

By Juan Camilo Rodríguez Puentes

Article: *The surprising way groups like ISIS stay in power*

Taken from:

https://www.ted.com/talks/benedetta_berti_the_surprising_way_groups_like_isis_stay_in_power#t-5425

Benedetta Berti was documenting and studying during the past decade what **militias**, terrorist groups and insurgents do when they are not shooting or fighting to solve several conflicts around the world, which is the key to understand them on the basis. Her objective is to understand better these violent actors, which means have a full picture about this situation, and also to study ways to encourage transition from violent engagement to nonviolent confrontation. Besides, she classifies them as a states and non-state actors, and due to that she thinks that we need to know about what makes these organizations **tick**. She said that Armed groups today are complex organizations, for example Hezbollah from Israel and ISIS from Iraq are involved as a social service network, a political party and military **apparatus**, so that means that they are doing more than fighting or shooting, they are *multi-task*. They have a huge communication machine with Radio and TV Channels, Websites, Social Media and also Magazines. Those activities are key to consider them as non-state actors in war, because they can build, increase and be **profitable brand** with better recruit of people for his final purpose, whilst they are providing social services like security, schools, hospitals; and several things that state actor is not providing to population. However, these provisional safety and security unfortunately has a big price for the population. Therefore, all of these aspects are making governance in the populations which matters a lot in many situations like population support and active participation, and also matters when we tried making strength basis **peacemaking** process and **peacebuilding** aspects in becoming from violent to nonviolent actors in society. At the end, she said that we needed is a long-term investment in filling several gaps that government leaved for avoiding to give more power to these groups.

I think that emergence of these groups are caused by the current corruption situation, giving way to several gaps in different primary care services to citizens like safety, education, health services and other stuff. We must be involved in our country policies to avoid that these emergence environments armed groups exists.