

## **Mass Communication and Society Call for Papers**

Media, Terrorism and Society  
*Guest Editor: Shahira Fahmy, University of Arizona*

In our global society where the war on terrorism knows no borders, countries are increasingly recognizing the importance of improving terrorism coverage domestically and abroad. This MC&S issue aims to consider the state of media coverage of terrorism movements, the trajectory of this coverage, and its impact on public opinion and humanitarian crises worldwide.

The U.S. Department of State indicated in summer 2015 a 35 percent rise in terrorist attacks across the world between 2013 and 2014, with the total number of people killed by terrorism increasing by more than 80 percent. Comparatively, however, there has been insufficient research investigating the role of media in covering such trends. The premise of this special issue, therefore, is to offer a forum for inspiring new conversations and advancing terrorism studies within the mass communication field.

Complex problems and opportunities associated with terrorism and media coverage require interdisciplinary and creative approaches. The aim of this special issue is to build upon traditional approaches to mass media's role in shaping and amplifying terrorism issues and perceptions by opening new space for including how the social and/or mass media have covered terrorism narratives and how the coverage has evolved in recent years, with additional foci on the use of social media by terrorist organizations and related counterterrorism activities.

Given the prevalence, impact and severity of terrorism today, contributors are highly encouraged to submit to this *Mass Communication and Society* special issue devoted to a symposium on Media, Terrorism and Society. This issue conceives "terrorism" in a broad sense. The issue encompasses topics related to media coverage and impact of terrorism that span domestic and global communities as well as those that are common within different regions.

Submissions that approach this topic from an inclusive range of fields and research methodologies within mass communication, as well as those from related disciplines, are highly encouraged. Submissions should provide efforts to advance mass communication theory and/or methodology, and can focus on national or global societies. They may offer insights about transnational issues and processes, issues of human behaviors, technology, politics, international relations, policy, law, etc. A wide range of manuscripts is welcome, including:

- Empirical studies focusing on terrorism coverage and media effects.
- Evaluating the coverage of humanitarian crisis as a direct impact of terrorism.

- Identifying trends in terrorism narratives textually and/or visually in new and old modes of communication.
- Examining the impact of mass media and digital innovation on the production of messages about terrorism and news dissemination.
- Measuring the roles of culture, religion, ethics, foreign policy and military involvement in communicating terrorist activities.
- Integrating theoretical and/or methodological approaches from a wide range of disciplines such as political science, international relations, religious studies and sociology within the mass communication field.
- Monitoring social media use by terrorist organizations for recruitment and/or message dissemination, as well as related counterterrorism efforts.
- Understanding transitions in terrorism coverage, and of trajectories across time and space.

**Deadline for submissions:** Manuscripts are to be submitted by October 31, 2016, via the *Mass Communication and Society* online system at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/mcas> following the standard journal submission procedures. Authors should note in their cover letters that the submission is for the special issue devoted to “Media, Terrorism and Society.” Final publication will be in Volume 20 (2017). Any questions concerning this call for papers may be directed to Professor Shahira Fahmy, [shahira.fahmy@fulbrightmail.org](mailto:shahira.fahmy@fulbrightmail.org).