



SMA CENTCOM Panel Discussion

Radicalization (Part II)

From the SMA Study in Support of USCENTCOM:

Assessment of Strategic Implications of Population Dynamics in the Central Region

Booklet

17 March 2019

1300-1430 ET

**Dial (866) 712-4038;
Passcode 37250264#**

Strategic Multi-Layer Assessment (SMA) provides planning support to Commands with complex operational imperatives requiring multi-agency, multi-disciplinary solutions that are NOT within core Service/Agency competency. Solutions and participants are sought across USG and beyond. SMA is accepted and synchronized by Joint Staff/J-39 DDGO and executed by ASD (EC&P).

Agenda

Panel Description: At the request of United States Central Command (USCENTCOM), SMA initiated a study in August 2019 to understand the strategic implications of destabilizing population dynamics within the Central Region. CENTCOM asked SMA research teams to consider how drivers of instability in the region—to include long-term internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, spread of radical ideologies and extremism, great power competition, disruptive non-state actors, and the potential for black swan scenarios—could be mitigated across PMESII levers of national power.

The first set of questions revolve around radicalization, particularly how to prevent the weaponization of IDPs and refugees by ISIS. In Part II of the panel series, research team from across industry, academia, and government research institutions will present findings related to who owns the radicalization problem and what we can learn from historical examples of deradicalization. In Part I (previously held on 10 March 2020), research teams presented findings related to breaking the cycle of radicalization, reintegration and reconciliation, and prevention of radicalization in IDP/refugee camps. To access the event booklet and slides from Part I, please visit <https://nsiteam.com/sma-centcom-panel-discussion-radicalization-part-i>. To access an audio recording, please email Ms. Nicole Peterson (npeterson@nsiteam.com).

The following questions will be addressed in Part II:

B2: “Are there examples of successful deradicalization in history that we can draw lessons from?”

B3: “Where does ownership of this problem (weaponization of IDPs and refugees) reside—internationally, interagency? What is the military’s role? What would be the most effective voice to promote de-radicalization?”

Speakers and Topics: The speakers for this discussion, the titles of their briefs, and the links to their publicly released reports are provided below.

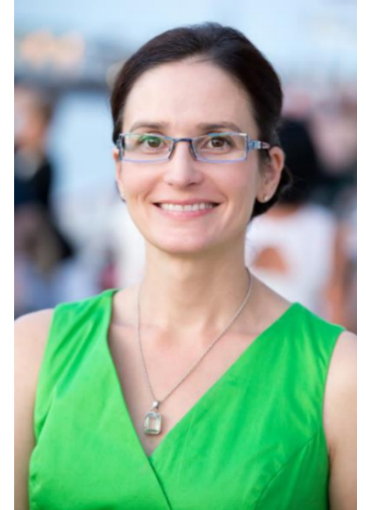
The order in which the panelists are listed will be the order in which they will present.

- **Introductory Remarks**
 - Ms. Sarah Canna (NSI, Inc)- moderator
- **Question B2**
 - Mr. George Popp (NSI, Inc)
 - *Common Characteristics of “Successful” Deradicalization Programs of the Past* (<https://nsiteam.com/common-characteristics-of-successful-deradicalization-programs-of-the-past/>)
 - Dr. Peter Suedfeld (University of British Columbia)
 - *Deradicalization in History and Psychology: A Selective Review of the Literature* (<https://nsiteam.com/deradicalization-in-history-and-psychology-a-selective-review-of-the-literature/>)
 - Dr. David Dorondo (Western Carolina University)
 - *Denazification in Germany: Lessons for Deradicalization in the CENTCOM AOR* (<https://nsiteam.com/denazification-in-germany-lessons-for-deradicalization-in-the-centcom-aor/>)
- **Question B3**
 - Dr. David Dorondo (Western Carolina University)
 - *Popular Radicalization and Mass Migration in the CENTCOM AOR: Post-Brexit EU 2+1 and the UN vs. a US-led Coalition of the Willing* (<https://nsiteam.com/population-dynamics-and-radicalization-in-the-centcom-aor-post-brexit-eu2-1-and-the-un-vs-a-us-led-coalition-of-the-willing/>)
 - Mr. Thomas Rieger (NSI, Inc)
 - *Responsibility for Displaced Civilians and Effective Voices for Preventing Radicalization* (<https://nsiteam.com/responsibility-for-displaced-civilians-and-effective-voices-for-preventing-radicalization/>)
- **Q&A**

Speaker Biographies

Ms. Sarah Canna (NSI, Inc)

Ms. Sarah A. Canna is a Principal Analyst at NSI. In this capacity, Ms. Canna applies her open source analysis skills to regions of vital concern to US Combatant Commands, particularly the Middle East and South Asia. To help military planners understand the complex socio-cultural dynamics at play in evolving conflict situations, Ms. Canna developed a Virtual Think Tank (ViTTa) tool, which is designed to rapidly respond to emergent crises by pulsing NSI's extensive subject matter expert (SME) network to provide deep, customized, multidisciplinary analysis for defense and industry clients. This tool has been used to study the so-called Islamic State as well as Eurasian cooperation and conflict. Ms. Canna is also a lead editor and integrator of white papers, reports, and proceedings focused on violent extremism, influence and deterrence, and adversarial intent. Ms. Canna also supported durability analyses using the NSI State Stability (StaM) model for Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria, and (at the megacity level) Dhaka, Bangladesh. Prior to joining NSI, she was an associate within the Social Science Program at Strategic Analysis, Inc. (SA), where she supported multidisciplinary projects ranging from developing and assessing computational social science models, evaluating state instability forecast models, and developing cultural aptitude taxonomies. Additionally, Ms. Canna provided analytic support to the Defense Science Board (DSB) 2008 task force on Understanding Adversaries, the 2007 DSB summer study on Challenges to Military Operations in Support of US Interests, and the 2006 DSB summer study on 21st Century Strategic Technology Vectors. Prior to joining SA, she was a research associate at Intellibrige Corporation in Washington, D.C. where she provided daily open source analysis to the Commander, US Southern Command and the Commandant, US Coast Guard. She also managed a network of 200-plus subject matter experts, upon whose knowledge Intellibrige analysts relied. Ms. Canna has a MA degree from Georgetown University in Technology and Security Studies. Ms. Canna holds a translation certificate in Spanish from American University and is learning Dari.



Dr. David Dorondo (Western Carolina University)

David R. Dorondo
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David R. Dorondo earned the degree of B.A. *cum laude* in history from Armstrong State College in 1980 and the M.A. in German and European diplomatic history from the University of South Carolina in 1984. From 1984 to 1987, he was a member of St. Antony's College, Oxford and was admitted to the degree of D.Phil. from the University of Oxford in 1988. He earned a Fulbright Fellowship to attend the Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg in the Federal Republic of Germany for the academic year 1985-1986, having already spent the year 1981-1982 at the same institution as a graduate exchange student. Since 1987, he has served as a member of the Department of History of Western Carolina University and teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses in modern European military and political history and the history of international relations. He is a member of US Strategic Command's Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance and serves as a subject-matter expert for, and contributor to, the US Joint Staff J39 Strategic Multilayer Assessment (SMA).



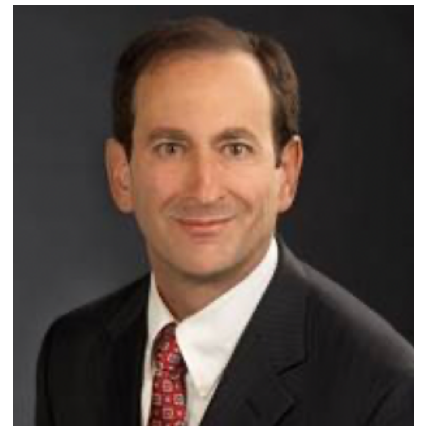
Mr. George Popp (NSI, Inc)

George Popp is a Senior Analyst at NSI, Inc. where he conducts research and analysis on a broad range of multidisciplinary analysis projects that focus on understanding the political, economic, and social dynamics of emerging conflict situations and environments throughout the world. George supports NSI's government initiatives, particularly leading and contributing to human behavior analytics efforts completed for the Strategic Multilayer Assessment (SMA) program on behalf of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and in support of direct requests from US Combatant Commanders to the Department of Defense. More specifically, George has led several NSI Virtual Think Tank (ViTTa), Reachback, and subject matter expert elicitation initiatives in support of the SMA program. George's degree is in Economics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.



Mr. Thomas Rieger (NSI, Inc)

Mr. Tom Rieger is President of NSI, with over 30 years of experience in applying behavioral science to predict patterns of behavior. He is recognized as a pioneer in the study and science of organizational barriers, and has consulted on barrier identification and removal for a wide range of organizations in both the private and public sectors. He is an expert in developing statistical models of human behavior, and prior to joining NSI, was the chief architect of predictive models of political radicalism and stability, which were both used in multiple theaters and cited in several reports to Congress. He also worked on the ground in Iraq during the latter stages of the second Gulf War to help prioritize reconstruction investments based on likelihood of minimizing emerging radical attitudes. He is the author of the best-selling book, *Breaking the Fear Barrier*, and the upcoming book, *Curing Organizational Blindness*.



Dr. Peter Suedfeld (University of British Columbia)

Peter Suedfeld (PhD, Princeton; Docteur de l'Université, h.c., Nîmes) served in the US Army and the USAF Reserve. He is now Dean Emeritus of Graduate Studies and Professor Emeritus of Psychology at The University of British Columbia. His research focuses on psychological reactions to dangerous, challenging, and traumatic experiences and environments. He has studied high-level political and military leaders, polar and space crews, and survivors of genocide and natural disasters. Among other honors, he is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and a Full Member of the International Academy of Astronautics.