

Report focuses on threat of fragile states

On the 17th anniversary of 9/11, the United States Institute of Peace published a report on extremism and the threat posed by fragile states. *Beyond the Homeland: Protecting America from Extremism in Fragile States* is a report of the Task Force on Extremism in Fragile States, which is led by the co-chairs of the 9/11 Commission.

Beyond the Homeland reviews the post-9/11 strategic environment and the factors that contribute to extremism in fragile states. The report also looks at a preventative strategy that would highlight challenges present in fragile states and possible approaches to the problem(s) at hand.

- **United States Institute of Peace**

Stabilization Symposium executive report published

A report from the Stabilization Symposium conducted at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., from June 26 to June 27, has now been published. The symposium was focused on the Stabilization Assistance Review (SAR) that was published earlier that month.

The SAR aims to streamline U.S. government stabilization efforts and provide a framework for the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Departments of State and Defense to better work together in the future, and notes that there are a growing number of conflicts around the world that effect U.S. national security and economic interests.

According to the “Executive Report from the Stabilization Symposium,” stakeholders and experts support the SAR and encourage its implementation. Symposium participants stressed that “business as usual” was no longer acceptable, and “affirmed the importance of diplomatic engagement to develop, refine, and execute stabilization political strategies.”

Participants also emphasized innovative and adaptive stabilization efforts, clearer goals in stabilization missions, flexible funding of stabilization efforts, greater coordination among international donors, the use of trained civilians to deploy with military in stability operations, and a focus on stabilization as a form of conflict prevention.

- **Creative Learning, International Peace & Security Institute, and Elliot School of International Affairs**

FEMA releases report on Las Vegas shooting

In August, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released a follow-up report to the mass shooting incident that occurred in Las Vegas on October 1, 2017. The attack on the Route 91 Harvest Festival left 58 concertgoers dead and more than 800 injured.

Included in the 61-page report’s findings are 72 lessons learned. One notable lesson learned was that the Clark County Fire Department was not aware that the Route 91 Harvest Festival was occurring, leaving the fire department at a disadvantage when it came time to respond. The report asserts that “Dispatchers and first responders should be made aware of large or high-profile events occurring in their jurisdiction to enhance their agency’s readiness posture for a potential incident.”

The report also found that there exists no policy to guide police dispatchers during a mass casualty incident, and that there was no mutual aid channel established that would have allowed firefighters and first responders to communicate with each other directly.

According to the report, cross-agency collaboration and cross-agency planning are essential to prepare for and respond to incidents of mass violence.

- **Federal Emergency Management Agency**