


12 NEW INTERNATIONAL INSIGHTS

Chabal
PIERRE CHABAL, JILDIZ NICHARAPOVA &
KURALAY BAIZAKOVA (eds)

CROSS-BORDER EXCHANGES

EURASIAN PERSPECTIVES
ON LOGISTICS AND DIPLOMACY


PETER LANG

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Institute for Security and Cooperation Studies
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Cross-border

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and social spaces**
Catherine PÉRISSIN

**Activities of
in Central Asia**
Jildiz NICHOLSON

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**Confines, cross-
identity over
the border**
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**What does 'border'
mean?**
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Main trends in countering trans-national extremism and terrorism of regional and non- regional actors in Central Asia*

KURALAY BAIZAKOVA AND FATIMA KUKEYEVA
al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty

Terrorism in all its manifestations has become one of the most dangerous factors both in its scope and in the unpredictability of its consequences on the socio-political and moral problems for mankind. It is thus necessary to clarify the essence of contemporary forms of manifestation of terrorism and religious extremism in order to develop methods to prevent them and mechanisms for eradicating them. This chapter studies forms of cooperation among Central Asian countries and regional and non-regional actors in the fight against extremism in international terrorism.

In the 21st century, international terrorism turned into one of the most complex social problems. It became part of the instruments used to conduct foreign policy activities and achieve the geopolitical goals of individual powers, forces and movements on the world stage.

An analysis of domestic and foreign studies of international terrorism shows that it is common for all to seek or directly link it to such initial concepts as 'terror', 'terrorism', 'violence', 'extremism', 'war', 'aggression', etc. This is a complex historical, philosophical, political, sociological, legal and, in some cases, etymological panorama of the elaboration of the problem, the degree of which is complicated, but still far from objective.

Research by Russian scientists connects the study of terrorism with its historical, political and international legal category of a political nature.

* Article prepared as part of a scientific project of the Kazakhstan Ministry of Education "Current geopolitical realities and their impact on the dissemination of religious radicalism ideas among the youth of Central Asia: new trends and international practice", 2018.

The main purpose of the book is to examine from numerous and distinct, albeit complementary perspectives how logistics feeds into region-building. The angle of approach is to reach resolutely beyond logistical and material aspects of border-crossing in order to tackle cultural, symbolic, identity-based as well as institutional, legal and political dimensions of the contemporary 'pooling' of sovereignties in today's Eurasia. Thus, constitutive chapters of the book draw from analyses as remote as historical, environmental, diplomatic and cybernetic, to mention but a few. Its main conclusions are that region-building consists largely in concrete changes that affect material aspects of country-to-country dynamics, not just in material-political decisions even if these remain necessary to launch a novel process and to secure it into confidence-building. This blend of logics also involves a multi-scale evolution whereby both local (infra-regional) and regional (supra-national) levels, taken together, make sense. Hence, to probe into one dimension only – the changing nature of borders, both in Europe and Asia, from lines of sovereign divisions to passage-points for exchanges – induces the bilateral and multi-lateral capacity to 'innovate' within long-term historical givens and to turn nationalistic hostility into dynamics of multiplication of shared exchanges and profits. From a methodological requirement, comparing what seems at first, very different – a fully integrating Europe and a newly co-operative Asia – makes it possible, on the face of it, to uncover and decipher dynamics that are similar in their essence (regional, post-war) even if they differ in details (institutional idiosyncrasies, hurdles).

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