

National 4/5 Revision 2014

World Issue: Conflict and Terrorism

What you need to know:

1. The causes and consequences of terrorism.
2. The reasons why European countries are members of the United Nations (UN) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).
3. The ways NATO countries use their military power.



Flags of the United Nations (UN) and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)

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Reasons why people join or form terrorist groups:

People become terrorists for a variety of reasons including: political frustration, religion, poverty, lack of education, extremism, nationalism etc.

- Current terrorist groups include: **al-Qaeda** (extremist Muslim group who want to hurt developed, democratic nations and to replace leaders in Muslim nations with religious extremists), **The Real IRA** (breakaway group who want a United Ireland), **al-Shabab** (Somalian extremist Muslim group who want control of Somalia).

Methods Used By Terrorist Groups

- Terrorist groups will use bombings, suicide bombings, murders, shootings, kidnappings, hijackings, skyjackings, cyber-terrorism etc. to get what they want.

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Examples of Terrorist Attacks:

- **9/11:** Planes crash into each of the towers of the World Trade Centre in New York 2001. Another crashes into the Pentagon and a final plane crashes into a field in Pennsylvania, missing its target. Nearly 3000 are killed.
- **7/7:** In the London bombings, one bus and three tube trains were attacked by men carrying bombs in rucksacks killing 52 people.
- **Maserreene Army Base Attack:** Real IRA gunmen strike an army base in Antrim, Northern Ireland in 2009, killing 2 soldiers and wounding another 4 people. The shootings were clearly a pre-planned attack since the gunmen knew what time the soldiers would emerge to collect their order.
- **Westgate Shopping Mall:** Al-Shabab had taken over the shopping mall in Nairobi, Kenya and taken hostages. Police entered and opened fire and the gun battle left at least 39 people dead and 150 others injured.



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UK Government Responses to International Terrorism: Anti-terrorist Measures

- Tighter airport security e.g. armed police, biometric passports, whole body scanners or no liquids carried on to planes
- Counter Terrorism Act - increased detention length
- Increase in resources for MI5 (counter terrorism office)
- Easy targets removed e.g. bins within London Underground
- Security taken into consideration when building new structures e.g. at front of Glasgow Airport
- Introduction of ID cards

Stopping the Spread of Nuclear Weapons

- Arms embargoes on 'terror-supporting States' e.g. Iran
- Discussions with other nuclear countries (Russia) to control the spread of nuclear weapons

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Organisation of al-Qaeda

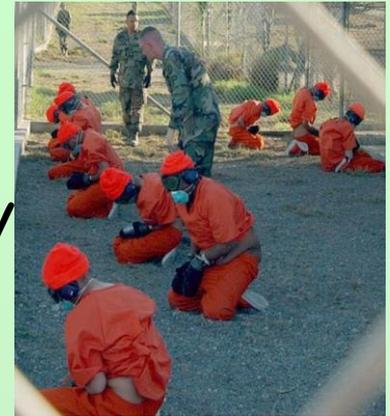
- al-Qaeda is not a single organisation, like for example the IRA/Real IRA is. al-Qaeda is often made up of individuals or small groups of people (known as **cells**) who have adopted the ideas of al-Qaeda.
- These ideas are spread through **jihadist websites, videos/DVD's and cassette/CD recordings** of al-Qaeda's extremist Muslim propaganda. These recordings usually feature leading members such as former leader Osama Bin Laden and current leader Ayman al-Zawahir (pictured).
- Some al-Qaeda supporters have travelled to countries like, Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia to be trained in terrorist methods such as bomb making and armed combat.



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Criticism of anti-terrorist responses:

- Stop-and-search powers criticised as unfairly targeting young people, and people who are Black or Asian Muslims.
- Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan costly in terms of finance and human life on both sides. Neither country is stable despite soldiers leaving Iraq (2011) and gradually leaving Afghanistan (by 2015?).
- Use of torture methods of interrogation in Guantanamo Bay (Camp X-Ray) criticised as well as holding suspects without trial for years seen as breach of human rights.
- Airport security changes criticised: use of body scanners, searches and biometric passports seen as an invasion of privacy.
- Increased detention without trial for terrorist suspects from 28 to 42 days seen as breach of human rights.



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National 3/4:

- Explain **two** reasons why people join terrorist groups. (4)
- Describe **two** methods used by terrorist groups. (4)
- Explain the causes of an international issue you have studied. (4)

National 5:

- *"International issues often have serious consequences."*

Explain the **consequences** of an international issue **you have studied**.
(6)

- *"International issues affect people and countries in many ways."*

Using **examples** from an issue **you have studied**, describe how people and countries have been **affected** by this issue. (8)

- *"Different methods are used to resolve international problems today."*

Describe **two** methods used to resolve an international problem **you have studied**.

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Reasons why countries are members of NATO

Countries join NATO because:

- **NATO guarantees a country's security.** An attack on one NATO country is considered an attack on them all. NATO is involved in Afghanistan because its members believed that the then government (the Taleban) were involved in training those who took in the 9/11 attack on the 'Twin Towers'.
- **The cost of expensive military equipment is shared.**
- **NATO has an important peacekeeping role in the world e.g. in Kosovo.**



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The United Nations

One of the United Nations main aims is to keep the peace in the world. To help keep the peace the United Nations:

- Holds discussions in the **General Assembly** where international agreement can be reached to end conflict.
- Has a **Security Council** where a small number of countries can agree on what actions are needed to bring an end to conflict e.g. UN observers or peacekeeping soldiers.

Note: The United Nations cannot enforce its decisions. The UN relies on the support of its members to bring about an end to conflict e.g. NATO supported the UN in Kosovo by providing equipment and troops for peacekeeping.

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The ways in which NATO countries use their military power

During times of conflict (Kosovo - KFOR)
NATO used its military power by:

- holding peace talks
- arranging ceasefires
- enforcing sanctions and arms embargoes
- supplying peacekeeping soldiers

Or elsewhere

- providing training e.g. for police/soldiers in Iraq
- taking military action (ISAF - Afghanistan)



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National 3/4:

- Explain **two** reasons why countries want to join the United Nations (UN). (4)
- Explain **two** reasons why countries are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). (4)
- Describe **two** ways in which NATO can bring an end to conflict. (4)

National 5:

- *"There are many advantages to countries in becoming members of NATO."*

Explain the **advantages** *to countries in becoming members of NATO.*
(6)

- *"NATO and the UN can take action to prevent conflict."*

Using examples from countries you have studied, describe the **actions** NATO and the UN can take to prevent conflict. (8)