Call for papers, EWIS 3-5 July 2024, Kadir Has University Istanbul (Turkey)

Workshop: 'Continuities, Transformations and Changes: The Future of Critical Terrorism Studies and Research'

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In Critical Terrorism Studies and Security Studies, numerous works have traditionally regarded terrorism policies and practices as urgent, exceptional, and extraordinary. However, recent research within the field has revealed a fundamental problem with this rhetoric and, instead, has linked the current dynamics of terrorism to ordinary politics (Neal, 2019) and to more extended temporal contexts and spatial trajectories (English, 2019; Martini and Da Silva, 2022; Jackson, Jarvis and Toros, 2023).

Building on this literature and recent debates within the discipline and beyond, this workshop interrogates the meaning of continuities for Critical Terrorism Studies and Critical Security Studies by looking at the legacies, the transformations, the changes and aspects that mark the field of terrorism research. With this in mind, the workshop aims to open us a space of reflection on continuities, at the forefront of research and broadly defined, within the discourse, narratives, practices of terrorism and counterterrorism. Besides the focus on continuities, the workshop also addresses the question of whether and how terrorism and counterterrorism research has undergone significant changes and whether these changes might hold transformative potential. Such shifts have indeed occurred within the field of terrorism research, marked by the adoption of innovative methodological and epistemological approaches, as well as in the exploration of new case studies and geographical foci. The discipline has seen many changes taken place in counterterrorism practices (spread of P/CVE, new spaces being securitised as a political manoeuvre, application of counterterrorism tools to social movements, means of surveillance, etc.). Therefore, it is essential to interrogate whether such changes replicate the existing status quo in different forms. Considering this, the workshop also aims to encourage reflection on the possibilities and hope of emancipatory changes and resistance, both in the choice of theoretical approaches and in the critique of counterterrorism practices that curtail and restrict personal and civil freedoms.

We seek to foster a cross-disciplinary discussion on terrorism/counterterrorism and security studies by engaging with a wide range of theoretical perspectives and disciplines. We welcome contributions which address – but are not limited to – the following questions and themes:

- How continuities, changes and/or transformations are expressed in the practice of terrorism, counterterrorism and security?
- Is there 'hope' to decolonise practices and policies in the field of Critical Studies on Terrorism?
- To what extent has the preventive turn really changed security practices?
- Is securitisation-desecuritisation nexus still relevant in terrorism/counterterrorism research for the future?
- What are the implications of borders, spaces and territorialities on the fight against terrorism broadly defined?
- How the mechanisms of discourse and images affect the perception of terrorism for the researcher, for the research and for the public in the past, present and future?
- How do approaches based on "everyday security" and "vernacular security" question changes, continuities and resistance?