(U) Foreign Terrorist Organizations’ Official Media Arms and Violent Extremist Web Forums*

(U) Each of the foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs) referenced in this graphic use social media to disseminate official messaging, recruit potential members, and convince potential supporters to mobilize to violence. Due to the dynamic social media environment—including the termination of user accounts by social media sites for violations of terms of service—it is sometimes difficult to pinpoint the current account names used by these groups and their supporters, so this graphic does not include this information. We have, however, listed the social media platforms these FTOs often use to initially disseminate their messaging. Additionally, we have provided information on the types of products disseminated through these platforms and the languages in which such media is often produced.

(U) The web forums discussed below often facilitate the dissemination of FTO official and unofficial messaging and can provide a venue for operational planning. Each of these forums is partly or completely closed to the general public and require administrator permission to view the majority of its content. Most forum participants are likely violent extremists, although some could be there for legitimate purposes. Because of consistent lapses in web forum service, violent extremists and FTOs have increasingly been looking to other avenues, especially social media, to disseminate and discuss violent extremist messaging; however, Al-Qa’ida core has historically preferred forums for dissemination. The following forums continue to play a role in the dissemination and discussion of extremist content by violent extremists.

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(U) Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant’s (ISIL) Media Arms

Al-Hayat:
- Languages: Arabic, English
- Product Types: Audio statements, online magazines, and videos
- Example: Al-Hayat served as Al-Qa’ida’s center for religious materials.
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram and Twitter

Al-Furqan:
- Languages: Arabic and English
- Product Types: Audio statements and videos
- Example: A Message to American hostage execution video
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram and Twitter

Al-Ittihad:
- Languages: Arabic, English, and French
- Product Types: Foreign fighter videos and graphics promoting ISIL’s success
- Example: Message to the Malaysian video series
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram and Twitter

Provincial Media Offices:
- Established 2011
- Languages: Multiple languages
- Product Types: Audio and video messages featuring senior leadership and ideologues
- Example: An Invitation to Individual Jihad; Ayman al-Zawahiri - Martyrdom of Heroes and Believers
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram and Twitter

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(U) Violent Extremist Web Forums

Al-Fida Network:
- Accredited by AQ
- Established 2011
- A closed forum requiring administrator approval to engage

Al-Minhaj al-Muslimeen Jama’at Forum:
- Supportive of ISIL, but not officially endorsed by the group
- Multiple languages
- Established 2011
- Partly closed forum requiring administrator approval to engage
- Rehosts ISIL official messaging and hosts prominent ISIL supporters

Bakhirah Media Network:
- A satellite supportive of ISIL
- Languages: Arabic
- Established February 2011

Global Jihad Network:
- Supportive of ISIL but not officially endorsed by the group
- Multiple languages
- Established 2011
- Partly closed forum requiring administrator approval to engage
- Rehosts ISIL official messaging and hosts prominent ISIL supporters

Inspire Media Network:
- Supportive of AQ
- Established 2007
- Partly closed forum requiring administrator approval to engage
- Rehosts AQ official messaging and hosts prominent AQP supporters

Shumukh al-Islam Media Network:
- Supportive of AQ
- Established 2011
- Partly closed forum requiring administrator approval to engage
- Rehosts AQ official messaging and hosts prominent AQP supporters

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(U) Al-Qa’ida and Affiliates’ Media Arms

Al-Qa’ida Core (AQCC):
- Languages: Arabic with English subtitles or translations and Urdu
- Product Types: Audio messages, a newsletter, and video messages featuring senior leadership and ideologues
- Example: Al-Qa’ida in the Arabian Peninsula
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram, Twitter

Al-Qa’ida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP):
- Languages: Arabic and English
- Product Types: Audio messages, online magazine, and video series
- Example: Inspire magazine; From the Field video series
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram, Twitter

Al-Nusrah Front (NF): Manarrah al-Bayda
- Languages: Arabic and English
- Product Types: Audio messages, videos, still images, and texts
- Example: Raid to Avenge the Free Women of Syria video
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram, Twitter

Al-Nusrah Front (NF): Al-Basrah Media Establishment
- Languages: Arabic, sometimes with English subtitles
- Product Types: Audio messages and videos
- Example: A Reminder 2 – Ramadan is the Month of Sacrifice and Giving video
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram, Twitter

Al-Qa’ida in the Lands of the Maghreb (AQIM):
- Languages: Arabic and English
- Product Types: Audio and video statements
- Example: The Periodical Hardest video
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram, Twitter

Al-Qa’ida in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS):
- Languages: Arabic, Bengali, English, and Urdu
- Product Types: Audio and video messages featuring senior leadership, ideologues, and online magazines
- Example: Renaissance magazine
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Telegram, Twitter

Al-Shabaab: Al-Katib Media Establishment
- Languages: Arabic, English, Somali, and Swahili
- Product Types: Online magazines and videos detailing or praising successful terrorist attacks
- Example: It’s an Eye for an Eye video; Westgate Siege - Retributive Justice video
- Initial Social Media Dissemination: Facebook, Telegram, and Twitter

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(1) To report suspicious activity, law enforcement, Fire-EMS, private security personnel, and emergency managers should follow established protocols; all other personnel should call 911 or contact local law enforcement.

Suspicious activity reports (SARs) will be forwarded to the appropriate fusion center and FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force for further action. For more information on the Nationwide SAR Initiative, visit http://nsi.niccr.gov/resources.aspx.

(2) Tracked by: HSEC-8.1, HSEC-8.2, HSEC-8.3, HSEC-8.4.4

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