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# **Editorial**

We present a warm greeting to our dear readers, recorded from more than 80 countries worldwide. His preference is for us a commitment that forces us to be better every day.

In this issue 38, we bring you an analysis of the terrible and complex situation in which social and community leaders are in Colombia, where according to the Ombudsman, January 2016 to July 24, 2018 the total of murders 329. it amounts to launch a "curious" questions, if you are a social leader who is fighting-for example against pollution caused by the activities of transnational oil and mining, and you die, that company can continue without major difficulties with their activities, who is the prime suspect in your murder? Similarly for leaders "problem" that have jeopardized officials, and then they were killed.

Next, we present an analysis of West Africa and the potential impact of terrorism on their development prospects, generating a vicious cycle that will worsen if not addressed the current situation of poverty and violence. The defeats suffered by Daesh in Syria and Iraq, has led this group to move its center of gravity to Africa, hence the importance of putting the magnifying glass in this region.

But we must also be vigilant in South America. In this region we have characteristics and conditions that could favor the emergence and proliferation of Islamic terrorism, which would add to the violence that currently plague us. The third article in this issue reminds us some background and warns us about possible futures.

A step followed, from Spain, Colonel Blasco talks about a topic of today disturbing: the transit countries are living from democracy to totalitarianism. The narration makes the process is very precise, and the reader can verify what actually happened or is happening in different countries. Worry much when you notice that the process described is taking place in his country.

This installment ends with a divergent analysis of what is happening in Venezuela. Interestingly and without seeking this article enriches Colonel Blasco, showing another view, specifically with the Venezuelan case.

As we have repeated on several occasions, this publication is open to intellectual debate, and this can only happen when the diversity of thought is accepted.

Cognize to beat!







This newsletter has an English version.

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Triarius favors freedom of expression, however, the responsibility for what is said in the articles, it is exclusive to their authors.

# SHIELDAFRICA

We know that our readers have a lot of people dedicated to teaching. They propose a special

agreement, whereby teachers encourage their students by offering to publish the best

articles or essays they produce in their formation process, and have to do with issues of the Bulletin Triarius own. For us it will be a pleasure to assist in the dissemination of this new and different thinking, that gives us all new perspectives, alternative visions to the narrative

of governments or dominant mass media, and all enrich the debate.

special international analysts that free us have submitted articles for this issue thanks.

# The risk of social leader in Colombia

By Haylyn Andrea Hernández Fernández (Colombia)



Representation in public square to draw attention to the magnitude of the problem.

The legacy of the peace process with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia - People's Army, FARC EP, was reflected in the General Agreement ending the conflict and building a stable and lasting peace, which was the result, as unveiled, a large 'national political agreement' which aims to define the new framework of political and social life. The agenda dealt five points of content and one of procedure: (i) policy of comprehensive agricultural development, (ii) political participation, (iii) End of conflict, (iv) To solve the problem of illicit drugs, (v) Victims, and finally (vi) implementation, verification and countersignature.

In particular, point two 'Political Participation: Democratic Opening to build peace' in regard to the rights and guarantees for the exercise of political, addresses the issue of the protection of the leaders of social organizations and movements defenders Human Rights, arguing, mechanisms: regulatory and institutional adaptation, prevention, protection, monitoring and evaluation (Table Talks Havana, 2016, pp. 41-42). However, it seems that effective safeguards remained on paper.

In 2016 the homicide rate was 25.2 per 100,000 population, by 2017 the figure closed with 24 per 100,000 inhabitants, indicating, in addition to a decrease over the previous year, its lowest level in 42

years . While these figures are a significant advance, attributed mainly to the results of the implementation of the peace agreement and the start of the talks with the National Liberation Army - ELN, there is a phenomenon that should not be underestimated, which makes referring to the challenges that remain with selective assassination of social leaders (Clavel, 2018).

Paradoxically, the assassination of social leaders and human rights defenders in Colombia, has led to a fundamental debate which deals with various positions for the conditions in which the facts are being developed. To the 'absence' of the armed conflict, activists are at risk for its work in other settings such as mining, rampant extractivismo, drug trafficking, the struggle for land, hate crimes, corruption, among others (Program We are defenders, 2018, p. 6). This has proved the inability of the state to ensure the integrity of those who intercede for community organization, the rights of the rural area and the defense of ethnic territories.

The increase in violent attacks and threats against social leaders has generated media coverage has made visible the magnitude of the problem, but at the same time, public discussion in which there is no unanimity on the figures and statistics, generating a confusion in the interpretation of the threat to the

leaders, as well as a strong response by the state. According to the Somos Defensores Program,

This confusion was coming from the analysis of figures for 2016 and the government's response at the time was limited to stay with the data provided by the Office of the United Nations Human Rights in Colombia - OACNUDH which documented 64 cases of homicide versus other more worrisome measurements: Somos Defensores Program 80 homicides; Indepaz - Marcha Patriotica 117 homicides, Ombudsman more than 120 murders.

With this precedent, the numbers of homicide in 2017 were also the subject of public discussion, they vary greatly to the official government figure (81 homicides) which is still very low compared to the records of civil society (Programa Somos Defensores 106 homicides; Indepaz - Patriotic March: 170 homicides; Defender 206 homicides (2018, p. 9).

On average, last year, every three days killed a social leader, the increase was 32.5%, which shows that the state is in debt to social leaders who do not feel safe anywhere and also they are dissatisfied with the protective measures granted, "a cell phone with minutes, a bulletproof vest and a bodyguard. A cell that often do not enter sign because in their territories no. A bulletproof vest is not available when attack in the middle of the night, probably before bedtime. Some escorts who must sleep in the nearest villages, far from the alleged protected "as recounted some leaders (Martinez, 2017).

So far in 2018, 124 social leaders and human rights defenders have been killed, only in the first week of July, nine cases were filed in the departments of Chocó, Caquetá, Atlántico, Antioquia, Córdoba and Nariño (El Tiempo, 2018).

Contrasting figures offered by the Ombudsman for the period from 1 January 2016 to 24 July 2018, the report on the situation of human rights defenders revealed that from January 2016 to May 15, 2018 total killing amounts to 385 (2018, p. 25). Despite this and beyond precise figures, what it is a fact is that each case of a murdered leader sets a precedent and a

warning in the first instance, for the State must activate a unity of action to address the threat, and secondly, for those who are in favor of fighting for a decent life and are terrorizing the small and large criminal structures in the country.

For its part, the Government took action, through the Presidential Council for Human Rights, emphasized the rejection of killings and solidarity with the families. He expressed the commitment to the protection and a number of mechanisms for male and female leaders to develop their activities among which are the creation and strengthening areas of territorial dialogue, such as tables guarantees and safety tips, model collective protection or social leaders launch of the Elite Corps of the National Police (2018).

In addition, by Decree 660 of 2018, the creation of the Comprehensive Security and Protection of Communities and Organizations in the Territories, which includes comprehensive prevention measures, safety and security, and acts as a guarantee of non-repetition for promulgating of all social leaders (2018).

President Juan Manuel Santos in turn announced the intervention plan in which eight key proposals will be developed to provide greater protection to leaders in the territory. (I) The creation of a system of rewards for information to identify those responsible for crimes against leaders; (I) Accelerate and expand the program to 10 collective security measures; (Iii) Advance one Urgent intervention plan; (Iv) To implement the Basic Units Protection (UPB), integrated into the sectional Police Protection; (V) Priority 'Horus Plan, supported by targeted control actions in priority lanes; (Vi) Strengthening the rapid reaction instrument through the Ministry of Defense; (Vii) Creating a one-stop complaint at the Ministry of Interior;

Now, what is evident is the co-optation and strategic relocation, by the armed organizations, the empty spaces left by the demobilization of the FARC serving illegal economies, which have permeated political level, economic, social and security. Consequently, there have been retaliations between criminal groups Organized (GDO) Organized Armed Groups (GAO) and dissidence in order to have a monopoly of force and territorial control capabilities, in theory, should maintain state.



Figure 1. Mapping of social leaders and defenders of DD.HH killed. Adapted from: Ombudsman. (July 24, 2018). Killings of social leaders and human rights defenders.

The inability of the state to achieve institutional stability and have political control, is what has historically allowed the emergence of a number of illegal actors who have played him control and power for decades, so it is not a new scenario in which no experience you have, there are references of which lessons can be drawn.

Despite government efforts need immediate implementation and in practice have tangible effects, since every day the media reported new cases of violence affecting the country's image internationally, questioning the guarantees for community leaders and political, respect, protection, prevention,

investigation, prosecution, punishment and guarantee human rights and the so-called 'post-conflict'.

The fact that in 96.96% of the territory is targeted risk, ie in 32 of the 33 territorial divisions (32 Departments and the Capital District) (Agricultural Summit. Campesina, Ethnic and Popular et al, 2018, . p 5), it is sufficient for concrete actions puntualicen outside the dichotomy between agencies to ensure that social leaders are being killed systematically and government positions to ensure the opposite reason; Polarization review economic situation is not the best option.

In Colombia can not win the fear of protest, is not characteristic of a democratic system, so simple synergy with being a social state of law, and in accordance with Article 37 of the Constitution of Colombia 1991 should safeguard the fundamental rights and citizenship tool to demand their rights in public and peacefully.

Ultimately, effective policies to overcome violence against leaders must be implemented in the short term and that cases are constantly present, for which strengthening the administration of justice and the guarantee of non-repetition is vital. While the work of the Attorney General's Office to advance research highlights; as prioritized murders of human rights defenders and other government regulatory and policy efforts, the magnitude of the problem demands greater speed and articulation of an institutional strategic framework that will coordinate harmoniously towards rebuilding the shattered social fabric.

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#### Image source:

http://theobjective.com/further/por-que-asesinan-a-los-lideres-sociales-en-colombia/

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# West Africa: prospects for investment in renewable energy projects and the jihadist terrorist threat

Third Fulfilled by Michelangelo (Spain)

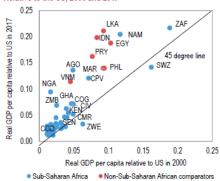


The West African subregion is currently starring in the international arena and receiving widespread attention from numerous public and private actors engaged in activities of political, economic and security nature that are causing the reconfiguration of international relations.

# Perspective investment in renewable energy projects

In 2018, according to data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), it is estimated that West African subregion accelerate economic growth from 2.8% last year to 3.4% this year; It is estimated that this growth is very modest to meet social demands and improve the living conditions of the population. Not to forget that the West African subregion has the worst indicators of economic development at the global and continental level based on IMF data:

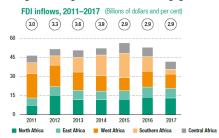
Figure 1.30. Sub-Saharan Africa: Real GDP per Capita Relative to the US, 2000 and 2017



Sources: Penn World Tables 9.0; IMF, World Economic Outlook

The IMF also estimated that contribute to the improvement of these indicators is critical that various improvements occurring in the economic fabric of the subregion; among which are: a) substantial increase in private investment in the subregion b) convergence of investment strategies regional and national development.

During 2017 Global foreign direct investment (FDI) showed a decrease of 16% according to data from UNCTAD, however, this decrease did not affect evenly across economic sectors. Overall the communications, automotive and business services charged at higher rates declining global FDI.



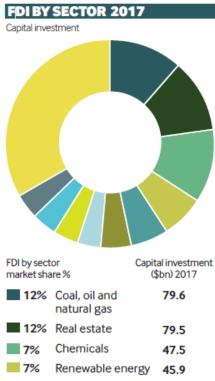
Sector	Projects 2017	change
Software and IT services	2237	5%
Business services	1430	-7%
Financial services	856	8%
Industrial machinery,	841	-6%
equipment and tools		
Communications	684	-14%
Transportation	634	-3%
Real estate	630	16%
Food and tobacco	575	8%
Automotive components	486	-14%
Chemicals	456	-2%
Other	4371	-1%
Total	13200	-1%

Share in world tota

This trend meant that global FDI is concentrated predominantly in the energy sector causing 19% of the total flow is directed to this economic sector, reaching invested capital figure of 125.5 \$ bn, of which 36.5% (or 45.5 \$ bn) corresponded to the sub-renewable energy; so it became the fourth subsector with the largest global FDI that went for 2017.

Consistently, this trend has also taken place on the African continent, if we examine the operations of the African Development Bank (ADB) in 2017 found that the effect described is confirmed. In fact, the funding approved by the ADB focused on the following areas:

- "Light Up & Power Africa": finance new projects for power generation through the implementation of renewable energy technologies. In fact, all energy projects with funding approved by the ADB in 2017 went exclusively to the field of renewable energies; priority being to develop projects that allow the interconnection of electricity transmission networks in the West African subregion.
- "II Plan of Action on Climate Change" in November 2017 ADB approved this plan of action to ensure that enough support to renewable energy projects with the aim of generating 1.4 gigawatts (GW) of clean energy and reduce gas greenhouse more than 2.8 million tons annually by 2020.



Was to highlight the difficulty of access to electricity by investors, is configured as one of the major constraints to the decision to carry out an investment, as indicated by the IMF and the World Bank (BM):

Table 3.1. Economic Impact on the Private Investment Ratio of a 1 Percentage Point Increase in GDP Growth, Depending on Institutional and Structural Characteristics

	Effect on private investment ratio of a 1 pp increase in GDP growth (pps)
Whole Sample	0.21
Low Regulatory Quality (SSA average) – High Regulatory Quality (non-SSA EMDEs average)	0.29 - 0.48
High Insolvency Cost (SSA average) – Low Insolvency Cost (non-SSA EMDEs average)	0.02 - 0.24
Higher Proportion of Paved Roads	0.28
Higher Access to Electicity	0.33
Higher Trade Openness	0.26
Lower Capital Account Openness	0.33
Higher Financial Development	0.47

Source: Authors' calculations based on regression results in Annex 3.2.

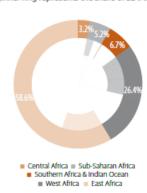
Note: EMDEs = emerging market and developing economies;

pp = percentage point; SSA = sub-Saharan Africa.

West Africa is set as the main sub-continent where the ADB has operations to devote 20.1% of approvals funding. Considering the energy sector as a field of prime importance as it pursues that renewable energy projects will strengthen the West African subregion achieving the following objectives: a) the energy security of the countries that comprise it, b) improve energy integration c) promote economic and social development in the subregion. This approach, setting energy projects as dynamic agents of development, already anticipated in financing

approved in 2015 by the European Investment Bank (EIB); and 26.

EU-AITF approvals by main REGION (cumulative, as % of amount) (inner ring represents the share of SE4AII)



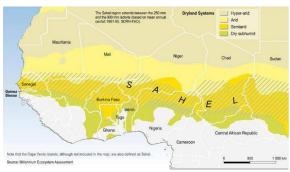
Thus efforts are concentrated by carrying out these renewable energy projects go beyond achieving improved energy security by building new distribution lines, processing and power generation in the countries of the West African subregion . Additionally, these efforts are more ambitious to also persiguir these investments in energy projects based on renewable energy technologies, enhance the prospects to attract more investment and expand economic social development in the area. Thus it is contemplated to renewable energy projects a strategic tool and a multiplier to achieve development in the area.

Based on data from the 2017 Spanish FDI in the African continent it accounted for 40% of total global and exceeded by 20% to the one held in Latin America; the figure reached 16,281 million euros in Africa, while Latin America reached 13,535 million euros. So Miriam Pérez (general assistant director of Mediterranean countries, Africa and Middle East of Economy, Ministry Industry Competitiveness) emphasized that investment in the African continent is particularly concentrated in sectors such as renewable energy infrastructure. Recently, hand Foreign Trade Institute (ICEX) and "Spain Renewable Energy Consortium" (publicprivate consortium for the promotion of renewable energy) was first participated in the "Africa Energy Forum" held in Mauritius from 19 and 22 June 2018. this initiative numerous Spanish companies involved were involved in this field and drew the West African subregion as a priority area in which to invest in the field of renewable energies. And we must not forget that the Spanish business community in this area is considered one of the major world leaders. This initiative involved numerous Spanish companies engaged in this field and drew the West African

subregion as a priority area in which to invest in the field of renewable energies. And we must not forget that the Spanish business community in this area is considered one of the major world leaders. This initiative involved numerous Spanish companies engaged in this field and drew the West African subregion as a priority area in which to invest in the field of renewable energies. And we must not forget that the Spanish business community in this area is considered one of the major world leaders.

# Perspective jihadist terrorist threat

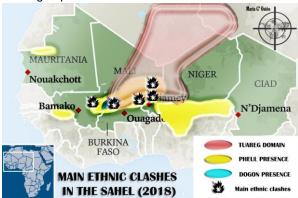
The West African subregion is currently facing a significant deterioration in the business environment as it is coping with increasing insecurity including that which comes from the threat of jihadist terrorism seated in the Sahel area.



As jihadist terrorist groups no longer consider the Middle East (mainly Syria and Iraq) the main arena in which to develop their actions, this area is no longer the center of gravity of jihadist terrorism. The jihadist terrorist threat has been replaced this scenario by the Sahelian area and specifically the West African subregion. In March this year the Political Committee of NATO exposed the humanitarian crisis in the West African subregion came to pose a serious security risk to the Mediterranean area and the "southern flank" of the Alliance.



Being necessary to underline, as evidenced GIASP that one of the main causes of violence in the area is in disputes, tensions and existing grievances between local and tribal peoples for control of the elements of subsistence economy communities and has served for the establishment of several militias who defend (even violently) the interests of each social group or tribe.



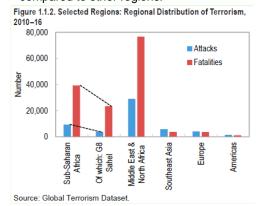
This context of the subregion acts as a factor that makes it attractive for the interests of jihadist terrorist groups, so they have adopted a strategy based on: a) decentralization; b) exploitation of local factors of conflict c) relocation of its capabilities operational franchises and terrorist groups present in Sahelian area. So structurally, according to analysis Combating Terrorism Center and Fuente Cobo, the jihadist terrorist threat is being set around two main orbits:

- AQIM, Ansar Dine, the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (Mujao), al-Mourabitoun and Macina Liberation Front in 2017 are placed under the umbrella of Nusrah Jama'a al-Islam wa al-Muslimin (Support Group Islam and Muslims JNIM); orbit linked to al Qaeda.
- Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGA) and Islamic State in West Africa (ISWA), linked to Daesh orbit.



From the perspective of the operational capabilities of jihadist terrorist groups, jointly analyzing data from Global Terrorism Database and the International Observatory on Terrorism Studies, we find that:

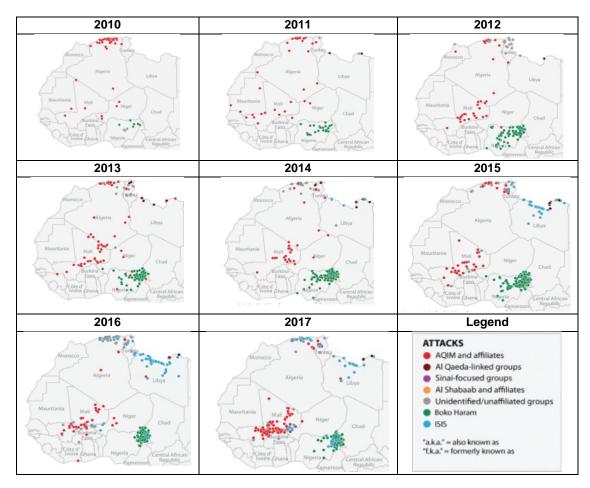
- Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the main areas worldwide, which is significantly concentrated the number of incidents of terrorist nature and trend of incidents is growing, in contrast to other regions where it is declining.
- Most of the casualties caused by incidents of terrorist nature in the region of sub-Saharan Africa are concentrated, in turn, in the West African subregion.
- If we compare the ratio of the number of victims with the number of incidents between geographic regions, we can see that in the West African subregion case fatality rate is higher than the rest. That is, the number of victims of terrorist incident is higher in the West African sub-region compared to other regions.



# DORCENTAJE DE VÍCTIMAS POR REGIONES 0.40% 1.70% 0.20% 20% 555.20% 22.10% Sudeste Asiático Europa Occidental Europa Occidental Europa Occidental

Region	Total Attacks	% of Total	% Change from 2016	Total Deaths	% of Total	% Change from 2016
Middle East & North Africa	3780	35%	-38%	10819	41%	-44%
South Asia	3430	31%	-6%	7664	29%	-2%
Sub-Saharan Africa	1970	18%	-5%	6712	25%	1%
Southeast Asia	1020	9%	-5%	811	3%	27%
Western Europe	291	3%	7%	83	0%	-65%
South America	172	2%	8%	101	0%	16%
Eastern Europe	110	1%	-18%	101	0%	-10%
North America	97	1%	29%	124	0%	70%
Australasia & Oceania	12	0%	20%	4	0%	
Central Asia	7	0%	-59%	6	0%	-71%
East Asia	7	0%	-13%	16	0%	-50%
Central America & Caribbean	4	0%	33%	4	0%	-56%
Worldwide Total	10900	100%	-20%	26445	100%	-24%

Currently the jihadist terrorist groups in the West African subregion focus their actions particularly in two poles: 1) the triple border between Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso and 2) the Lake Chad based on the evolution developed by Africa Center for Strategic Studies.



From the perspective of the objectives of the incidents of terrorist nature, based on data from Global Terrorism Database, although in the West African subregion are the main target military and security forces; there is also a significant percentage of incidents involving civilian targets (often

communities). And from an economic point of view most terrorist incidents jihadists in the area affect those projects related to civil and energy infrastructures are outside urban centers (being much more vulnerable and easy to attack) and interest

tourism ( such as hotel infrastructure) frequented by Western staff.

This analysis confirms the interest that orbits terrorist jihadists present in the West African subregion to develop and increase their shares mainly under local key strategy in trying to capitalize on tensions, conflicts and existing social discontent. Significant intensity of these operational capabilities jihadists terrorist groups is not going unnoticed global Jihadist terrorist groups. So the leader of Al-Qaeda Ayman al-Zawahiri in March 2018 appeared in a video calling to take action in the area sahelina. And the United Nations Security Council showed that one of the consequences of the defeat of Daesh in the Middle East (mainly Syria and Iraq) is that:

#### considerations:

The West African subregion is in a period of profound reconfiguration from the political, social, economic and security view. Nor should forget that they are increasing the analyzes agree that the security option may not be the only answer to the crisis in the area, being key to provide a comprehensive response staking, among other objectives for economic development in the long and enables face-term social demands and improve the living conditions of the population.

From an economic perspective the available information indicates that requires a substantial increase in private investment in the subregion and that this investment will significantly support social development strategies. Therefore, FDI flows in the energy sector in the subregion will be directed not only to achieve security in the electricity generation and distribution implementing renewable energy projects in the coming years; but it also has this investment will be actively involved in economic and social development of the area. Thus it is intended that renewable energy projects serve as leverage allowing not only attracting more FDI but also social revitalization of the subregion.

Therefore, a major challenge for the actors involved in the execution of any business project in the West African subregion is generated and must be kept in mind by the industrial fabric of renewable energies in the time of preparation of proposals project as at the time of execution. This issue specifically concerns the industrial fabric of Spanish origin of renewable energy as it occupies a position of global leadership and many

of the companies that comprise it surely will be involved in the implementation of these projects in the subregion.

The call and the facilities provided to this industrial base to develop this type of project is not to ignore that simultaneously is developing a major humanitarian crisis serves to enhance social tensions in communities and that precisely is intended that projects are an agent asset to assist in reducing these social tensions. Since it is intended that business projects in renewable energies serve as dynamic agents of economic and social fabric; for the implementation of these projects will be critical management and implementation of positive social impacts in the communities where projects are implemented. This perspective puts projects in the subregion in a delicate situation, since the project success will be measured not only in technical terms (generation and distribution of electricity production) but also in terms of positive social impact on communities. Deviations in the latter possibly have negative effects section:

- Not achieve the intended objectives of the project, especially by funding and participating institutions.
- Expose projects to the effects of a social expectation unfulfilled, in a social fabric in which tension and conflict is present.
- Placing projects as a competitor to achieve social support of communities it is also pursued by militias and groups of jihadist terrorism. It is precisely because the capitalization of this social discontent is what allows these groups to settle in the subregion and to develop their activities.

Based on this context, the actors involved in renewable energy projects in the subregion have to design projects based on proper understanding of the social dynamics of the specific areas in which it is intended to operate and thereby facilitate the implementation process effective social management that mitigates that projects receive social opposition by the mere dissatisfaction of the social expectations of the community. Otherwise facilitate the generation of a threat to projects difficult to manage solely from a security perspective in an environment of risk and very unique complexity and imposes the need to implement security plans robustness when it comes to ease of operation in the zone;

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# Islam threatens again to South America

By Alejandro Gabriel Cassaglia (Argentina)



In 1992 when the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires occurs, no one would have imagined that this innovative brutally, for this region, it would repeat in this part of the globe, so far the conflict. But the events in 1994, again in Buenos Aires, in the cruel and cowardly bombing at the headquarters of the AMIA Jewish Mutual, which cost the lives of nearly a hundred people and wounded dozens, gave ground with all kinds of speculation . Islamist terrorism, had landed in South America, and intend to stay. The Hezbollah terrorist group, with a strong presence in the region, especially in the area of the Triple Border, shared by Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, where not only lives a large community of Shia Muslims, but also and within this, clans involved in illegal activities such as smuggling, drug trafficking, money laundering unfold, and how could it be otherwise, hawaladars willing to finance terrorist activities. That is, the intelligence apparatus and logistics of this organization is intact and permanent presence in the

Despite these terrible events, countries of South America, did not seem aware of the seriousness of the situation. Two decades earlier, in 1972, Islamist terrorism was no longer circumscribed the area of conflict in the Middle East, to move to the heart of Europe, Germany in this case, and in Munich during the celebration of an international sports competition,

demonstrating with the fact that this kind of radical violence did not recognize borders or regions or continents, as Dr. Anzit Guerrero holds in one of his books. (1) Meanwhile in these parts, they kept repeating, from the total ignorance of the real root of the problem, "it was a problem between Jews and Arabs."

9/11 slap us to ratify this reality before described, where Islamist terrorists moved the worldwide horror. Osama Bin Laden and his followers had to practice what they advertised on their ideological discourse, ie the creation of its long-awaited "Universal Caliphate". From this part of the world, we look at it, but of course, thought it was now a conflict of old economic quarrels between Americans and family Laden and his followers, the Al Qaeda jihadist network.

With the arrival on the scene of terror, DAESH, in 2014, it seemed that the conflict would again be encapsulated. But with the defeat militarily, their leader, the self-proclaimed Caliph Abu Bker Al Baghdadi, took a turn rudder in its strategy of violence, and made the call for his "supporters" not to go to Syria and Iraq, and to stay to "fight" in places where they were. And lack of weapons and training, resort to things as simple as knives, cars and any element capable of causing death or damage to all enemies. And there we find the new form of terror, called Low Cost and Low-Cost Terrorism. From there they

followed a tremendous wave of attacks in Europe. ISIS had become the model of his opponent in the field of Bataille, Al Qaida. But of course, Following the "blindness" to the problem, we continue to believe that now is no longer a problem between Jews and Arabs, or between Americans and terrorists. Now is also a problem in Europe, and uncontrolled immigration of Muslims.

Despite the attacks in Argentina in 1992 and 1994, South America was busy in another kind of terrorism. The narco-terrorist organization Sendero Luminoso in Peru and the FARC-EP in Colombia, the National Liberation Army and the United Self-Defense Forces or paramilitary forces, also in the coffee country. Anarchists in Chile. Criminal organizations in Mexico, without being terrorist groups use those techniques. As in Brazil with the First Command of the Capital (PCC) and the Comando Vermelho (CV). What the specialist Marcus Reis, "convergence." (two)

Like most South American countries, Brazil did not see Islamist terrorism a real threat to the state. But came two major sporting events to Brazilian soil. The World Cup in 2014 and then the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro in 2016. During the celebration of the World Championship, alerts and potential of a possible terrorist attack, put on tenterhooks Brazilian authorities, but fortunately, despite threats, no violence occurred jihadist court. At that time most Islamist terrorist organizations were busy with their war on the ground. Al Qaeda and the Shiite group Hezbollah fought against the rising starkly, at that time, Islamic State (ISIS or DAESH). But by 2016, the situation had changed, and the new "fall in line" Al Bagadadhi had already occurred, and lone wolves like cells supporters of the Islamist group, were called to act in every corner of the planet. It was so, and because the correct actions of the Brazilian authorities, "Operation Hashtag" occurs. In an extraordinary display, through the states of Amazonas, Ceará, Parabaíba, Goias, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul, and after much research, the terrorists were located and arrested. A cell claimed to ISIS, had contacted and organized through WhatsApp and Telegram. 10 people were arrested, while two suspects were released. Eight of them were sentenced to prison. and lone wolves like cells supporters of the Islamist group, were called to act in every corner of the planet. It was so, and because the correct actions of the Brazilian authorities, "Operation Hashtag" occurs. In an extraordinary display, through the states of Amazonas, Ceará, Parabaíba, Goias, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul, and

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Another violent incident occurred in the region, also in 2016. In January of that year, in the city of Paysandu, Oriental Republic of Uruguay, two Uruguayan citizens of the Jewish community in the area, they are stabbed in the street, by a man of about 35, with a criminal record, which attacked with a knife while shouting "Allahu Akbar" ( "God is great" in Arabic) (3). David Fremd, 56, died as products of wounds received while one of his sons, who was also attacked, only received minor injuries.

It is not a minor detail, the presence of six former Guantanamo prisoners, who are living in Uruguay,

subsidized by the Government of that country since 2016. Five of them lead a life without fear. Although two of them were charged with violence intra marriage. But one of them, the Syrian Jihad Mustapha Ahmed Dhiab or Dijab, has starred in a series of events that has alerted all intelligence services in the region. Syria has abandoned Uruguayan soil, where he has been a refugee, at least three times. Because of dissatisfaction with their situation, she eloped an opportunity to Brazil and another in Venezuela. He even expressed his desire to travel to Turkey to meet with his family. In this last attempt he was deported from Morocco. Finally a citizen of Palestinian origin accused him of belonging to the Islamic State and having stolen 30 thousand dollars. While this situation has not been proven so far it is an indication to

In March this year in Colombia, was arrested a Cuban citizen, suspected of attempting to commit a terrorist attack. Raul Gutierrez Sanchez, 45, was being investigated by the Spanish authorities for having links with jihadists in the Iberian Peninsula. He himself recognized Muslim and have intentions to attack on US targets. Some of the tracks of your contacts led to suspicions Buenos Aires, where they lived two of his links, which are being investigated by the Argentine authorities.

Analysis of all the above facts, we can conclude that South America, as long as it is within the globe, is no stranger nor escape the concrete threat of Islamist terrorism. In fact, when one analyzes the emblems and symbols of terrorist organizations, one notes that both the gun, as the Quran, as the hand pointing to the sky (items very commonly used in the jihadist symbols) are placed on a background depicting to the earth. On the other hand, when the jihadists messages are studying, they go against the Crusaders, and this is a predominantly Christian region.

On the other hand, we might ask, if the fighters DAESH, who are returning to their home countries, almost exclusively European, and the fact of being arrested and imprisoned, could not choose any other place of refuge until the situation "cool" about them, and South America would be a great place for that purpose.

Turning to international events, that would be very interesting for a terrorist operation, and to give them the much desired media exposure, something so appealing to these jihadists. Do not forget that in South America, specifically in Argentina, will be held in October this year, the Youth Olympic Games. And also, in late November the G20 Summit in the same city, which will attract the international press, and how much social unrest caused by those opposed to it.

Finally, by way of epilogue, and after having dealt with the events of recent years, we can not say that South America is safe from Islamic terrorism. I hope all countries in the region to copy the model of Brazil, the threat in their 2016 Rio Olympics, woke up and reacted on time without having to mourn victims.

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# Democracy, Populisms and Totalitarianisms, Evolution and Traffic

By Francisco Javier Blasco, Colonel ET (r) (Spain)



To analyze these concepts and possible positive or negative relationship between them should begin shelling the true meaning of each of them and what small differentiators contain. First, the term Democracy is defined and known as "The political system that defends the sovereignty of the people and the people's right to choose and control their rulers," etymologically he comes from the Greek "δημοκρατία" (democratia); is, in turn, a word composed of two others; "Δῆμος" (demos), which translates as "people" and "κράτος" (kratos), which means "power."

In reality, although this is the form or operating system of many private initiatives, policies diverse, and in many and varied social entities, can ensure a summary that, fundamentally, democracy is a form of government of the State which power it is exercised by the people through certain mechanisms of delegation of their wills that materialize in their involvement in political decision-making as a consequence of the results obtained in a legitimate and universal electoral processes in which involved all the inhabitants of that State from a minimum necessary to intervene on their age. "As this fundamental mechanism for participation and is known as" universal suffrage "free, equal, direct and secret, through which the people elect their leaders or representatives for a certain period. The results of the elections based on this system are realized through the exercise of government based on the majority,

proportional representation or a combination of both. The head of citizens in a democracy wields executive power, ie the prime minister "[1].

On the other hand, when referring to Populism and similarity to the previous term, although not part of the dictionary of the Royal Spanish Academy (RAE) but which, however, is very commonly used in the English language and in its meaning policy is to reflect the following: "political tendency that claims to defend the interests and aspirations of the people". There are many concepts or definitions of the term, although it is generally accepted to a greater extent than "This is a political concept that allows to refer to movements that reject traditional political parties and shown, either in actual practice or in the combative speeches against the ruling classes.

Populism appeals to the people to build their power, understanding the people as the lower social classes without economic or political privileges. Usually it bases its structure on the constant denunciation of the evils that embody the privileged classes. Populist leaders, therefore, present themselves as saviors of the poor. "[2]

Finally, Totalitarianism is a concept studied and defined by various authors; according to the prestigious Raymond Aron "is an ideology that is manifested by a single party and the result is the total domination of society, not having him arrested political opponents. This concept refers to the regimes and

ideologies that restrict individual freedom and accumulate all the power in the State, without restrictions or divisions. Totalitarian governments seek to enlist the support of the masses to appear as a result of popular will. Turning massive, persecute opponents arguing defend the will and interests of the people. To achieve the support of the people, appeal to propaganda and exploit the charismatic leader facet "[3]. It is the formula masked in either ideology

It does not take a person with great sagacity or think so too twisted to understand that enough true and well dosed adjustments to move from one stage to the next in increasing order to the loss of control of the situation by the whole society and democratic structures and, moreover, this path is almost always only feasible to do in this regard. The return will always be very difficult to undertake unless it is as a result of a powerful and almost always bloody public and internal mass revolt in the country or all of them are subjected to such totalitarianism or through political intervention and / or military carried out by external agents individually or in coalition in response to situations of unsustainable abuses which manifestly violated, abused excess or away from any kind of respect for human rights manifestly and fragrant.

There are many examples of this phenomenon throughout history, spread and settled in countries on all continents where it has been fosters the emergence, establishment, evolution and penetration of parties or totalitarian leaders thanks to even though those had been ruled for decades more or less democratic regimes, these "new and spontaneous parties" that ooze political and populist ideologies, which are often endowed with good, imposts and well-trained leadership, skillfully for easy intrusion and feathering, fast resolutoria simple and inevitable response to economic and social hardships that bloom, float and still survive in them. Usually they appear,

There is no church arch arrive with certain guarantees of success to the hearts of those who are or think they would find "underdogs". Simply make a study area and an opinion poll on problems apparently more concerned stoke or those who are always considered from the most persecuted and underserved classes. Having identified the sample and amount of possible personnel concerned and what their preferences or needs to be "covered", mounts and carefully a whole program of alternatives, offers and possibilities, each more eloquent, striking and even nonsensical it exposed if it were necessary; a series of public and street shows; even demonstrations of protest violence creciente- for anything or uncomfortable subject and that attracts

attention and the greatest number of faithful followers; programs are created or seek political gatherings and related inflammatory and falsarias starting with the own (created on this) or to go slowly covering more cautious -in all others poke their patita faced very good and educados-; it continues with a progressive action and tireless oriented to conquer all major networks; the streets are occupied by various reasons protest where in addition to protest and fill headlines is neglected and even complaint to the authority gingerly but steadily and increasingly seeks and invites those for whom "they say fight" to They abet them and accompany them in their struggle, because according to its truth, this fight has become theirs. There is no limit or demurely to brighten the ear of one crying in harass, defame and persecute the politician of the opposite bench, the anger is looking at any meeting, conference or exhibition of the opposition to achieve its cancellation. All without the slightest qualms, publicly justified since it is proven that there is always a poor clueless or guiltless that he is easily convinced and this helps to find another or others. Word of mouth, the cronyism and sharing bus, snacks, wineskin, the hard way and the banner, makes everyone feel stronger, more united and even invincible, dammit. the anger is looking at any meeting, conference or exhibition of the opposition to achieve its cancellation. All without the slightest qualms, publicly justified since it is proven that there is always a poor clueless or guiltless that he is easily convinced and this helps to find another or others. Word of mouth, the cronyism and sharing bus, snacks, wineskin, the hard way and the banner, makes everyone feel stronger, more united and even invincible, dammit, the anger is looking at any meeting, conference or exhibition of the opposition to achieve its cancellation. All without the slightest qualms, publicly justified since it is proven that there is always a poor clueless or guiltless that he is easily convinced and this helps to find another or others. Word of mouth, the cronvism and sharing bus, snacks, wineskin, the hard way and the banner, makes everyone feel stronger, more united and even invincible, dammit.

At this stage of the story in which we live, populism has won many adherents; They are not just a bunch of crackpots or desperate asking the moon in the morning and evening sun. They are people, many people that someone has enlarged their problems, filled with hatred and sowed the growing desperation. People who had been living peacefully and in view of those gyrations and lures; now they have a serious need to see fulfilled the many -some until being

recovered almost forgotten- promises that once were offered and never satiated by the government.

Populisms with these arts and slogans grow unexpected, unusual and even abnormal in territories where problems traditionally has never been so, and that in any democratic system becomes votes and; the votes, are those that give you power. A power that with patience -can take several years, studied distortions, appropriate masking and tactfully can be sold so that together or in coalition, reach power, which separately would be impossible to achieve. All very democratic appearance and always within the law; no one can make the slightest reproach except for the lack of consistency plans pursued with reality and the ways used to create the necessary critical mass to achieve. Populist inclinations could define them as transversal and very extreme. They are inclined both right and left and are always ready to offer agreements with those who are most closely related. Last but not least, in the section of its "qualities" Remember, they are people who are referred to as "thin skin"; even though they the fallacy, outrage, harassment, dramatization and disproportionate constantly exaggeration and as the best means to bring down his opponent, do not allow even a hint of these qualities in the political hand when refers to them, their performances, excesses or forms of action. They are designed to lodge complaints or collective and individual demands for feeling offended, insulted or defamed as a method cowering over who dares mess with them.

Generally, they do not usually get enough majority to govern on their first attempts by the difficult digestion of your message; but, eventually, they come in and fall in love a lot of people from all social, economic and intellectual levels. Therefore, they are compelled to seek support from its affine or, if the numbers are not enough, do not hesitate to give his people the achievements of that. We just need to find the other party to the tool leader; one that is easily moldable, unscrupulous, crisp, very ambitious and short enough entendederas for without much effort, be able to sell a motorcycle damaged and make him believe that she will dominate, alone, the Drivers' World Championship Moto GP.

Populists and especially their confederates, who were initially fully democratic, are grown in adversity, they are considered insurmountable, smarter than anyone and virtually untouchable. They are able to use everything without flinching have had enough to criticize when they were opposed. His hoaxes and decoys, are not for them, rather than political, totally legal intricacies. Although not clear or very common, they use them for, brazenly, skip the procedures, the

role of the chambers and the intrinsic value of all regulated. Once settled politically in the chambers try to make their movements as if they were a single and compact group. Movements based on all types of legal loopholes for, thereby to give a semblance of legality to their own acts with votes and normal procedures can not fructify in any other case. If this path were exhausted, usually when they are compelled to dissolve parliament and call new elections with the excuse that they can not govern, the "grim and serious opposition" overwhelms them, oppresses them and should get better results for self-sufficient with a very large majority.

In order to carry out this story of successive steps as previous or initial and absolutely essential maneuver, you have to assault [4] and dominate the media official of the state, country or region where you want to implement this type of regime. The domain of media and related networks is not enough to calm the anxieties and needs of a large portion of the public which traditionally used to be reported in the official media and see that this kind of convulsive movements many things change quickly in their environment; neither understand nor can share and alarm. So before this happens, you need to set aside ostracism and relegate all voices and pens that may pose the slightest element of discord or disagreement with the policy pursued and "put a finger" on the sites of responsibility, with or without merit for this, the most empesebrados information professionals conviction, need only live fragility or pressure to justify and mask any government action, however strange or pathetic it is. Changes in the rating given miracles in public opinion. We all know.

To start, sustain and promote this type of unusual decoys and somehow, even against natural, there is always someone who, having little real specific value, brings maximum performance to squalid number of votes bearing the roost. Usually the most fractious and bordering on the unconstitutionality and old frequenters of the most serious illegalities; In short, those who by a miracle, Spurious needs of various governments or thanks to many stuffy nose, passed in his day the squalid and soft filters that allow them to be legalized and present in chambers that matter a hoot and they are only in them for their own benefit or strutting personally and facing your neighborhood or to entangle the style bar bar. Of course, these are never daunted or anyone. Their ability to request and dissatisfaction is extraordinary and growing. Each support, however small it may be, is charged earlier, live or deferred basis not. I must say that they do not hide anything; given its idiosyncrasies and that his parish is always hungry for satisfaction, all parts are hunted public and notorious manner. Night and almost never away from the office or official caucuses. all pieces are hunted public and notorious manner. Night and almost never away from the office or official caucuses. all pieces are hunted public and notorious manner. Night and almost never away from the office or official caucuses.

Satisfying such demand outside his party and intrinsic policy as diverse and even divergent groups, leading to that which governs apparent and visibly committed or knelt and to all those who "offered" his support- real situations stress; to listen and meet the demands thousand as payment for their support, constant rectifications in their decisions and defend equal and fiercely so much white as black. Everything is to maintain power; no matter the price that must be paid or what you have to assign or legislate live or deferred, by decree or bypassing procedures. He ignored the few who still try to keep some sanity in their environment and even lashes out hard against them when he senses that believes these "do not understand him."

As already mentioned and should highlight this stressful situation, continuously over time results in, on more than one occasion, the resulting government has to skip some or all procedures and regulations sooner rather than later. Dragged years of experience, the work of the courts, the Constitutional and some earlier pitfalls often tell lawmakers that, in a democracy, though it should not, everything is possible and therefore tend to cover possible loopholes in the system so it will not easily jump into the air. However, with great insistence, perseverance and a lot of meanness fervent supports democracy where seats can give and cause its peculiar and disastrous collapse.

It is at this stage of history, when it comes to reconsider the path followed; analyzing the objectives achieved so far and decide what support is needed to continue the ineffable, unstoppable path towards totalitarianism. "Useful idiots" are the colloquially called no longer needed, hinder they do not understand reality and may even repent at the last moment and created a problem with them. Others who with high degree of probability are often part of large squad forgotten, are the social groups. Those who were the first to be deceived, raised and mobilized to take the first steps. They are relegated, forgotten and generally totally frustrated because none of those dreams finally have been filled or conquered. They had their effect,

To go to the totalitarian phase and / or lead it need to be fully convinced of the extent and value of this phenomenon from the beginning; Intrinsically you

need someone who cling to power like that grabs oxygen from a cylinder when he wants to breathe and is underwater. Unscrupulous people who are able to constantly prevaricate. Not falter skipping any rule, legislative chamber or oppose constitutional court.

If you need a parallel government agency is created and departs or ningunea this. It legislates and changed at the whim all organic law and even why not ?, it provides the country with a new constitution. It is perpetuated in power, although this had been explicitly and categorically prohibited. The next and necessary step is to control the third pillar of the state remained without storming of all, the Judicial. To do this, the highest courts are named and dominates with impunity to the general or higher state prosecutors' offices.

In these steps, banks, other financial institutions and all major industries and energy production systems, agriculture, mining, fishing and land, sea and air transport are nationalized.

Last but not least, we just need them to master the law enforcement and armed forces; who as maximum guarantors of the unity and integrity of the country and order within it, have been keeping quite apart from the political developments and government orders and disposition democratically established. All this for trying to avoid meddling in the work of politicians and cause a coup dire and very serious consequences.

In short, everything is under control, a series of movements of intensity and increasing effects on the pretext of helping exercise effective, distributive and equitable control of natural resources and or monetary wealth, they often result in excessive abuse occur and waste on or them. Corruption, lawlessness and excesses are the norm and never the exception. Currency, if itself, constantly devalues, GDP drastically reduced and both debt and the internal and external deficits reached astronomical figures and never seen in recent times. Famines tend to be present in all social classes, lack of food and basic and indispensable elements for life in general and growth of children in especially short supply so that it is easy to resort to theft, rapine and internecine and even among members of the same family struggles. Hospitals and pharmacies are stocked and it is impossible to follow any new medical treatment or endemic.

Civil street protests by discontented citizens and precarious, often corrected and controlled based on brutal police and military loads, mass arrests and hundreds of deaths. Prisons are crowded of people without cause or termination for any type of event or simple complaint. As a last resort for survival and

before finally leaving his country, with suitcases full of material wealth in search of its mighty current accounts in tax havens to crumbly totalitarian government only has left to sell their nation to the highest bidder breaking it into chunks or all in one batch at a bargain price. Hardly a totalitarian government admits his guilt, even in a small part; everything is the fault of the opposition,

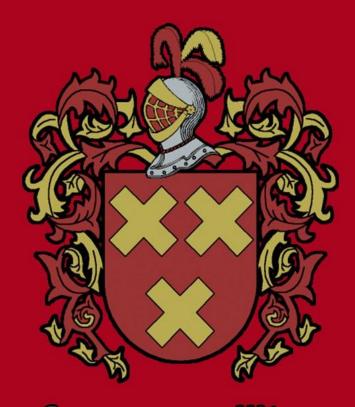
The solution to such situations is not easy; typically cost many headaches and diplomatic discussions, internal resistance and almost always based on finding support in international organizations, countries or associations of them being the metropolis of the country in colonial times or those with global, regional or neighborhood prefer to provide strong support to those suffering in those who bear the

consequences of massive emigrations, rapine, treatment of white and prostitution all such miseries often result in uncontrolled neighboring countries.

I feel I'm writing a chapter of a horror novel; After stopping a moment, I realize that I did not invent anything. Everything is real, that has already happened in a recent time in countries as flashy as Italy, Russia, China, and Germany; It is happening in North Korea, Cuba, Turkey, Nicaragua and Venezuela among others and that the news we have, if you do not remediate soon could reach curdle in any more of our European environment, and what I see, certain totalitarians take time endeavoring that this is implemented in Catalonia and lately, some others try to expand throughout Spain. I hope I'm wrong it; God will say.

#### References and notes

- [1] https://www.significados.com/democracia/
- [2] https://definicion.de/populismo/
- [3] https://definicion.de/totalitario/
- [4] Term used by themselves literally. It is not the author invention.
- [5] It is not nor will be the first time that eminent figures and commanders of the highest rank and responsibility in the Armed Forces and the Public Order have been protagonists and first swords of populist before or after leaving office moves.



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¡Siempre en Vanguardia!

# Divergent views on the situation in Venezuela

By Douglas Hernandez (Colombia)



Food shortages coupled with hyperinflation, are two of the most serious problems affecting the Venezuelan population.

Promote or support sanctions, wars or "humanitarian intervention" seems easy, anyone can do it. The difficult thing is to see the whole picture of the question, that intellectuals have called a holistic view. When one makes an effort to look beyond, you begin to notice great complexities, half-truths, lies, and sometimes even find that the good are not so good, nor bad are so bad. This seems to be one of those cases.

Now that the issue of Venezuela is fashionable, mainly due to the issue of mass migration of Venezuelan citizens, who, fleeing the economic crisis in their country, have gone to different countries of America, it said that it is necessary there is a change of government in Venezuela, which repeatedly called "dictatorship". Well, in the words of his critics blame the problem is eminently of that "dictatorship".

True, the fiery speech of Hugo Chavez and now Nicolas Maduro, full of accusations, self-victimization, accusations and threats, contributed and contributes to rejection and divisions, both within their own country, and among other governments. In addition to generating rejection and suspicion among citizens of other countries. It is also true that see Venezuela has significantly reinforced, and has weapons, equipment and systems latest technology generates genuine

concern among many personalities, and also among ordinary citizens.

Despite the declared good intentions, and their projects by interesting others in the economic, or social, the Bolivarian government of Venezuela has not been able to consolidate most of its internal strategies, due to the lack of committed personnel capable and even honest. Neither it has been able to maintain their international strategies, due to the complex and changing dynamics of geopolitics. Until recent years Latin America had different leftist governments that supported each other. Today again there has been a shift to the right, which thwarts minimizes or repudiates the achievements of previous governments. Venezuela, with its experiment of socialism of the XXI century is increasingly alone. Big capital needs that experiment fails, and is failing.

Donald Trump, the strange and controversial President of the United States, has just said in the UN General Assembly would not rule out military intervention in Venezuela, and asks for help to restore democracy in that country. Having stated the previous day that a military coup in Venezuela could succeed very quickly. All his statements are undoubtedly a manifestation of overt hostility, and cross the fine line of diplomacy. But leaves unclear when referring to economic and political model of Venezuela, saying

that "people fleeing Venezuela for socialism Maduro (...) socialism has brought poverty to Venezuela, which was (a country) rich before". That is, that socialism failed again, a model that does not serve anyone, and that capitalism he represents is the panacea.

We split. First, we must clarify that the government of Nicolas Maduro is no dictatorship, there was a presidential election in which he was elected, so is the constitutional president of his country, and has the same legitimacy as any president neighborhood. Then inside Venezuela there is a heated political debate between the followers of the ideas of Chavez or "Chavistas" and opponents of the government. Unlike Colombia, where in one way or another the "National Front" continues and elites, camouflaging in different parties and movements they continue sharing the power and contracts in Venezuela the Chavez government maintains outside the bureaucracy opponents. It is clear that, not having representation, opponents also have responsibility for the failures of government, except for governors and mayors who have won by popular election. In another sense, Maduro's government has done everything possible to close spaces to the opposition, violating the healthy balance that prevents any concentration of power in a group or a person, and prevent possible abuses. He is also credited indoctrination and politicization of the military, who now call themselves "Chavistas and anti-imperialist". All of which seems to suggest that while Maduro is not a dictator, for their legitimate origin, if it could be argued that his conducive to close spaces for participation by the opposition actions, and co-opted for political project all government agencies, it would moving away from democratic means. It is true. Apparently this guy, come slighted by unionism, and for being bus driver, he has resulted beating all his opponents, who certainly have international funding and massive political and media support. Despite all the combined forces who seek to destroy it, Maduro and socialism of the XXI century are consolidated in power.

The immense forces that oppose the Venezuelan political project that could not defeat him by political means, not by economic means, now seek to do so by military means. After all already they have weakened enough.

But must be qualified, is not going to be a war against Venezuela, the war already being waged for years. Modern warfare is multidimensional, and does not necessarily involve bringing into play ships, tanks and planes, as would Clausewitz for the opponent to submit your will. Perhaps seen that the sequence of

operations of a political, diplomatic, economic, or psychological, have not brought down Venezuela's "regime", will now be attempted direct methods using military force. Which in itself it is bad, because the international system calls for the peaceful resolution of conflicts and self-determination of peoples, condemning interventionism. But it gets worse when Colombia raised is that play a role there. President Duque intervention before the General Assembly of the UN, reveals that Colombia will be an important narrowing of the siege the government of Venezuela, which began with the signing of a document in which the International Criminal Court is asked to initiate an investigation against the Venezuelan government for crimes against humanity actor. This application is also signed by the governments of Argentina, Canada, Chile, Paraguay and Peru, where other countries may join in the coming days.

Maduro arrived in New York almost surprisingly, to speak before the General Assembly of the UN, bringing "the truth of Venezuela", defended his stance, told some of the things that his government is advancing to stabilize his country, spoke about Syria. he called for the end of the blockade of Cuba, and expressed once again its support for the Palestinian people. Also or he blamed the United States for the recent attacks against him, in which explosives were used drones. Finally, I was emphatic in stating that he was willing to meet with Donald Trump to reach agreements, but within a framework of equality and transparency. At the end of his speech he was applauded standing by those present, which did not happen with President Duque. While Donald Trump's intervention caused laughter in the audience.

Venezuela's crisis became quite evident with the issue of migrants, how can we deny the crisis when thousands of people leave the country, even walking?, the first thing you should ask is, What is the crisis?

For a humble Venezuelan, things are not simple. Many companies and businesses have closed, making it difficult to get a formal job and there is a dramatic shortage. Wages are low and prices of the products available commercially, are very high. There is a hyperinflation that makes prices go up every day. It devalues the bolivar against the dollar, and that drags even more inflation, but also strangely effective disappears from the streets and subverts all trade. No savings capacity, and if he had not worth saving money devalues every day. In an economically very complicated situation and the need to survive, people are turning to strategies that go against their own interests as a collective, as would contribute to price increases,

In short, you find a good job and if you have you are not well paid, the money you manage to get devalues every day and lose purchasing power, want to buy food, but there are shortages, which manage to find is outrageously expensive or did they want to sell cash, but cash is not achieved, you can only make bank transfers. As you have cash you can not afford passages (drivers do not have POS), you can not eat a hot dog on the street or buy a chicha or soda (soda, soda), you can not give money to a beggar, you can not bring to church, or you can give something to your children for school lunches. If you want to have some cash, you must buy 700%, 1000%, what you would want to sell. You make them a transfer and they give you cash. the opposite also occurs, you buy the cash then reselling it. Amid all this, your assets are deteriorating, your shoes are broken, your underwear is broken, pants are worn, the TV stops working, and if you barely have to half-eaten, you will not be able to replace that which It is deteriorating. The situation is so sad that even the brothels are gone, not because there are no prostitutes or men who need their services, so there is enough people with solvency to "go whoring." With so many needs, it is not appropriate given to the pleasures of the flesh. TV stops working, and if you barely have to half-eaten, can not be replaced that it is deteriorating. The situation is so sad that even the brothels are gone, not because there are no prostitutes or men who need their services, so there is enough people with solvency to "go whoring." With so many needs, it is not appropriate given to the pleasures of the flesh. TV stops working, and if you barely have to half-eaten, can not be replaced that it is deteriorating. The situation is so sad that even the brothels are gone, not because there are no prostitutes or men who need their services, so there is enough people with solvency to "go whoring." With so many needs, it is not appropriate given to the pleasures of the flesh.

Then, some Venezuelans began to migrate to neighboring countries, and gave references to others about an improvement in their living conditions, and on the immigration requirements. This generated a wave of migrants who now only has slowed, due to the limitations that are being established.

Is it the fault of Maduro this tragedy?, largely yes, because of bad decisions and confrontational attitude of his government, and also because of the legal uncertainty that exists in Venezuela, which drives away investment and discourages entrepreneurs. But you can not ignore other factors that influence and worsen the crisis.

The internal confrontation in Venezuela, led by Hugo Chavez, is a conflict between social classes,

which still continues. Entrepreneurs were gradually withdrawing from the market and today, after 20 years of socialism, the Venezuelan productive sector is only a pale shadow of what it once was. Those who remain are true wizards of business, which are supported by all sorts of juggling a transcomplejo environment should teach at universities. However, some of them also incur bad practices such as hoarding and speculation-what generates or worsens desabastecimiento- or tax evasion and bribery.

Against shortages of necessities, the government of Venezuela has resorted to subsidizing imports of raw materials or finished products put on the shelves products at prices well below their counterparts in the international market. This has proved too attractive to smugglers, especially those from Colombia, practiced for many years a massive and blatant smuggling extraction, which generates millions of dollars in profits temptation. The issue is so complicated that even though the Venezuelan government closed its borders to traffic, if you visit San Antonio del Tachira in Venezuela, you see that there is an overwhelming shortage in trade, then cross the International Bridge walk to Villa del Rosario in Colombia (the two cities are conurbadas) and see in the area "La Parada" business crowd with merchandise to the ceiling, it is curious that are Venezuelan products. Even a fool there will be understood that there is a serious case of smuggling. Which, incidentally, they are complicit in the National Guard and other military and Venezuelan police officers with responsibility for safeguarding the customs border area. There already was corruption before the economic crisis, the crisis has worsened the problem. National Guardsmen are complicit and other Venezuelan military and police, with responsibility for safeguarding the customs border area. There already was corruption before the economic crisis, the crisis has worsened the problem. National Guardsmen are complicit and other Venezuelan military and police, with responsibility for safeguarding the customs border area. There already was corruption before the economic crisis, the crisis has worsened the problem.

Right there, in "La Parada", there are multiple exchange. Where transactions in pesos and dollars are bolivars. There is not worth what he says the Venezuelan government on its own currency, but it comes into play "the invisible hand of the market". It's supply and demand which puts the price at bolivar, or at least that's the official version. I have observed that jointly with the Venezuelan website dolartoday.com in Cúcuta a kind of mafia operates at many moneychangers (or all) appear to be subscribed voluntarily or involuntarily, through which devalues the

bolivar gradually and contributes greatly Venezuela's economic crisis. Without being an economist, nor pretend to be, there are things that are clearly malicious and playing against Venezuela,

Venezuela's government states exchange rate of the day is 20 bolivars per dollar after the dolartoday.com page (which makes economic sabotage with the support of various media and entrepreneurs) says no, that the exchange rate "real" on the street is 40 bolivars per dollar, as it is difficult to access dollars because the government has exchange control and monopoly of foreign exchange, there are two ways to buy dollars, one is in the streets, in the market black, which are guided by DolarToday, and the other is to go to Cúcuta, where the dollar will cost you and even more if you buy it in cash. Anyone who wants dollars because you are traveling or need foreign exchange to buy something abroad, or because he wants to save hard currency, will Cucuta and takes cash,

After several years with this procedure, repeated over-and malintencionadas- warning signs about cash shortages, issued by opposition media, people began to hoard their cash, aggravating the problem. Next, the business of buying / selling cash arises. Let's say you buy in any city cash 30% and you sell at 40%, that in itself is already a very profitable for those who commit financial crimes that kind of business. But there is more. That cash you bought you can go sell to Cucuta, Colombia moneychangers where you buy it 50% of its value. That is, you take your 100 bolivars cash them, and they will transfer 150 bolivars to your account. Those numbers are fictitious and only to exemplify. The reality is that today are buying 600% cash. Imagine that happening every day massively cycle: the cash economy pulls out, but admitted virtually 600% (or more) of what is physically removed. At the same time, every day, through a suspiciously coordinated operation between the Colombian exchange houses and dolartoday.com (and other similar pages that have appeared), the Venezuelan currency will devalue and cash is disappearing. This knows the Colombian government, and does nothing to prevent it. In fact, the issue of drug trafficking and the need to control the movement of capital, Colombia would never allow something to be done so in the opposite direction. through a suspiciously coordinated operation between the Colombian exchange houses and dolartoday.com (and other similar pages that have appeared), the Venezuelan currency will devalue and cash is disappearing. This knows the Colombian government, and does nothing to prevent it. In fact, the issue of drug trafficking and the need to control the movement of capital, Colombia would

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Now if you're one of the mobsters with the power to move millions every day, you do the business round. If you help devalue the bolivar, you go and buy many bolivars with which you access Venezuelans to buy products that are subsidized markets and are for consumption of Venezuelans, then contrabandeas to Colombia, where you sell at the price of the Colombian market. This way your money is multiplied several times in a short time. All this without talking about gasoline, which is the cheapest in the world, and which has been tremendous pressure from Colombian smugglers. All illegal industry thrived in Cúcuta with so-called "pimpineros" (street sales of gasoline in improvised. locally plastic containers "pimpinas").

Once, a Venezuelan analyst told me that he thought Cucuta had prospered in recent decades at the expense of smuggling from Venezuela, in association with related crimes such as drug trafficking. Explained above, it is understandable that he thinks that.

Faced with this complex situation, and to overcome the general shortage and especially the food, the government of Venezuela creates a supply system every house called CLAP (Local Committees of Supply and Production), through which and in partnership with social and community organizations and the National Armed Forces, proceed to take monthly or bi-weekly to homes a bag or box staple food, at very affordable prices. These inputs have been previously purchased from domestic producers, but mainly imported and paid for with oil revenues. This has prevented the collapse of Venezuelan society or their surrender by hunger. In Colombia recently they detained several containers of boxes CLAP, without there being a compelling reason.

As production in Venezuela is at historic lows, and its main source of income is the oil industry is very important for the country to have their currencies in order to acquire more food and continue to supply the population. The United States has blocked accounts of the Venezuelan government and has undergone a series of economic sanctions that prevent or make it

difficult for international business, limiting access to foreign exchange and therefore food and medicines must be purchased abroad. Then it is undeniable that there is an economic war against Venezuela, which has joined the errors of the government of that country, and which together exacerbate the situation.

Now we can understand that incompetence and mistakes of the Venezuelan government, are not the only causes of the crisis being experienced by Venezuela, other internal and external factors that energize and increase. Hyperinflation, shortages of food and medicine, lack of cash in the streets, unemployment, political confrontation, the progressive decline in the quality of life, among many other factors that make life difficult and even unbearable for some, are elements which together have generated mass migration to other countries we have seen in recent times. It is clear that a change of government in Venezuela could be a solution, but it could also be the trigger for a civil war that further destabilizes the country and the region.

Presumably there are many other ways to help Venezuela overcome its humanitarian crisis. For example, the US government could stop punishing cheerfully and unilaterally the government of Venezuela, unfreezing their foreign exchange accounts, lifting the ban on negotiating new debt or bonds by the Venezuelan government or PDVSA, and prevent and stop paying dividends to the government of Venezuela. All those currencies that now fail to Venezuela, undoubtedly help to acquire more food and medicine, and generally reinforce social plans in the South American country.

Is absurd and even perverse Maduro blaming the crisis, when you do everything possible to tie his hands and prevent overcome the problems of Venezuela.

On the side of Colombia, we could start stop seeing the speck in your neighbor's eye, and look at our own humanitarian crisis and our own problems, both political and economic. Then understand that for decades the internal problems of Colombia spilled over into Venezuela, phenomena such as drug trafficking, violence by illegal armed groups, extortion, kidnapping, cattle rustling, forced displacement, and all sorts of crimes of varying magnitude . And we must remember that Venezuela received millions of Colombians who migrated there in search of better living conditions. Colombia is not Switzerland, nor has it ever been, we have many problems, just as has Venezuela. A twist of fate changed the direction of migration. Now we who we must care for and help those people who come to our country. But more importantly, the government of Colombia should stop

turning a blind eye to cross-border crimes in the 2,219 kilometer border with Venezuela, especially in border towns like Maicao, Cucuta, Arauca and Arauquita.

Smuggling of gasoline, food, medicines, or any other commodity, affecting both countries because in neither country pay taxes. But Venezuela affects more because they are items that were initially subsidized consumption within that country when they are taken not only shortage is generated, but there is a significant economic detriment. The utility for smuggling these products will enrich Colombian mafias, which are probably involved in other crimes affecting Colombian society.

But perhaps most importantly, the freedom with which currently operate the exchange of Cucuta, behind which there are people or governments with a lot of money, is structurally affecting the economy of Venezuela and sharpening its crisis. It is not possible that the government of Colombia continue turning a blind eye to this situation because I do involves complicity.

Since the devaluation of the currency energizes all other problems, Venezuela tries to make substantive changes to stop it. Cryptocurrency creates the "Petro" and states that this cryptocurrency will be supported by oil and gold reserves of Venezuela. Then, to be negatively affected should the oil markets collapse and another simultaneously. Then it states that the bolivar will be anchored to Petro and not the dollar. As it seems a good idea, that help run macroeconomic stabilization, the government of the United States sabotages the measure and launches an executive order prohibits transactions Petros, specifically says "all related transactions are prohibited.

The measures that the government of Venezuela tries to address the economic aggression of which is subject, including the entry into service of a new currency from 20 August 2018. This time have removed five zeros from the currency, to make transactions more manageable. They have decreed a new national minimum wage of 1,800 Sovereigns Bolivars (plus an additional bonus), and have agreed with the producers a price range for basic necessities, making possible purchase by the population and at the time allow profitability for producers. Additionally, the process was simplified to acquire dollars through public auction, and exchange offices will be opened throughout the country where officers will be traded dollars (much cheaper than the black market) prices, and where they should be international twists. So far remittances they send Venezuelans abroad came to Venezuela without paying taxes. With this new measure will have greater control over these remittances and additional revenue for the state. Indeed, by government order, Venezuelan banks block the accounts of those who do manage their accounts from the outside, without having previously announced that it would leave the country. With this capital flow is minimized ghost and controls are increased. In addition, Petro really the price of oil, and Bolivar anchored to Petro. The minimum wage was also anchored to Petro. Additionally a system was implemented to save on buying gold deposit certificates guaranteed by the Central Bank of Venezuela. It is therefore a return to the gold standard, safe and reliable, which can not be affected by inflation. Thus the savings do not lose purchasing power. Finally, a national census was conducted transport, to know exactly how many railcars are in the country and where they are. From there an increase in fuel prices was planned, to put them at international prices, with a direct subsidy to Venezuelans who possess the so-called "Carnet de la Patria". This is very interesting because there is a biosafety system where you put your fingerprint to buy gasoline. That prevents the mafias buy the cards homeland to continue smuggling gasoline at low prices. Thus the savings do not lose purchasing power. Finally, a national census was conducted transport, to know exactly how many railcars are in the country and where they are. From there an increase in fuel prices was planned, to put them at international prices, with a direct subsidy to Venezuelans who possess the socalled "Carnet de la Patria". This is very interesting because there is a biosafety system where you put your fingerprint to buy gasoline. That prevents the mafias buy the cards homeland to continue smuggling gasoline at low prices. Thus the savings do not lose purchasing power. Finally, a national census was conducted transport, to know exactly how many railcars are in the country and where they are. From there an increase in fuel prices was planned, to put them at international prices, with a direct subsidy to Venezuelans who possess the so-called "Carnet de la Patria". This is very interesting because there is a biosafety system where you put your fingerprint to buy gasoline. That prevents the mafias buy the cards homeland to continue smuggling gasoline at low prices. with a direct subsidy to Venezuelans who possess the so-called "Carnet de la Patria". This is very interesting because there is a biosafety system where you put your fingerprint to buy gasoline. That prevents the mafias buy the cards homeland to continue smuggling gasoline at low prices. with a direct subsidy to Venezuelans who possess the socalled "Carnet de la Patria". This is very interesting because there is a biosafety system where you put your fingerprint to buy gasoline. That prevents the mafias buy the cards homeland to continue smuggling gasoline at low prices.

As the border with Colombia is the area where there is a higher crime rate, smuggling extraction and presence of destabilizing factors, the government of Venezuela is making an effort to have a greater presence there, and especially for being more efficient curbing corruption of State agents. A month after these measures have been taken, the trend has been positive and the situation seems to be stabilizing gradually. Venezuela has received international support from China and Russia, as well as Cuba, Bolivia and Nicaragua, among other small countries. Confidence recovers to the point that several thousand Venezuelans abroad have asked their government help to return to their country, and in that context it has been activated "Plan Return to the Motherland" to arrange their return and give them some facilities for their social and economic realignment. At the time of writing and something less than a month, 3,364 Venezuelans had returned to Venezuela. Thus, it is the only case in which people who had left a socialist country (with a "dictatorship"), return to it willingly.

The measures taken by Venezuela are unorthodox, divergent, and tend to give economic sovereignty. Now with the theme of Petro, the only cryptocurrency guaranteed by a State, and backed by oil reserves and gold reserves, with which Venezuela will make their international business, it could result retornase that country to the path of prosperity.

This is a country that resists political and economic domination that has endured for decades an economic war, which has been destabilized in different ways, and in which -you can not negar- his government has committed countless errors and outrages, but in which essentially he has defended the right of people to a dignified life. It is also the country which has the largest proven oil reserves in the world, also holds leading positions in proven gas reserves and gold. It's a very tempting prey for big capital. With these riches, which could be converted into welfare for its people, and under a different ideological, political and economic model, Venezuela could become a "bad example" for the rest of the world, people might want to emulate that model. As the great capital and its allied governments, they have failed to defeat the Bolivarian revolution in Venezuela after 20 years of attempts and dozens of elections, and now the risk that the measures for economic stabilization and prosperity run, come to work, then it has unleashed a wave of attacks and accusations to intervene militarily and bring the Chavistas of power. I think therein lies the problem.

I think that a war between Colombia and Venezuela is possible, but can be avoided if society as a whole rejects from holistic understanding of the situation. But, given the intellectual capacity of the masses in Colombia, to which they are proposed

peace or war and choose war, are put to choose between transparency and corruption and choose corruption, among many other picturesque things possible the masses succumb to psychological warfare strategies being implemented. Should be clarified that a possible "military war" has its complexities, we will discuss them later.

### Image source:

http://elestimulo.com/elinteres/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2018/01/EE-Mercados-estantes-vacios-11.01.18-DanielH-7.jpg

## **Douglas Hernandez**

(Colombia) Founder and director of website www.fuerzasmilitares.org, works as a specialist in security and defense journalist. He collaborates with the Air and Space Power Journal of Institutional -Journal USAF-, and Segurança & Defesa Brazilian magazine. It is Sociologist and Magister in Education from the University of Antioquia (Medellin, Colombia), a doctoral student. He has a degree in International Relations.

# Fuerzas Antiterroristas del Mundo

Andentes Fortuna Invat



Holland

# **Korps Commandotroepen (KCT)**

The Korps Commandotroepen (KCT) is the special forces unit of the Royal Army of the Netherlands. It is one of three main units responsible for special operations in the Netherlands (the others are the National Forces Maritime Operations of the Netherlands (NLMARSOF) of the Marine Corps and Brigade Speciale Beveiligingsopdrachten (BSB) of the Royal Marechaussee) and is deployable anywhere in the world under any circumstances, performing every



conceivable missions full spectrum of special operations, including the fight against terrorism abroad.

KCT roots date back to World War II. Under the name No.2 (Dutch) Troop, the first Dutch commandos were trained in Achnacarry, Scotland, as part of Command No. 10 (Inter-Allied). The unit was formed on March 22, 1942, the birthday present KCT. Its purpose was to carry out special operations, which, at that time, were operations that were considered too complex and too dangerous for conventional military personnel. The unit was disbanded in October 1945, but its members continued fighting in the Dutch East Indies, while others formed the Stormschool (1945-1950), located in Bloemendaal. In 1949, the Stormschool moved to the Engelbrecht van Nassaukazerne in Roosendaal, now lining present KCT.

Korps Insulinde (1942-1945) was commissioned to carry out guerrilla warfare against the Japanese in Sumatra. After the Japanese surrender, Insulinde Korps was responsible for the search and rescue prisoners of war (Dutch). In November 1945, the unit was dissolved and its members were connected with Depot Speciale

Troepen and former troop members (Dutch) No.2 to form the Korps Speciale Troepen (1945-1950). This new unit was involved in the wars of independence from Indonesia after World War II. Indonesia's independence was recognized by the Dutch government in 1949, the KST returned to the Netherlands. On July 1, 1950, by parliamentary recommendation, the KST merged with Stormschool in Roosendaal to form the present Korps Commandotroepen.



# The modern KCT

After the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, it changed a lot. Private events formed the organization and capacity of the armed forces, and in particular the KCT. With the threat of the Cold War receding, they appeared many new conflicts around the world. Since the attacks of September 11, global terrorism has become the greatest threat, and there has been a high demand for specialized units to combat terrorism can operate abroad. To keep up with these demands, the old role of KCT Commando Waarnemer-verkenner (Commando Force Reconnaissance) was replaced by the modern and versatile Operations Command Special (co-spec-ops, or Special Operations Command).

The KCT went from being a "party recruits, part of the professional force" to a fully professional unit in 1995. The last conscripts gave way to professional traders in 1996, when the Dutch military service was suspended. From here, the KCT underwent drastic changes in its structure and operational capacity, and with great success. It grew to become a unit of mature, professional and versatile Special Forces and accumulated a considerable reputation. Deployments in Bosnia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Iraq and, more recently, in Afghanistan provided many new insights and knowledge. KCT successful operations in Ivory Coast (2004) and Middle East (2006) demonstrated once again that the KCT is a highly independent and extremely versatile unit capable.

KCT operators use a Green Beret. This green tone is also in use by the British qualified personnel and is often used internationally by other commando units. KCT emblem brass beret Fairbairn-Sykes shows a Knife Fighting a hand Granada and a ribbon with the motto Nunc aut Nunquam (now or ever) unit. The bottom of the emblem is a "W" Gothic typeface, indicating the name of Wilhelmina, Queen of the Netherlands from 1898-1948. Beret emblem is used on a black background with a green border.

# **Actual structure:**

- Company staff.
- 103 Commando Company.

- 104 Commando Company.
- 105 Commando Company.
- 108 Commando Company.
- Training company.



# Selection and training

The KCT accepts applications for both active military personnel (infantry) as civilians. To meet the recruitment guidelines of the Royal Army of the Netherlands, the KCT accepts men and women, but because of the extreme conditions during selection, it was considered impossible for women to complete the entire path.

**Phase Zero:**To be considered for KCT, all civil and military candidates must participate in a three day trial. This test is to test the physical and mental endurance of each individual, monitored by the KCT box and psychologists Defense, who will make a profile of each participant. The test design is kept secret as a means to see how participants deal with sudden changes and stress. Military candidates also require certain military skills, such as forced marches, steeplechase and rapid traverse to a set time at half load.

**Phase One:**Once considered positively, candidates continue with psychological and medical examination, and if positive results are obtained, starting with the initial training. Civilians candidates will be taken to Amol indoctrination School 23 Air Assault Brigade weeks Luchtmobiele (Air Assault Brigade), as a means to prepare them firmly with basic skills and military exercises. Military candidates skipped this part and start with vooropleiding (VO) of 8 weeks, the "warm up" in preparation for the course of elemental command (ECO), which is the selection. Civilian candidates fresh out of the Air Assault School will join the military candidates here and train together 8-9 weeks.

**Phase Two:**With an attrition rate of 80-95% for military personnel and experienced 95-100% for civilian candidates, the ECO (command elementary opleiding command, command elementary course) serves as the final phase of training and selection. Though reserved, one can think of almost continuous physical and mental conditioning. Most 8-9 weeks Roosendaal is carried out, and some parts in the highlands and mountains Belgians. The final week is the culmination exercise, "Hell Week", which is 5 days of continuous activity including escape and evasion, forced marches and marches speed, along with sleep deprivation. It concludes with a final forced march carrying full load to the seat of KCT. There, the remaining candidates are awarded green beret.

**Phase Three:**In approving the ECO, the temporary right to use green beret is given, so that the operator can continue with the training of Special Forces operator (vaktechnische opleiding speciale). This lasts 45 weeks

and trains the potential operator across the spectrum of special operations, including direct action and special reconnaissance (SR / DA). During this time, the potential operator also will specialize as a physician, specialist demolition or sniper, and new operational team leaders and senior NCOs will be trained as specialists in communications. Once completed, the operator is "special operations command" is granted the permanent right to use green beret, and will join one of the four companies operational command.



# operational training

The command companies are composed of specialized teams in counterterrorism (international), mountain warfare (above tree line), submarine warfare (inland and coastal waters) and parachuting HAHO / HALO. Initially assigned to a core team of SR / DA, each operator will have to choose one of these specialized teams where they will receive additional training.

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