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Countering Terrorism

Can We Meet the Threat of Global Violence?

Michael Chandler and Rohan Gunaratna

'This is the nearest thing I have read to a textbook on countering the terrorism of extremist Islam. It contains a thorough record of key events, a clear analysis of the different aspects of the problem, including the overlay of regional issues and the responses of Governments, principally the us. Nor are the authors afraid to criticise us policy and make recommendations of their own. It is a compact and highly informative read, which should be mandatory for senior officials taking on counter-terrorist responsibilities.'

– Sir Richard Dearlove, Master of Pembroke College Cambridge and former Head of MI6/SIS

'Beautifully written by two leading counter-terrorist experts, this book gives a unique insight into the mistakes of the "war on terror". It should be a required reading for No. 10 and the White House.'

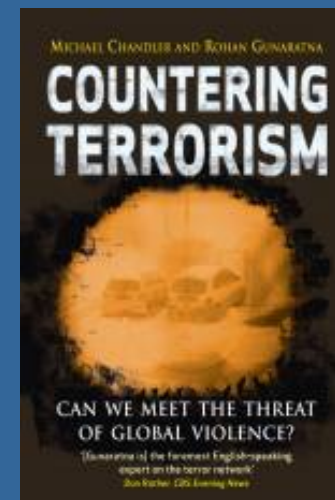
– Loretta Napoleoni, author of *Terror Inc: Tracing the Money Behind Global Terrorism*


'The comprehensive international expertise and knowledge of Michael Chandler, together with the lifelong scholarly and practical knowledge of Dr. Rohan Gunaratna, have combined to produce this must-read title. *Countering Terrorism* is a timely book that fills a lacuna in the counter-terrorism literature, and has to be on the bookshelf of any decision-maker, scholar, student or anyone who is interested in understanding the current and future trends of international terrorism and the strategies that have to be taken to combat this threat.'

– Dr. Boaz Ganor, author of *The Counter-Terrorism Puzzle: A Guide for Decisionmakers*

31 October 2006: New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly praises Rohan Gunaratna's previous book, the best-selling *Inside Al Qaeda*, as 'a kind of required reading for the police department's top officials'. Read the text of the story [here](#)

Long before the devastating events of 11th September 2001 many countries had developed ways to deal with terrorists, but for the most part these groups were regarded as only domestic threats. The actions of the 'Atta Group' on 9/11, however, not only destroyed the World Trade Centre but also blew away forever these attitudes of complacency. The horror and enormity of the attacks on such iconic targets prompted an unprecedented



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response from across the globe.

Countering Terrorism: Can We Meet the Treat of Global Violence? is a hard-hitting examination of responses to terrorism around the globe, looking not only at 9/11 but also the London and Madrid bombings, as well as terrorist activity in Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Palestine and elsewhere. The authors argue that despite the international community being presented with a prime opportunity to cooperate and collaborate against trans-national terrorism, the opportunity has been missed, long-term visionary policies have been held hostage to short-term political expediency, and what should have been a watershed has become a trickle in the sand.

The authors' collective experience – dealing with a wide range of terrorist activity, security issues and conflict situations – spans over forty years, and includes first-hand exposure in the field. Together they bring their specialist knowledge to bear on one of the most critical issues of today, offering a clear-sighted way of understanding and dealing with global terrorism.

Michael Chandler is a former British Army Colonel and has been involved with security, conflict situations and terrorism for over 40 years. He was Chairman of the United Nations Group that monitored the implementation of sanctions against the Al-Qaeda network.

Rohan Gunaratna is Head, International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies in Singapore and Senior Fellow, Fletcher School for Law and Diplomacy's Jebson Centre for Counter Terrorism Studies. He is the author of the best-selling *Inside Al-Qaeda: Global Network of Terror* (2002).

