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Research Article

ROOT CAUSES OF TERRORISM: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF PAST DECADE

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ABSTRACT

Terrorism is related to psychological damage and has imposed different destructions on the economy of many countries. However, there is limited research undertaken so far to review the root causes of terrorism. For this reason, this paper address a review of literature on the root causes of terrorism. By reviewing these articles, it is found that the main causes of terrorism are unemployment, illiteracy, poverty, and bad governance. By reviewing the 40 articles, published in Scopus Index Journal and Web of Science Index-Journal from the year 2011 to 2020, this paper provides the data about these articles. The systematic literature review shows that most work has been done in developed countries. In this review, the main objective of these papers are also discussed

Keywords: *Terrorism, Psychological damage, Economy, Literature Review*

1. INTRODUCTION

Over recent decades many changes have occurred in the world economy. The direct costs of terrorism are the destruction of infrastructure, factories, and standing crops and the stoppage of economic activities. Its indirect costs are varied and arise out of the general loss of confidence in the economy. As a result, the economy is unable to attract foreign investment and faces brain drain, enhanced military expenditure, high transaction costs, and various other economic distortions Kumar 2012). The existence of international terrorist groups and their supporters in South Asia are identified as a threat to both regional stability and the attainment of central US policy goals (Krondtadt and Vaughn 2004).

First, terrorism-related trauma is an increasing problem in Africa (Alfa-Wali et al. 2015; Asongu et al. 2015a, 2018). Whereas the phenomenon of terrorism is not new on the continent, its increasing trend has become a significant policy concern. Africa is offering a fertile ground for terrorism as a result of internal: extremist ideologies of groups lobbying to dismantle old states and establish new ones; continued political and regional instability; ethnic and tribal tensions; and religious fundamentalism (Fazel 2013). There is a debate in the literature on the role of good governance in controlling terrorism. The basic features of good governance like civil society, democratic political systems, political participation, and knowledge economy can help to reduce the hatred towards the state. According to Asongu (2016a), governance is a multidimensional and complex phenomenon. Gauss (2005) is of the view that good governance may not be useful in mitigating terrorism because the interests of terrorist organizations are not represented in government institutions of democratic politics.

According to Smith (2002) before the 11 September attacks, experts generally considered suicide bombers to be usually poor, and not particularly well-educated' (Smith, 2002: 37). However, numerous studies and surveys, both before and since September 2001, have suggested that people who resort to terrorism are normally far from below the poverty line. There is also significant evidence that structural problems within a country can lead to terrorism. The relationship between terrorism and unemployment is complex. It comes under the broader

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theme of globalization, as the enlarged income gap between the rich and the poor is too much because of globalization.

Indeed, still, there is little knowledge about the root causes of terrorism. The main purpose of this paper is to analyze the root causes of terrorism. To achieve this objective, this paper provides a narrative review of the root causes of terrorism.

2. REVIEW METHODOLOGY

The main focus of the current study is to examine the literature on the root causes of terrorism. Therefore the papers are selected for this study are those published in Scopus Index Journal and Web of Science Index-Journal. In this study, papers are divided into different categories for review. Papers are reviewed according to their publication year, author, affiliation, source, publication type, country, and subject area.

2.1. Distribution of papers by Authors

From Fig 1 and Table 1 it is clear that published papers on terrorism are more than 100 in both indexes.

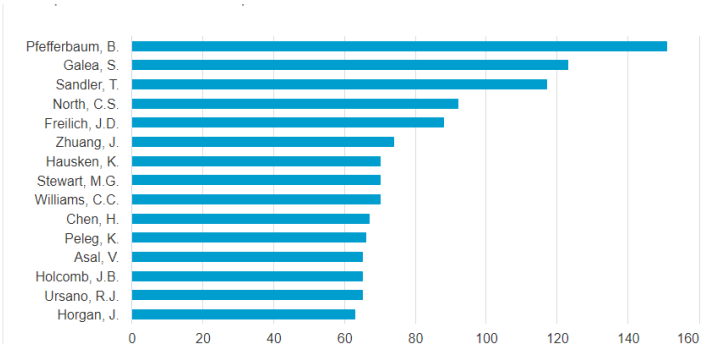


Fig 1. Publication by Author (Scopus Index Journal)

Table 1. Publication by Author (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Authors	Record Count	% of 32,350
ANONYMOUS	274	0.847 %
SHAFFER R	97	0.300 %
WILKINSON P	92	0.284 %
SANDLER T	89	0.275 %
HORGAN J	78	0.241 %
PFEFFERBAUM B	72	0.223 %
VEENEMA TG	71	0.219 %
ZHUANG J	60	0.185 %
LAFREE G	55	0.170 %
KORSTANJE ME	53	0.164 %
FREILICH JD	50	0.155 %
LUTZ JM	48	0.148 %
GILL P	46	0.142 %

HOFFMAN B	43	0.133 %
NORTH CS	40	0.124 %
PIAZZA JA	40	0.124 %
TAYLOR M	40	0.124 %
WEINBERG L	40	0.124 %
COAFFEE J	39	0.121 %
GUPTA DK	39	0.121 %
SILKE A	39	0.121 %
LUTZ BJ	38	0.117 %
ASAL V	37	0.114 %
JARVIS L	37	0.114 %
CANETTI D	36	0.111 %

2.2. Distribution of Publication by Year

From Fig.2, it is clear that in Scopus Index Journal papers on terrorism are published from the year 1941 to 2021. A maximum number of papers are published in 2018. Table 2 shows the numbers of a paper published in the web of science from the year 1997 to 2020. The maximum number of papers published on this topic in the Web of Science is in 2018.

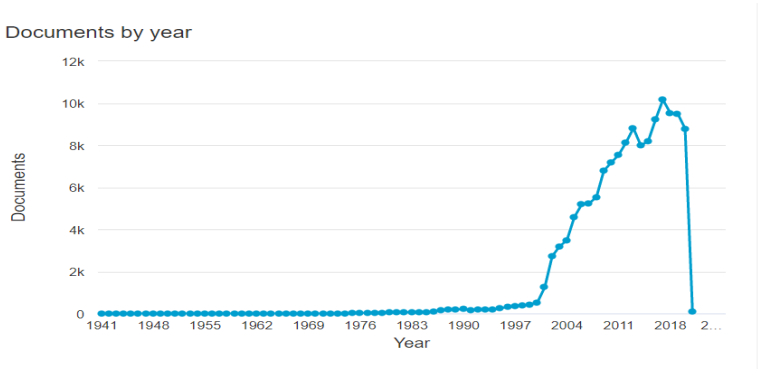


Fig 2. Publication by Year (Scopus Index Journal)

Table 2. Publication by Year (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Publication Years	Record Count	% of 32,350
2021	2	0.006 %
2020	1,741	5.382 %
2019	2,560	7.913 %
2018	2,158	6.671 %
2017	2,411	7.453 %
2016	1,999	6.179 %

2015	2,046	6.325 %
2014	1,259	3.892 %
2013	1,215	3.756 %
2012	1,384	4.278 %
2011	1,648	5.094 %
2010	1,467	4.535 %
2009	1,644	5.082 %
2008	1,356	4.192 %
2007	1,206	3.728 %
2006	1,211	3.743 %
2005	1,072	3.314 %
2004	1,078	3.332 %
2003	769	2.377 %
2002	803	2.482 %
2001	383	1.184 %
2000	171	0.529 %
1999	180	0.556 %
1998	153	0.473 %
1997	155	0.479 %

2.3. Distribution of Publication by Source

Table 3 and Fig.3 shows the name of journals that published articles on the topic of terrorism. Publication by source shows that in Scopus Index Journal maximum numbers of papers related to terrorism are in Terrorism and Political Violence and other journals in Scopus Index only a few papers are published. Table 3 shows that in the Web of Science Index-Journal, maximum papers were published in "Terrorism and Political Violence". In Web of Science, conference proceedings were very few on the topic of terrorism. These all journals are well reputed and high impact factor journals that show the importance of the topic of terrorism in the eyes of the research community.

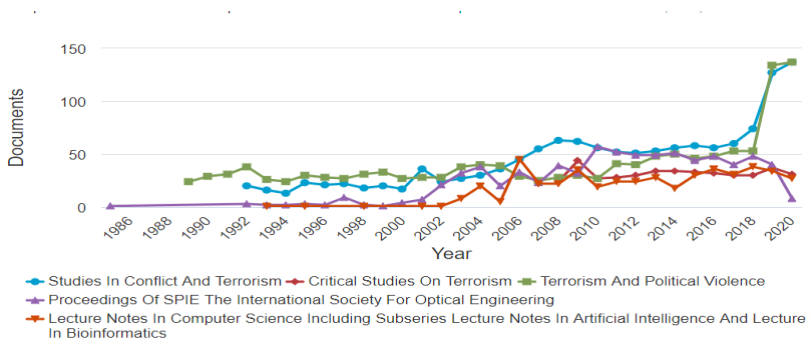


Fig 3. Publication by Source (Scopus Index Journal)

Table 3. Publication by Source (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Source Titles	Record Count	% of 32,350
TERRORISM AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE	1,936	5.985 %
STUDIES IN CONFLICT TERRORISM	1,075	3.323 %
NATO SCIENCE FOR PEACE AND SECURITY SERIES E HUMAN AND SOCIETAL DYNAMICS	530	1.638 %
TERRORISM	401	1.240 %
CRITICAL STUDIES ON TERRORISM	255	0.788 %
CASS SERIES ON POLITICAL VIOLENCE	209	0.646 %
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	200	0.618 %
CONTEMPORARY TERRORISM STUDIES	196	0.606 %
RISK ANALYSIS	161	0.498 %
JOURNAL OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION	141	0.436 %
DEFENCE AND PEACE ECONOMICS	136	0.420 %
PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE	130	0.402 %
JOURNAL OF PEACE RESEARCH	122	0.377 %
BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES OF TERRORISM AND POLITICAL AGGRESSION	121	0.374 %
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CYBER WARFARE AND TERRORISM	119	0.368 %
JOURNAL OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	108	0.334 %
LECTURE NOTES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE	104	0.321 %
HEALTH PHYSICS	103	0.318 %
FOREIGN AFFAIRS	100	0.309 %
POLITICAL VIOLENCE	98	0.303 %
SURVIVAL	94	0.291 %
NATO SCIENCE FOR PEACE AND SECURITY SERIES A CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY	91	0.281 %
ROUTLEDGE CRITICAL TERRORISM STUDIES	91	0.281 %
PUBLIC CHOICE	88	0.272 %
ESPRIT	87	0.269 %

2.4. Distribution of Publication by Affiliation

Researchers from all over the world are working on the topic of terrorism and many universities are encouraging their researchers to do their research on the root causes of terrorism and how to stop terrorism. In Scopus Index, to date, the most prominent work on this topic is done by the Kings College London. Oxford University has published more than 800 papers on the topic of terrorism. Harvard University and New York University have worked on the topic of terrorism and both universities published more than 600 papers in Scopus Index-Journal. Table 4 shows the published papers in the web of science index journal. In the web of science maximum papers have been published by the University of London. In the second number, the University of California has also published 600 research papers, and the rest of the universities mentioned in Table 4 has published more than 100 papers on the topic of terrorism.

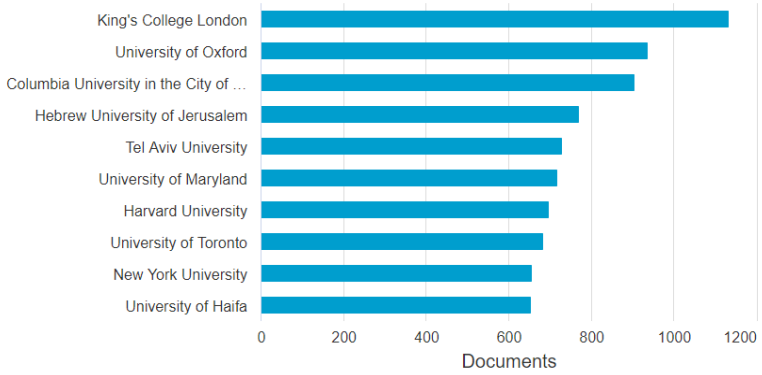


Fig 4. Publication by Affiliation (Scopus Index Journal)

Table 4. Publication by Affiliation (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Organizations-Enhanced	Record Count	% of 32,350
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON	754	2.331 %
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SYSTEM	601	1.858 %
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	453	1.400 %
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SUNY SYSTEM	393	1.215 %
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND	374	1.156 %
HARVARD UNIVERSITY	373	1.153 %
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM	355	1.097 %
PENNSYLVANIA COMMONWEALTH SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION PCSHE	318	0.983 %
UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS	317	0.980 %
KING S COLLEGE LONDON	316	0.977 %
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA	312	0.964 %
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY	267	0.825 %
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK	259	0.801 %
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY	242	0.748 %

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	234	0.723 %
HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM	233	0.720 %
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK CUNY SYSTEM	228	0.705 %
TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY	206	0.637 %
UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA	201	0.621 %
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	198	0.612 %
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	198	0.612 %
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	195	0.603 %
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD	194	0.600 %
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY	190	0.587 %
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DOE	187	0.578 %

2.5. Distribution of Publication by Country

Although researchers from all over the world emphasized the topic of terrorism, we can clearly distinguish from Fig.5 and Table 5 that most of the research is done on terrorism in developed countries. The maximum number of articles on this topic was published in the USA. The second highest researchers are belonging to European countries. From ASIA, China, Pakistan, India, and Singapore contributed to the research of terrorism by publishing 727,266 and 353 articles respectively in Web of Science Journal.

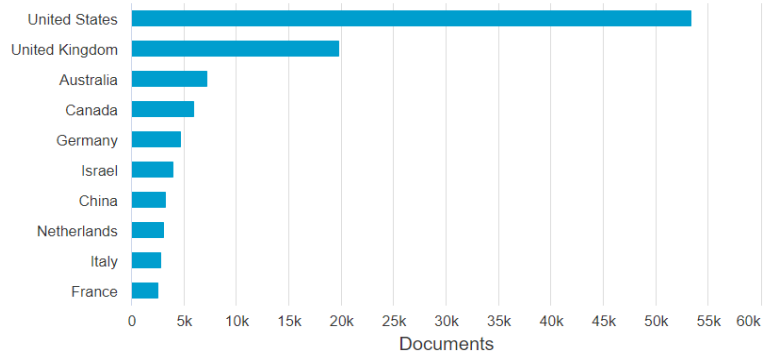


Fig 5. Publication by Country (Scopus Index Journal)

Table 5. Publication by Country (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Countries/Regions	Record Count	% of 32,350
USA	12,031	37.190 %
ENGLAND	3,627	11.212 %
AUSTRALIA	1,476	4.563 %
CANADA	1,032	3.190 %
ISRAEL	1,026	3.172 %
GERMANY	968	2.992 %
SPAIN	734	2.269 %

PEOPLES R CHINA	727	2.247 %
FRANCE	649	2.006 %
NETHERLANDS	625	1.932 %
RUSSIA	623	1.926 %
ITALY	605	1.870 %
SCOTLAND	558	1.725 %
TURKEY	474	1.465 %
NORWAY	374	1.156 %
INDIA	353	1.091 %
BELGIUM	283	0.875 %
JAPAN	276	0.853 %
PAKISTAN	266	0.822 %
SWEDEN	266	0.822 %
SWITZERLAND	256	0.791 %
SINGAPORE	247	0.764 %
ROMANIA	225	0.696 %
CZECH REPUBLIC	215	0.665 %
WALES	213	0.658 %

2.6. Distribution of Publication by Type

Maximum numbers of papers published in Scopus Index and Web of Science are articles. In Scopus Index Journal out of 100% published work 56.1% are articles, 9.2% are review papers, 8.7% are book chapters, and 6.9% are conference papers. In Web of Science Index-Journal, 66% of published work are articles, 14% show the published work in books and 13% of published work is preceding papers.

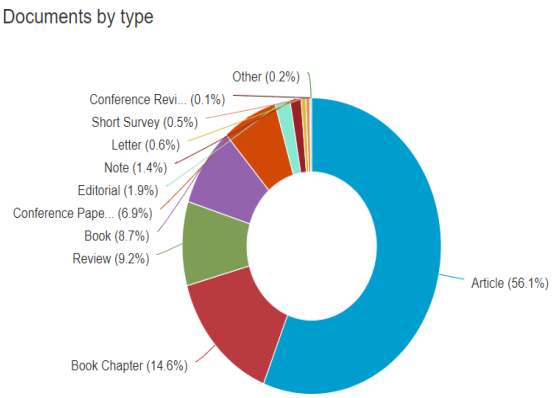


Fig 6. Publication by Type (Scopus Index Journal)

Table 6. Publication by Type (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Document Types	Record Count	% of 32,350
ARTICLE	21,540	66.584 %
BOOK CHAPTER	4,636	14.331 %
PROCEEDINGS PAPER	4,409	13.629 %
BOOK REVIEW	3,304	10.213 %
EDITORIAL MATERIAL	1,873	5.790 %
REVIEW	836	2.584 %
EARLY ACCESS	614	1.898 %
BOOK	328	1.014 %
LETTER	257	0.794 %
MEETING ABSTRACT	167	0.516 %
NEWS ITEM	140	0.433 %
CORRECTION	54	0.167 %
NOTE	46	0.142 %
REPRINT	17	0.053 %
BIOGRAPHICAL ITEM	13	0.040 %
DISCUSSION	13	0.040 %
EXCERPT	9	0.028 %
POETRY	5	0.015 %
CHRONOLOGY	4	0.012 %
DATA PAPER	3	0.009 %
RETRACTION	3	0.009 %
CORRECTION ADDITION	2	0.006 %
FICTION CREATIVE PROSE	2	0.006 %
RETRACTED PUBLICATION	2	0.006 %
FILM REVIEW	1	0.003 %

2.7. Distribution of Publication by Subject Area

In the subject area Figure, 7 shows that 38% of work on terrorism is done in the field of social sciences. In Arts and Humanities, only 10% of work has been done. Table 7 shows the published work subject wise in Web of Science. From Table7, it is clear that 35% of work on terrorism is done in the Government law field and 25% in the International Relations research area.

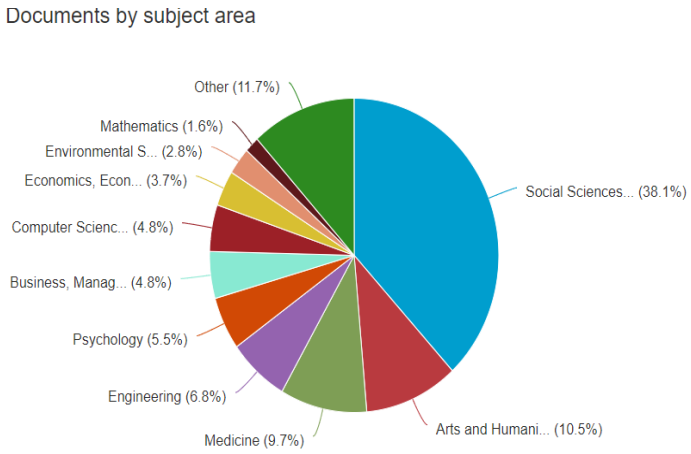


Fig 7. Publication by Subject Area (Scopus Index Journal)

Table 7. Publication by Subject Area (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Research Areas	Record Count	% of 32,350
GOVERNMENT LAW	11,487	35.509 %
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	8,274	25.577 %
CRIMINOLOGY PENOLOGY	2,292	7.085 %
SOCIAL SCIENCES OTHER TOPICS	2,012	6.219 %
BUSINESS ECONOMICS	1,975	6.105 %
PSYCHOLOGY	1,798	5.558 %
ENGINEERING	1,577	4.875 %
COMPUTER SCIENCE	1,502	4.643 %
SOCIOLOGY	1,413	4.368 %
HISTORY	1,210	3.740 %
PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH	1,083	3.348 %
AREA STUDIES	832	2.572 %
COMMUNICATION	718	2.219 %
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES ECOLOGY	675	2.087 %
PSYCHIATRY	654	2.022 %
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	654	2.022 %
SOCIAL ISSUES	647	2.000 %
LITERATURE	646	1.997 %
RELIGION	567	1.753 %
ARTS HUMANITIES OTHER TOPICS	560	1.731 %
SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY OTHER TOPICS	538	1.663 %
GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE	444	1.372 %

CHEMISTRY	382	1.181 %
PHILOSOPHY	371	1.147 %
EDUCATION EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH	339	1.048 %

2.8. Distribution of Publication by Funding Sponsor

Fig 8 and Table 8 show the funding agencies which sponsor different researchers to write on the topic of Terrorism. National Science Foundation and the United States Department of Health Human Service are the top most Funding Agencies.

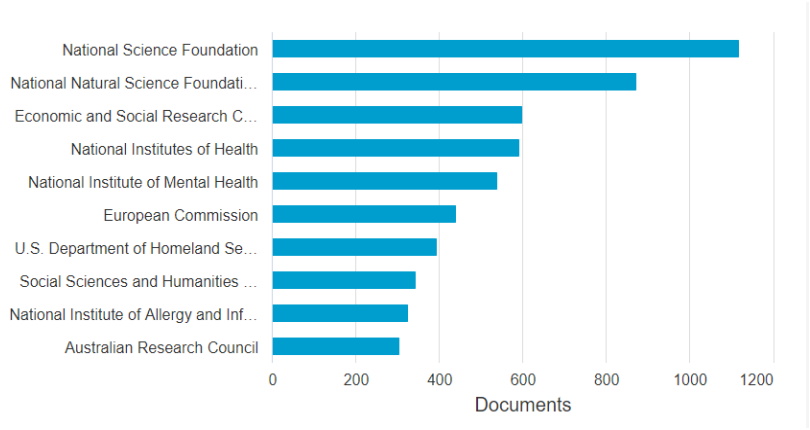


Fig 8. Publication by Funding Sponsor (Scopus Index Journal)

Table 8. Publication by Funding Sponsor (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Funding Agencies	Record Count	% of 32,350
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HUMAN SERVICES	447	1.382 %
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH NIH USA	388	1.199 %
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION NSF	236	0.730 %
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY DHS	222	0.686 %
NATIONAL NATURAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OF CHINA NSFC	207	0.640 %
NIH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH NIMH	133	0.411 %
ECONOMIC SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL ESRC	129	0.399 %
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	97	0.300 %
NIH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY INFECTIOUS DISEASES NIAID	90	0.278 %
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION CULTURE SPORTS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY JAPAN MEXT	86	0.266 %
EUROPEAN UNION EU	85	0.263 %
AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL	72	0.223 %
JAPAN SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCIENCE	52	0.161 %

EUROPEAN COMMISSION	50	0.155 %
EUROPEAN COMMISSION JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE	49	0.151 %
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL PREVENTION USA	48	0.148 %
NIH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE NCI	48	0.148 %
NIH EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH HUMAN DEVELOPMENT NICHD	46	0.142 %
OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH	44	0.136 %
RESEARCH COUNCIL OF NORWAY	44	0.136 %
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DOE	41	0.127 %
ENGINEERING PHYSICAL SCIENCES RESEARCH COUNCIL EPSRC	40	0.124 %
GRANTS IN AID FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH KAKENHI	40	0.124 %
SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA SSHRC	39	0.121 %
UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE	37	0.114 %

2.9. Distribution of papers by Meeting Titles

Table 9 shows different numbers of conferences and workshops on the topic of Terrorism.61 conferences are done on the topic of terrorism as a challenge for national and international law. There is the least number of workshops are arranged on the topic of economic consequences of global terrorism.

Table 9. Publication by Meeting Titles (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Meeting Titles	Record Count	% of 32,350
CONFERENCE ON TERRORISM AS A CHALLENGE FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LAW	61	0.189 %
4TH INTERNATIONAL SYMP ON ANALYSIS AND DETECTION OF EXPLOSIVES	47	0.145 %
WORKSHOP OF THE FORUM ON EMERGING INFECTIONS	46	0.142 %
CONFERENCE ON TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS IN DETECTION AND SENSING OF CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL RADIOLOGICAL NUCLEAR THREATS AND ECOLOGICAL TERRORISM	43	0.133 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON COUNTERACTION TO CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL TERRORISM AT A NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL IN EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES	38	0.117 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ARW ON ENGAGING THE PUBLIC TO FIGHT THE CONSEQUENCES OF TERRORISM AND DISASTERS	30	0.093 %
CONFERENCE ON COMBATING JIHADIST TERRORISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM	29	0.090 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON PREPAREDNESS FOR NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL THREATS	28	0.087 %

CONFERENCE ON TERRORISM AND THE PSYCHOANALYTIC SPACE INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES FROM GROUND ZERO	27	0.083 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON DETECTION OF BULK EXPLOSIVES	27	0.083 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON RISK INFECTIONS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR BIOMEDICAL TERRORISM	26	0.080 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON COUNTER TERRORISM IN CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITIES	24	0.074 %
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON BIG DATA DEEP LEARNING AND FIGHTING CYBER TERRORISM IBIGDELFT	23	0.071 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON TOGETHER AGAINST TERRORISM BUILDING TERRORISM RESISTANT COMMUNITIES	23	0.071 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ARW ON MANAGING TERRORISM THREATS TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES FOR SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE	21	0.065 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF TERRORISM	21	0.065 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON COUNTERING NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL TERRORISM	21	0.065 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON DETECTION OF LIQUID EXPLOSIVES AND FLAMMABLE AGENTS IN CONNECTION WITH TERRORISM	21	0.065 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON TERRORISTS USE OF THE INTERNET	21	0.065 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ARW ON OLD THREATS NEW CHANNELS THE INTERNET AS A TOOL FOR TERRORISTS	20	0.062 %
31ST INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON NUCLEAR WAR AND PLANETARY EMERGENCIES	19	0.059 %
CONFERENCE ON COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM AMONG YOUTH TO PREVENT TERRORISM	19	0.059 %
CONGRESS ON TOWARDS A EUROPEAN RESPONSE TO TERRORISM NATIONAL EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS FOR THE EUROPE OF 1992	19	0.059 %
NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON COUNTERING TERRORIST RECRUITMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF ARMED COUNTER TERRORISM OPERATIONS	19	0.059 %
DIW WORKSHOP ON THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF GLOBAL TERRORISM	18	0.056 %

2.10. Distribution of papers by Languages

Table 10 shows the maximum number of research on the topic of Terrorism is in the English Language. Afterward comes Spanish and then the German language.

Table 10. Publication by Languages (Web of Science Journal)

Field: Languages	Record Count	% of 32,350
ENGLISH	30,234	93.459 %
SPANISH	553	1.709 %
GERMAN	409	1.264 %
FRENCH	367	1.134 %
RUSSIAN	351	1.085 %
ITALIAN	98	0.303 %
PORTUGUESE	45	0.139 %
TURKISH	45	0.139 %
CROATIAN	34	0.105 %
NORWEGIAN	34	0.105 %
CZECH	26	0.080 %
CHINESE	24	0.074 %
SLOVAK	23	0.071 %
UNSPECIFIED	15	0.046 %
SLOVENIAN	14	0.043 %
DUTCH	12	0.037 %
JAPANESE	12	0.037 %
MALAY	11	0.034 %
POLISH	9	0.028 %
UKRAINIAN	7	0.022 %
AFRIKAANS	5	0.015 %
HUNGARIAN	5	0.015 %
LITHUANIAN	3	0.009 %
ARABIC	2	0.006 %
BULGARIAN	2	0.006 %

3. DISCUSSION ON PAPERS

Terrorism is a global issue. Many researchers from the world are working on the root causes of terrorism and how to stop terrorism. In this paper, 40 articles are reviewed published in Scopus Index and Web of Science Index from the year 2013 to 2020. Out of 40 papers, some of the papers are discussed below.

Choi and Luo (2013) examine the impact of economic sanctions on international terrorism by using cross-sectional, time-series data analysis of 152 countries for the past three decades. The study provides evidence that ceteris paribus, economic sanctions are positively associated with international terrorism. Yildirim and Öcal (2013) investigate the determinants of provincial terrorism in Turkey from 1990 to 2006. Empirical results indicate that increases in income and schooling ratio tend to reduce the provincial average level of

terrorism, whereas an increase in unemployment enhances it. Moreover, the provincial effects of per capita income and education are more pronounced for the Eastern and South-Eastern provinces compared to the Western provinces.

Derin-Güre and Elveren (2013) examine the causal relationship between income inequality and separatist terrorism in Turkey for the period of 1973–2006. The results reveal that income inequality is an essential indicator of economic deprivation. However, it is not the main cause of the escalation of separatist terrorism in Turkey. Shahbaz et al. (2013) investigates the causal relationship between terrorism and economic growth in Pakistan, covers the period of 1973–2010. The empirical results confirm that the existence of a long-run relationship between terrorism and economic growth. The Granger causality analysis indicates that terrorism is the Granger cause of economic growth. The feedback effect is found between terrorism and trade openness.

Shahbaz (2013) further investigates the linkages between inflation, economic growth, and terrorism throughout 1971–2010. The empirical evidence confirms the cointegration between inflation, economic growth, and terrorism in Pakistan i.e., an increase in inflation raises terrorist attacks while economic growth is also a major contributor to terrorism. Moreover, bidirectional causality was found between inflation and terrorism in Pakistan. Campos and Gassebner (2013) argue that domestic political instability provides the earning environment needed to successfully execute international terror attacks. These results were derived from a panel of 123 countries over 1973–2003. The results find that the occurrence of civil wars increases fatalities and the number of international terrorist acts by 45%. These results hold for alternative indicators of political instability, estimators, subsamples, sub-periods, and accounting for competing explanations.

Saha and Yap (2013) analyze the effects of interaction between political instability and terrorism on tourism development using panel data from 139 countries for the period 1999–2009. The results reveal that the effect of political instability on tourism is far more severe than the effects of one-off terrorist attacks. Also, terrorist attacks increase tourism demand for those low- to moderate-political-risk countries. However, countries that experience high levels of political risk witness significant reductions in their tourism businesses. Besides, political volatility and terrorism together can cause serious damage to the tourism industry. Meierrieks and Gries (2013) analyze the causal relationship between terrorism and economic growth, with panel data for a maximum of 160 countries from 1970 to 2007. The results found that the causal relationship between terrorism and growth is heterogeneous over time and across space.

Malik and Zaman (2013) examine the macroeconomic consequences of terrorism in Pakistan, from 1975–2011. The result reveals that macroeconomic factors i.e., population growth, price level, poverty, and political instability cause the terrorism incidence in Pakistan. However, income inequality, unemployment, and trade openness have no long-run relationship with the terrorism incidence in Pakistan. In the same way, Syed et al (2015) discuss the root causes of terrorism in Pakistan. The results show those public education expenditures, law & order expenditures, ethnic diversity, urban population, the presence of domestic military operations, and U.S. military aid to Pakistan all result in increased terrorist activity in Pakistan.

Similarly, Adelaja et al (2018) write about the public opinion about the root causes of terrorism and the objectives of terrorists. The findings show that there is a divergence in public opinion; many people believe that the root causes of terrorism are unemployment, poverty, and economic problems, dislike for government, extreme political ideology, extreme religious feelings, and manipulation by some politicians. However, some of the respondents are of the view that terrorists fight against political and economic inequalities. Bellinger and Kattelman (2020) analyze the root causes of terrorism by checking the effect of food security on domestic terrorism. The results show that there is a harmful effect of food security on the peace of developing countries. Audu & Maigari (2020) examine the causes of terrorism and found that terrorism and insurgency are byproducts of bad governance, corruption, poverty, and illiteracy.

4. CONCLUSION

This study reviewed 40 papers on the topic of root causes of terrorism from the period of 2013 to 2020. This study revealed that although it is a major issue in developing countries where most of the work is done on the topic of terrorism in the developed countries.

This article analyzed the research on public value and social media relationship according to the publication year, source journals, and country of research, Authors names, researcher's affiliation, subject area, and collaboration with researchers of other countries. This study also discusses the main objectives of those papers which discusses the root causes of terrorism. In all these papers the main causes of terrorism are discussed which include unemployment, poverty, corruption, bad governance, and illiteracy. However, the provision of educational opportunity, skills acquisition, and enabling environment for economic development were recommended as possible solutions to the problem.

In any literature review, there are always some findings left for future researchers. Future researchers must search for different theories, literature gaps, methodologies used in different studies to find the solution to remove terrorism from the world.

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