

## **SPECIFIC FEATURES OF IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL TERRORIST MILITANTS AT AIRPORTS USING THE PROFILING METHOD**

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### **Annotation**

This article presents the main principles related to identifying potential terrorist militants at airports using the profiling method. It also analyzes possible risks and, based on them, develops recommendations and proposals for implementing profiling.

### **Keywords**

airport, profiling, method, potential terrorist militant, control, internet, terrorism, personnel.

### **Аннотация**

В данной статье изложены основные правила по порядку выявления потенциальных боевиков террористов в аэропортах, также осуществлён анализ угроз и на основе их выработаны предложения и рекомендации по осуществлению профайлинга.

### **Ключевые слова**

аэропорт, профилирование, метод, потенциальный боевик-террорист, контроль, интернет, терроризм, сотрудник.

### **Annotatsiya**

Ushbu maqolada aeroportlarda profayling metodi yordamida ehtimoliy terrorchi jangarilarini aniqlash bo'yicha oid asosiy qoidalari bayon qilingan,

shuningdek, xavf-xatarlar tahlil qilinib va ular asosida profaylingni amalga oshirish bo'yicha tavsiyalar va takliflar ishlab chiqilgan.

### **Kalit so'zlar**

aeroport, profayling, metod, ehtimoliy terrorchi jangari, nazorat, internet, terrorizm va xodim.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In some parts of the world, various ideological centers are using the growing young generation as a "weapon" to achieve their malicious goals. It is self-evident that today's reality requires us to look at events with open eyes, realistically and vigilantly, to correctly assess the spiritual threats and dangers that exist in the world and around us and are becoming increasingly stronger, and to draw appropriate conclusions and lessons from them.

Therefore, our compatriots, especially the younger generation, should not have a one-sided or false perception of complex and dangerous life and its ruthless games.

It is no secret that terrorist organizations are among the forces serving the realization of the national interests of certain hegemonic and powerful states. Their single goal is to disrupt the peaceful life of the state, place their own representative in power, and make the use of military force by states a priority tool, which is increasingly becoming a common practice.

This, instead of resolving conflicts and contradictions in various regions of the world, is, on the contrary, creating new hotbeds of war. Today, there are almost no countries completely free from the threat of terrorist attacks. At present, the number of international terrorist organizations in the world is 820, with around 300,000 militants, and they are actively working to establish "dormant" hidden groups in all countries of the world.

For example, the intensification of armed clashes between Afghanistan and Pakistan may have a negative impact on the national security of Central Asian states.

It should be noted that in the 2025 Global Terrorism Index, which analyzes the level of terrorist activity in the world, among 163 countries, Iraq ranked first, Afghanistan second, Syria fourth, Pakistan fifth, Russia 34th, China 36th, Tajikistan 74th, Kazakhstan 75th, Kyrgyzstan 80th, and Turkmenistan 138th, while Uzbekistan ranked 132nd [5].

Analytical data show that, at present, geopolitical competition among a number of leading countries of the world is taking place over issues such as possessing or controlling regions rich in energy resources.

### MAIN PART

In this context, the Central Asian region is becoming increasingly important for the world's "centers of power" due to its favorable geographical location, existing natural resources, and the fact that it is an area where the strategic interests of some leading countries of the world intersect.

The specific nature of the factors influencing the Central Asian region once again creates the need to reconsider these issues. In particular:

- the existence and intensification of the activities of militants belonging to various international terrorist organizations, especially the continuation of armed clashes in the territories of Afghanistan and Pakistan, which directly affect the regional security system of Central Asia;
- the observed complication of the internal political, economic, and socio-economic situation in some countries of the region;
- the presence of various radical-extremist structures, the intensification of religious views among the local population, and the growth of radical sentiments;
- the existence of problems related to the delimitation and demarcation of borders between the states of the Central Asian region;
- tension in clan-based and nationalist relations, corruption, poverty, and a high level of unemployment;
- the recent emergence of viruses that pose a threat to human health and life;
- the persistence of common threats such as illegal trafficking of narcotics and weapons, transnational organized crime, illegal migration, and human trafficking;
- the rapid development of migration processes and their impact on existing controls at airports [6].

In recent years, fundamentalist movements have mainly been influencing human ideology through websites on the Internet containing religious-extremist materials, with the aim of establishing "cells." Such websites appear suddenly, disappear after some time, and frequently change their names and titles without changing their content [2].

The aspects of the Internet that are convenient for terrorists include:

- ease of access to the Internet;
- a large number of users;
- anonymity of communication;
- limited external control and editing;

- rapid dissemination of information over a wide area within a short period of time [2].

Under such influence, these individuals may turn into foreign terrorist fighters. The resolution of the United Nations Security Council defines the concept of a foreign terrorist fighter as follows: these are citizens who travel to states of which they are not nationals in order to carry out terrorist acts, prepare terrorists, organize terrorist attacks, or prepare to conduct such activities.

It is well known that after achieving their goal, a foreign terrorist fighter attempts to leave that country, and, naturally, an airport becomes the most convenient place for this purpose.

In order to identify terrorist fighters at airports, it is necessary to be able to detect risks and apply preventive measures in advance to eliminate them. In this regard, the profiling method is especially effective and helps increase work efficiency. Therefore, ensuring state security has become a strategic task.

In order to detect terrorist actions in a timely manner through the profiling method and prevent them, it is necessary to continuously improve the knowledge level of airport personnel and teach them modern profiling methods for identifying such individuals. This remains an important issue.

In recent years, the profiling method has been widely used at airports to identify terrorist fighters. Profiling is a set of measures aimed at dividing passengers into risk groups, identifying certain passengers as suspicious based on specific indicators, and subsequently conducting a thorough inspection of these individuals in order to detect a potential offender. The purpose of profiling is to reasonably determine which person should be subjected to a detailed inspection.

The profiling method was first used in 1970 by an Israeli airline to identify terrorists, and later, in the 1980s, it was also applied in other European countries and in the United States.

At present, the demand for the profiling method at airports is increasing. A specialist profiler helps improve accuracy and efficiency in the work process and reduces the likelihood of errors.

The specificity of identifying terrorist fighters at airports lies, first of all, in the need to understand risks. A risk is a potentially undesirable situation that may occur. It may also be understood as a dangerous situation getting out of control, undergoing serious changes, and influencing the further course of events.

The following factors influence risk at airports:

1. Risk – its scale and probability.
2. Risk – its level.

### 3. Risk – its impact.

For inspectors, the following are important during a conversation with a potential terrorist fighter:

- maintaining control over the situation;
- not giving in to provocation;
- not speaking in either a harsh or too low tone;
- asking short and clear questions;
- listening carefully;
- controlling gestures and body movements.

**Possible appearance and characteristics of a potential foreign terrorist fighter:**

1. **Men aged 20–35**, which is considered the most active age group. They may be in financial difficulty, experiencing a crisis, have a criminal past, mental health problems, weakness of character, an unstable or divorced family situation, religious fanatic views, failure to find work abroad, a desire for revenge, or may have been recruited by special agents.

Possible routes may include Libya, Syria, Iraq, the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkey, and four or five unstable countries in Africa. Signs may include injuries, scars, tattoos on the body, or migrant status.

2. **Families with children.** When a husband and wife are traveling, they may stand separately among passengers. The woman may be traveling to a conflict zone to join her husband. A young family without children may state tourism as the purpose of travel, while having limited financial resources.
3. **Young women aged 18–26.** A girl may be traveling alone to meet her beloved boyfriend. She may be dressed in a modern European style or wearing a hijab. Her luggage may be very limited. The stated purpose of travel may be tourism or a romantic trip. She may have a difficult past, be abandoned by her husband, not accepted by relatives at home, and may intend to find a husband through Internet websites.

The reasons for this may include:

- inability to overcome life difficulties;
- the emergence of a need for external support;
- weakening of parental control over children;
- inability to distinguish Islam from extremist ideas.

In the fight against terrorism, the following are required from our youth:

- focusing primary attention on gaining deep knowledge, spiritual and physical development, avoiding temporary and superficial distractions, listening to and following the advice of parents, teachers and mentors, elders and respected women in the community;

- avoiding communication with members of various religious extremist organizations and suspicious persons who allegedly promise to teach Islam;

- improving socio-political knowledge and legal literacy;

- not carrying illegally published religious literature, discs, lectures, or video materials stored on mobile phones;

- not visiting websites on the Internet that promote religious extremism and terrorism;

- not attending illegal religious study circles known as “hujras” or lessons conducted by “otinoyilar.”

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, it should be emphasized that terrorism has no future. Sooner or later, its activities will inevitably be stopped. However, the ideas of malicious forces are spreading like a virus through the young people who follow them. This leads to great losses and difficult situations. Worst of all, thousands of people who have lost their lives because of war can no longer be brought back to life. This is the situation in the countries where terrorist organizations are operating [1].

The negative impact is not limited to those territories alone. Many inexperienced young people who come from abroad and join the war lose their lives there. Those who survive may become a source of destructive ideas after returning to their homeland. They may continue to live with destructive intentions in their own countries as well. Some of them may even begin practical activities. Such terrorist organizations have become a serious problem for all countries and pose a threat to peace and stability [1].

In order to identify foreign terrorist fighters among passengers at airports using the profiling method, I propose the following:

- to thoroughly study foreign experience in identifying potential terrorists and apply it in service activities;

- to establish cooperation among all control bodies, continuously analyze risks, and regularly exchange information.

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