

Strategies and Policies to Prevent and Contrast Radicalization

“The Issue, the Actors, the Interpretations”

Paolo Naso

Preliminary remarks and definitions

Some figures

Some interpretations

Strategies

The Italian case



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

- **Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism: A Community-Policing Approach**



What Radicalization is

“the process of adopting an extremist belief system, including the willingness to use, support, or facilitate violence, as a method to effect societal change.”

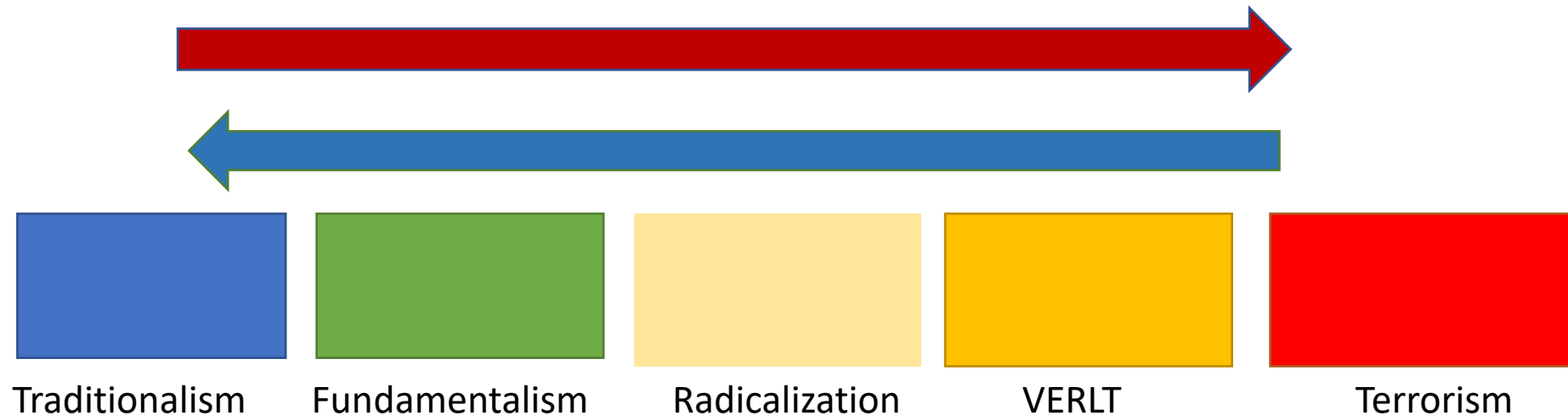
Charles E. Allen, “Threat of islamic Radicalization to the Homeland”

VERLT

Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism

- **Radicalization is not a threat** to society if it is not connected to violence or other unlawful acts, such as incitement to hatred, as legally defined in compliance with international human rights law.
- **Radicalization can actually be a force for beneficial change.**

A possible progress
not a necessary one way only process



Many ways to VERLT



- “There is no single profile of a terrorist, no clear-cut pathway towards terrorism.
- Possible drivers of terrorist radicalization are varied and complex and combine in a unique way in each case”. (OSCE)

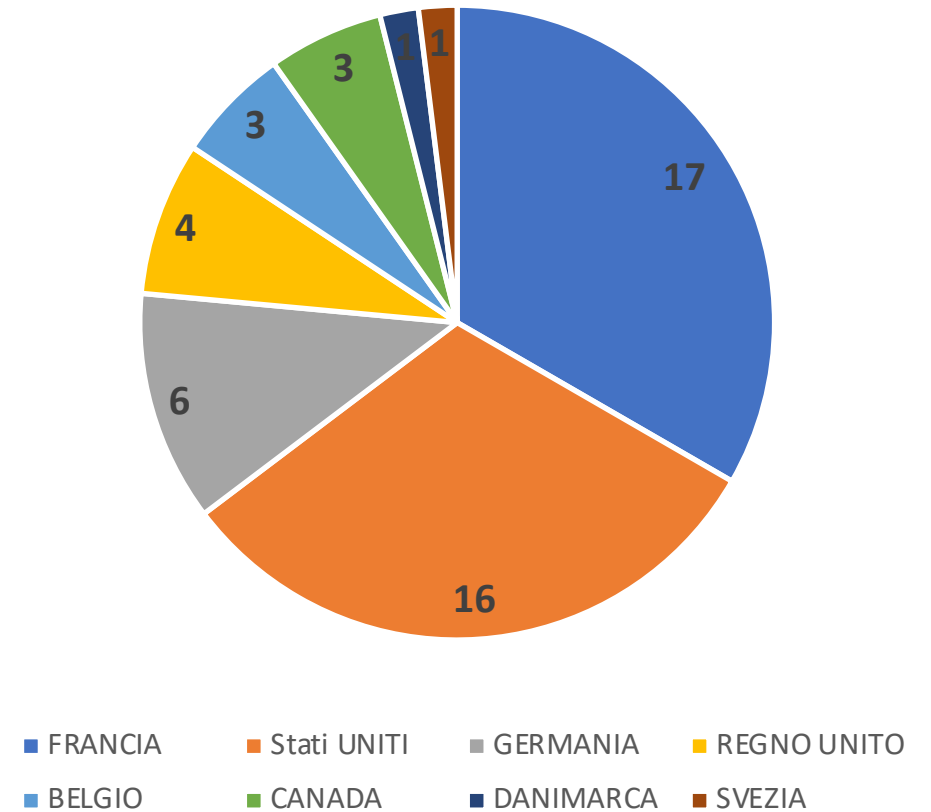
VERLT and Prisons

- The discovery or rediscovery of religion can, in fact, play a fundamental role, capable of restoring order and even meaning to life itself.
 - Social marginalization, the sense of existential failure and suffering for the deprivation of liberty are nothing but factors capable of sharpening the perception of profound isolation that is typical of the prison dimension in the most psychologically fragile subjects and thus of generating an inevitable need to belong, in an attempt to reconstruct one's personal and collective identity.
- SOURCE
 - ISPI on line
 - Alessandro Negri, La radicalizzazione jihadista negli istituti di pena
14 Dicembre 2018
 - Francesco Marone e Marco Olimpio, Jihadist Radicalization in Italian Prisons: A Primer
4 marzo 2019

2014-2017 attacks - WHERE

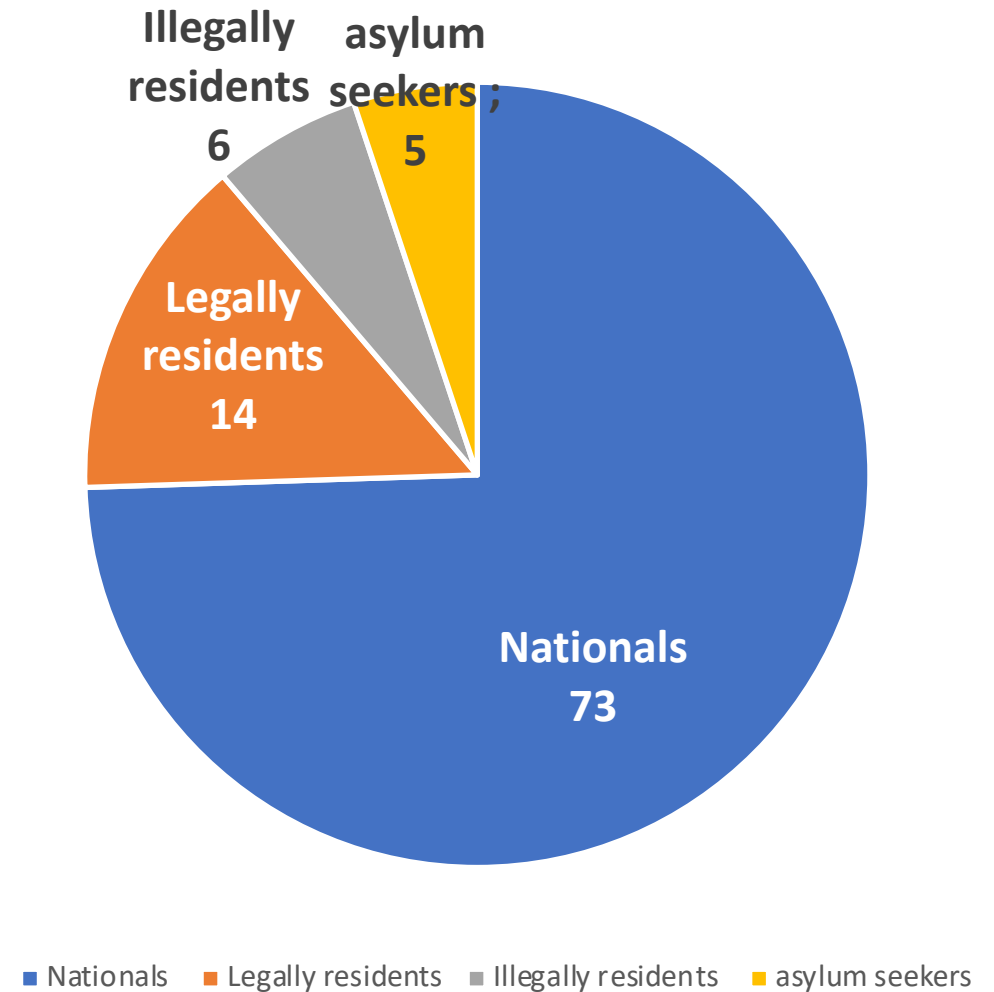
- 51 attacks
- 395 victims, 1549 wounded
- 7,7 average of victims per attack
- 239 victims in France
- 76 victims in USA

- Vidino L. Marone F., Entenmann E, Jihadista della porta accanto, ISPI 2017



2014 – 2017 attacks - WHO

- 27 Years, the average age of the attempters
- 65 attempters in total
- 2 women
- 73% resident citizen of the country
- 14% legally resident
- 6% illegally resident
- 5% asylum seekers
- 17% converted to Islam
- 57% with criminal records
- 18% foreign fighters
- 42% with clear and evident ties with a jihadist group

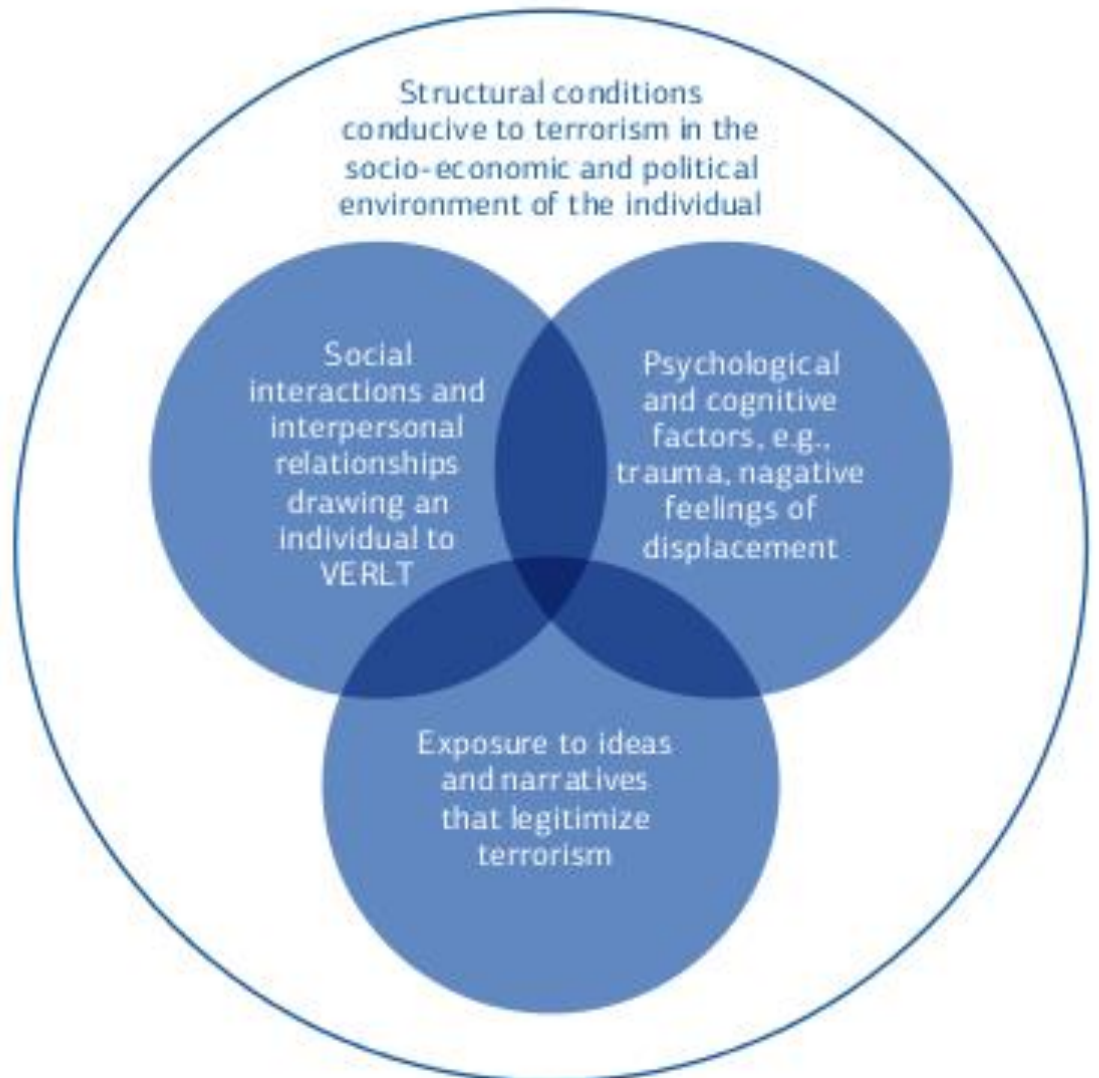


PULL AND PUSH FACTORS

- Social interactions, group dynamics and interpersonal relationships
- play a primary role as pull factors, except in instances of self-directed or self-initiated radicalization



Increasing risk of potential terrorist radicalization for a given individual at the intersection of conditions conducive to terrorism



Kepel vs Roy

- A radical version of neo-Salafism has spread through preachers financed by Saudi Arabia, whose penetration (in the prayer rooms of the suburbs, in prisons, and above all on the web) must be read in parallel with the affirmation of Islamic fundamentalism and terrorism jihadist between the 1990s and 2000s.
- It's a radicalization of Islam
- Radicalization leads to Islamism only because it is the most attractive product on the "market" [16], after the fall of the great political narratives, so much so that it fascinates even the increasingly numerous converts - 25% among the French jihadists
- It is an Islamization of radicalism

A community-oriented approach

- Community-oriented approaches to countering terrorism aim to strengthen public confidence in, and support for, counterterrorism policies and measures, including police action, thereby contributing to their legitimacy in the eyes of the public at large and certain communities in particular.

Community Policing

- A philosophy and organizational strategy that promotes a partnership-based,
- collaborative effort between the police and the community to more effectively and efficiently identify, prevent and solve problems of crime, the fear of crime, issues of physical safety and security, social disorder

A multi-actor strategy

Effective communication is at the core of successful community policing approaches to preventing terrorism and countering VERLT.

Inform

Consult

Involve

Collaborate

Empower



Religious freedom as a key factor

- OSCE participating States firmly reject the identification of terrorism with any religion.
- The right to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice is absolute.



The Italian case

DE-RADICALIZATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN COMPARING CHALLENGES AND APPROACHES

edited by Lorenzo Vidino
introduction by Paolo Magri



- Italy has not experienced the same surge in radicalization as most European countries.
- Levels of domestic radicalization are, by any account, significantly lower.
- ITALY: 125 cases of foreign fighters
- FRANCE: at least 1,700
- GERMANY: 940
- UK, around 850
- BELGIUM: 470
- AUSTRIA 300
- SVEZIA 300

WHY?

- Long expertise (Mafia and political terrorism)
- Most Italian mosques have the right antibodies to defend themselves from harmful subjects (Claudio Galzerano, UCIGOS)
- The weakness of the social fabric of structural emargination and isolation (i. e. the banlieue)-

A severe critique. Correct and motivated?

- “Unlike most European countries, Italy has not developed any counter-radicalization or de-radicalization strategies.
- Counter-terrorism officials have long expressed the need to introduce this kind of approach in Italy, but practical efforts lack any kind of strategy or legal foundation”. (L. Vidino)

Basic bibliography

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