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# After the Paris Attacks: Education Abroad and the New Normal

Moderator: Joanna Holvey-Bowles

Discussants:

Loren Ringer, APUAF

Alexandra Mitchell, CEA Study Abroad France

Julie Friend, Northwestern University

# Before we begin:

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- To cut down on background noise, each participant will be muted as they join the webinar;
- Please type comments and ask questions using the 'chat' function in the lower right of the screen;
- This webinar will be recorded and posted on The Forum website.

# Agenda

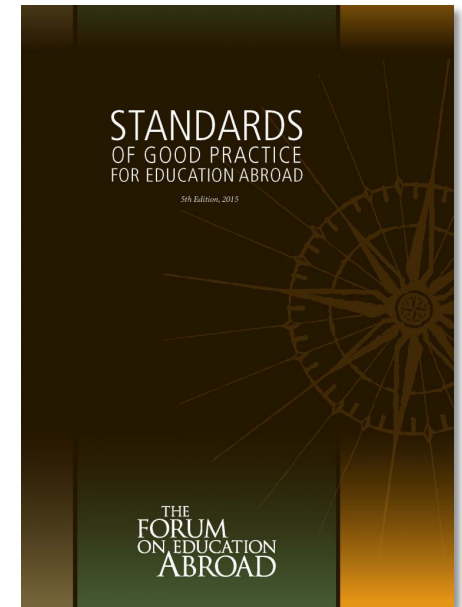
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- I. Introduction
- II. Place & the New Normal
- III. Language & the New Normal
- IV. Comparative Crisis Response
- V. Questions/Discussion

# The Forum on Education Abroad

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- Recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission as the Standards Development Organization (SDO) for Education Abroad
- *Standards of Good Practice for Education Abroad, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (2015)*
  - Standard 8: Health, Safety, Security & Risk Management



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# Definitions of Terrorism

Joanna Holvey-Bowles

18 U.S.C. § 2331 defines "international terrorism" and "domestic terrorism" for purposes of Chapter 113B of the Code, entitled "Terrorism:"

"International terrorism" means activities with the following 3 characteristics:

- Involve violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that violate federal or state law;
- Appear to be intended (i) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (ii) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping; and
- Occur primarily outside the territorial jurisdiction of the U.S., or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum.

Retrieved on January 16, 2016 from <https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/terrorism/terrorism-definition>

# No Universal Consensus on Terrorism Definition

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A 2005 paper by the United Nations discusses the inability to create universal steps to combat international terrorism due to the lack of consensus on a legal definition of terrorism. It further outlines concerns about issues of ethnic, racial and religious profiling.

Retrieved on January 16, 2016 from <http://www.un.org/press/en/2005/gal3276.doc.htm>

# Student Participation Rates in France

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According to the 2015 Open Doors Report, France has ranked #4 for the past 5 reporting years with steady numbers – over 17,000 students attending programs there annually.

2009-10: 17,161

2010-11: 17,019

2011-12: 17,168

2012-13: 17,210

2013-14: 17,597 (most recent numbers from 2015 report)

Retrieved on 1/15/2016 from <http://www.iie.org/Research-and-Publications/Open-Doors/Data/Fast-Facts>.



# Resources

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## Terrorism Analysis

- Cann, Oliver. World Economic Forum. Global Agenda: Risk and Resilience. What are the top global risks for 2016? 01/14/2016 [www.weforum.org](http://www.weforum.org) (Major risks do not include terrorism)
- *2014 Country Reports on Terrorism-Europe Overview*, the U.S. Department of State annual report from the Bureau of Counterterrorism (the reports are retrievable by year & detail activities in each country)

Retrieved on 01/16/2016 from <http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2014/239406.htm>

# Place and the New Normal

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Loren Ringer, APUAF

- 3 events spaced 20 years apart have affected previous held conceptions of safety in Paris:
  - 1995 Armed Islamic Group (GIA) Métro & RER Bombings
  - 2005 Suburban Riots
  - 2015 ISIL Terrorist Attacks

# Place and the New Normal

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Loren Ringer, APUAF

## The consequences for education abroad:

- Anyone can be a target, anywhere, and by any means.
- Pre-departure and on-site orientations must prepare students for non-specific terrorist activity.
- Risk assessment is more challenging when less containable (geographically speaking).
- It becomes increasingly harder to reassure U.S. schools regarding the locations of study centers, student housing, excursions, etc.

# Language and the New Normal

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Alexandra Mitchell, CEA Study Abroad France

- Defining “Safe”
- Making the “Safe” Decision – The Resources we Monitored
  - The APUAF Community
  - OSAC France
  - Local Institutions
- Learning Moments
  - Different Perspectives, Different Fears
  - When We heard “State of Emergency” & “Borders Closing”

# Comparative Crisis Response

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Julie Friend, Northwestern University

What made responding to this crisis so much more difficult than the last comparable crisis: the July 7, 2005 London Transit Bombings, where 52 civilians were killed and over 700 were injured in an eerily similar coordinated terrorist attack?

- The Perception that the World is More Dangerous
- Technology
- 24/7 News Cycle
- College as a Commodity
- Students as Consumers of Health Care

**“Spring study abroad students say ‘no thanks’ to government warning”**

- <http://college.usatoday.com/2016/01/19/study-abroad-government-warning/>

**“Terror threats will be the new normal for Europe, experts say”**

- <http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/01/terror-threats-will-be-the-new-normal-for-europe-experts-say>

# Questions/Discussion

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*To ask a question or make a comment:*

Use the chat function at the bottom right.