

## Policing

For terrorist groups that cannot or will not abandon terrorism, policing is likely to be the most effective strategy to destroy terrorist groups. The logic is straightforward: Police generally have better training and intelligence to penetrate and disrupt terrorist organizations. They are the primary arm of the government focused on internal security matters.<sup>55</sup> The mission of the police and other security forces should be to eliminate the terrorist organization—the command structure, terrorists, logistical support, and financial and political support—from the midst of the population. As Bruce Hoffman argued,

Law enforcement officers should actively encourage and cultivate cooperation by building strong ties with community leaders, including elected officials, civil servants, clerics, businessmen, and teachers, among others, and thereby enlist their assistance and support.<sup>56</sup>

A police approach may also include developing antiterrorism legislation. This can involve criminalizing activities that are necessary for terrorist groups to function, such as raising money or openly recruiting. This means treating terrorism as a crime. Therefore, a state's primary mechanism for dealing with a crime is through its criminal-justice system.<sup>57</sup> The policing approach can also include providing foreign assistance to police and intelligence services abroad to improve their counterterrorism capacity.

During the Cold War, the United States provided assistance to foreign police and intelligence services to prevent countries from falling under Soviet influence.<sup>58</sup> By the early 1970s, the U.S. Congress became

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<sup>55</sup> Roger Trinquier, *Modern Warfare: A French View of Counterinsurgency*, New York: Praeger, 1964, p. 43; David Galula, *Counterinsurgency Warfare: Theory and Practice*, St. Petersburg, Fla.: Hailer Publishing, 2005, p. 31.

<sup>56</sup> Hoffman (2006, p. 169).

<sup>57</sup> Clutterbuck (2004, p. 157).

<sup>58</sup> John Lewis Gaddis, *Strategies of Containment: A Critical Appraisal of Postwar American National Security Policy*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1982; H. W. Brands, *The Devil*