

THE SECURITY LANDSCAPE AND THE NEW FORMS OF TERRORIST THREATS

EDITORIAL



In 2018, **Argus Security Projects** is committed to the objectives it set for the company in 2017 by strengthening its strategy in terms of business development and ethics.

To help the board address this important issue, Louis-Retby Pradeau, currently in charge of MENA and Sub-Saharan Africa Zone at ASP International, has

been nominated Interim Executive Director for a temporary period to offer strong and effective leadership. Argus Security Projects strategy is to consolidate the field of competences and the branches in countries where the company is strongly implemented while developing new business capacities and strengthening standards of ethics.

Business capacities will particularly focus on **developing new offers, such as strong and relevant trainings concepts**, taking into account the reality of new forms of threats, while cementing our partnerships and business in the areas of operations where we are deployed.

But **Argus Security Projects** will continue to improve its current in-house trainings engaging staff deployed in more management aspects. ASP will also consolidate the standards of ethics at all level of the company, as it represents the core of our added value.

In the large security industry landscape, it remains essential to maintain and guarantee international standards in management as well as in ethical behaviour with our staff deployed.

Promoting integrity, good governance, respecting local labour law and following local customs represents a reference for our clients that we intend to maintain.

Indeed, as member of ICOCA, ISO and OHSAS certified we are committed to deliver quality to our clients.

**Louis Retby-Pradeau**

OUR FOCUS

According to the latest European Union Terrorism Situation and Trend Report (TE-SAT), produced by EUROPOL, the overall terrorist threat to the security of the European Union has increased over recent years and remains on a sharp upward trajectory.

This trend raises the issue of prevention and preparedness. For private companies as well as for national and international public institutions, the challenge is to stay up to date on terrorism risk management strategies and implementation procedures.

Within this context, Argus Security Projects attended the seminar organised by A.S.I.S International, the leading organisation for security professionals and A.S.I.S AEGEAN Chapter (243) on "confrontation of terrorism", held in Athens on 10 and 11 November 2017.



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## SECURITY LANDSCAPE AND TERRORIST THREATS

According to the latest European Union Terrorism Situation Trend Report (TESAT) produced by EUROPOL, the key terrorist trends are Jihadist terrorism, right wing extremism and ethno-nationalist terrorism. In terms of statistics, 2016 represents in Europe 142 died in terrorist attacks, 379 people injured and 214 failed, foiled and completed attack reported. The main concern of Member States is jihadist terrorism and the closely related phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters who travel to and from conflict zones. Jihadist actors can be both directed by the self declared Islamic State (IS) or merely inspired by IS ideology and rhetoric. The recent attacks in Europe represented a clear shift in the intent and capability of jihadist terrorists to inflict mass casualties on urban populations designed to induce a high state of well-publicised terror.

The carefully planned attacks also demonstrated the elevated threat to Europe from an extremist minority, operationally based in the Middle East, combined with a network of people born and raised in Europe, often radicalised within a short space of time, who have proven willing and able to act as facilitators and active accomplices in terrorism.

Unfortunately, the trend is rather pessimistic, as the report considers that the number of returnees is expected to rise, if the self declared Islamic State, as seems likely, is defeated militarily or collapses. An increase number of returnees will likely strengthen domestic jihadist movement and consequently magnify the threat they pose to Europe.



## A.S.I.S AEGEAN CHAPTER (243) SEMINAR IN ATHENS

This seminar focused on current and developing terrorism threats, counter terrorism methods and effective risk mitigation, perspective on terrorism and crisis management, and best practises.

Participants were able to learn the latest security threat trends in Europe, in the US in the Middle East. Instructors provided also an analytic threat outlook and subsequent risk mitigation strategies.

Some key modules were a rare opportunity to increase attendees understanding of aggressors' modus operandi like the anatomy of terrorism. In the field of prevention, participants learned from shared experiences the possible means to prevent planned acts of terrorism, namely early detection process and how to develop effective threat detection and mitigation programs at their operational environment.



## QUESTIONS TO...

**Angelos Agrafiotis**

Chairperson of the A.S.I.S Aegean Chapter (243) and the General Manager of A&K Risk Management Consulting.

**ASP Question: What are the objectives of such seminars?**

The objectives of the seminars we organize are mostly the up to date education of the security and safety professionals in our country.

The security field is constantly changing due to the rapidly changing political situations, methods of criminality and technological updates, hence we need to think one step forward to be able to prevent threats and be effective. The best seminars are hard to reach for us (due to distance) in the Balkans and Cyprus hence we bring the education here through our speakers' unquestionable knowledge.

**ASP Question: What are the main points and messages that can be learned from this seminar?**

This seminar was an insight of the future threats and how to be prepared when a terroristic attack happens. The target was to help the security heads of every institution, company and organization to anticipate the preparatory actions of the suspects, to face the terroristic incident when it happens in the best possible way and to help with the restoration.

**ASP POINT OF VIEW**

For **Argus Security Projects**, it was important to talk about lessons learned, shared experience and see how it would be possible to adapt United States standards and procedures to Europe in order to develop some key processes like early detection measures.

At ASP, we think that early detection remains a core element of any threats prevention and preparedness strategy. New technologies and ultra sophisticated devices are helpful to detect means of attacks. Lessons learned proved that being able to identify intent at early stages remains a key factor.

Individuals planning to commit violent acts display unconscious yet recognizable indicators that expose them to possible early detection. But it also means that security guards have to be trained to be able to identify such indicators and remain pro-active in the environment in which they are required to work.

This is the reason why **Argus Security Projects** increased the focus on trainings for our personal by creating specific modules and updating current preparation procedures for deployed staff.

Our basic security guard course includes a solid counter surveillance introduction and all our security managers receive an in-house security management training with an emphasis on recent modus operandi used in their country of deployment, trends and early detection concepts.

## About A.S.I.S

A.S.I.S (American Society For Industrial Security) International is the leading organization for security professionals worldwide. Founded in 1955, A.S.I.S is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security professionals by developing educational programs and materials that address broad security interests, such as the ASIS International Annual Seminar and Exhibits, as well as specific security topics. A.S.I.S also advocates the role and value of the security management profession to business, the media, government entities and the public.

The AEGEAN CHAPTER (243) of A.S.I.S International Greece, was founded in 2005 and has today more than 28 selected members, of which, most are security managers in multinational companies and state organisations of foreign countries that activate in our country, or even as self employed on the security sector. In the Aegean Chapter (243) International, also belong Cyprus with 4 members and Albania with 2 members.



Peter J.O'Neil, Chief Executive Officer ASIS International (first from the right) and Angelos Agrafiotis, Chairperson of the ASIS Aegean Chapter (second from the left) at the Athens Seminar.

## OPINION ON ETHIC AND STANDARDS BY LOUIS M. LOIZOU, ASP'S AUDITOR

Louis M. Loizou is the Chief Executive Officer at Conquest Business Advisors (CBA), ASP's Auditor. We asked him to explain the variety of norms and standards, as the field is wide.

For M. Loizou, most of the standards are voluntary. The competition makes them mandatory. Companies apply first guidelines/requirements before being certified with standards. They are standards in the field of trainings, management, health and safety. They are also some standards series for private security companies. For these private companies, **standards are a must** internally as it tackles good practices in management, and externally because it is a reference. In the field of international security working with public institutions, some norms and standards are mandatory to participate in tenders.

In Europe, the process of creation of a standard is more complicated because each nation tries to secure its own interest. When an international standard is developed, delegates from each country can have endless discussion before they found a common ground.

But what is important to know is that most of **the standards are born from experience, which makes them relevant.**



## ARGUS SECURITY PROJECTS COMPLIANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

ICoCA	The International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers' association is guided by the principles of Code of Conduct. These include commitments to good governance, respects for human rights and international humanitarian law and a high standard of professional conduct.
ISO 9001	Sets out the criteria for quality management. They are based on a number of quality management principles, including a strong customer focus, the motivation and implication of top management, the process approach and continual improvement.
ISO 14001	Sets out the criteria for environmental management. Can provide assurance to company management and employees as well as external stakeholders that environmental impact is being measured and improved.
IQNET	All IQNet members have signed the IQNet Multi-Lateral Agreement (MLA). This means they mutually recognise the ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and various other certificates of all other IQNet partner as being equivalent to their own. IQNet Certificates are the main evidence of this international recognition
OHSAS 18001	Clearly indicates the method of setting up a health and safety management at work



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