice: Process and Systems* (SAGE Publications, 2005).

Prior to joining academia, Dr. Martin served as Managing Attorney for the Fair Housing Partnership of Greater Pittsburgh, where he was also director of a program created under a federal court-mandated consent decree to desegregate public and assisted housing. He was also Special Counsel to the Attorney General of the U.S. Virgin Islands on the island of St. Thomas. As Special Counsel he occupied a personal and confidential position in the central office of the Department of Justice; sat as hearing officer for disciplinary hearings and departmental grievances; served as chair of the drug policy committee; served as liaison to the intergovernmental Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee as well as to the Narcotics Strike Force; and provided daily legal and policy advice to the Attorney General. Prior to serving as Special Counsel, he was a “floor” Legislative Assistant to Congressman Charles B. Rangel of New York. As Legislative Assistant, he researched, evaluated, and drafted legislation in areas of foreign policy, foreign aid, human rights, housing, education, social services, and poverty. He also drafted House floor statements, *Congressional Record*

inserts, press releases, and news articles, and composed speeches, briefing materials, and legislative correspondence.

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