



NEWSFLASH

Spring 2015





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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

You spoke - and we do our best to listen.

Dear members, New Year, new challenges. Year 2014 will leave us with an excellent memory of Stockholm conference. We had the biggest audience of our history thanks to hard work of our board member Professor Henrik Belfrage and our excellent two big Swedish sponsors, G4S security company and the City of Stockholm. Everything went smoothly, the facilities were fantastic and we also gained many new members. With such a success it is easy to look at 2015 with great interest. We also had two changes, our long time president Bram Van Der Meer stepped aside and it was time for the next president to start leading the association. With all the ground-work done by Bram and with a smooth board including our executive members and associate members, the transition itself was not difficult. The other change (and a long waited one if I may say so) was the publication called Journal of Threat Assessment and Management. JTAM, as it is now known as, has proven to be an excellent Journal. Unfortunately we have experienced some difficulties with the distribution of the Journal, but hopefully 2015 will bring change to this and we can look at the beginning with patience and understanding. Rest assured, we are actively working with the publisher to make problems be a part of history.

Accreditation is still the hot topic and with guidance of our executive board member, Dr. Jens Hoffmann, we should be able to start with the roll out during this year. The sooner the better. Personally I have high expectations regarding this project. A vital step forward regarding the professional status of threat assessment in management in Europe. Also, we are looking at other TAP's and their process with their own accreditation. When other TAP's have their accreditation ready as well, it is time to see if there is any possibility to have the accreditation standardised at least to a certain extent, so that professionals across the globe have somewhat similar standards. But this will surely require plenty of work before we can accomplish this.

Other TAP's have had their annual conferences just as AETAP and we have had representation in each conference. Please keep checking our website regarding the dates for each association conferences. At the moment ATAP, CATAP and APATAP all have their conferences between August and November, so we are the only association that has the main conference during springtime. Currently the communication and atmosphere between all four associations is indeed at an excellent stage. All associations have a very good working relationship, which is always a benefit for all members.

JTAM started to appear in 2014, and at the moment we should have 3 numbers out, fourth number is just around the corner.



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We have received information that some of our members have not gotten their publications yet and some members have only received Nr 1. Personally I feel very frustrated about this, since we have been communicating to the publisher on a monthly basis and we are still not at the level of sufficient service. But we are working on it. Also, please keep in mind, that all members can register themselves through the website www.apa.org/pubs/journals/tam and get your copy as pdf-file through the website as soon as the next number is out.

Lucerne AETAP 2015 conference is just around the corner. Please mark your calendars from 13th till 17th of April. The main conference will take place from the 14th till 16th and this year we have two expert days. One on Monday (13th), when we have the opportunity to get trained in PATRIARCH - Assessment of Risk for Honour Based Violence by Dr Henrik Belfrage and Dr. Randy Kropp. Our second Experts day on Friday (17th) is a response to the requests from our conference attendees and members. We have a workplace violence case study day where the expert panel consists of Dr. Gerard Labuschagne from South Africa, Mr. Bram Van der Meer from The Netherlands and yours truly from Hong Kong. Also, thanks to our Swiss sponsors and work done by our executive board member Ms. Andrea Wechlin, we have the first expert day as well as the main conference translated in to German. This should definitely increase our participant numbers especially from our German speaking countries. Spread the word please. The conference facility as well as the city of Lucerne is magnificent, so the conference is worth the time and investment simply due to the location itself, but again we have speakers from four continents attending.

Feedback from our members was gathered in December of 2014. You spoke and we do our best to listen. 16 members responded, spoke honestly about their satisfaction but also gave some really important feedback how to improve the association during 2015. It turns out, that the association is doing rather well, but new ideas and constructive criticism was also received. The board will go through the feedback during the next few weeks and we will respond to the comments that were written. Thank you for your comments, they are extremely important.

Thank you for 2014 and I hope to see all of you in Lucerne in April.

Sincerely

Mr. Totti Karpela, AETAP President



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LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Publications in progress

The concept of identification in threat assessment

The authors are Reid Meloy, Jens Hoffmann, Kris Mohandie, and James Knoll

Identification is one of eight warning behaviours—superordinate patterns of accelerating risk—theorised to correlate with targeted violence, and which have some empirical validation. It is characterised by one or more of five characteristics: pseudo-commando behaviour, evidence of a warrior mentality, a close association with weapons or other military or law enforcement paraphernalia, wanting to imitate and often surmount previous attackers or assassins, or believing oneself to be an agent to advance a particular cause or belief system. The authors briefly explore the history of the psychology of identification, its current usage, and its application to threat assessment. Four cases are used to illustrate identification as both a process and a product, and a likely motive for targeted violence in some subjects. Its operational relevance for threat assessment is suggested. This work will be published in [The Behavioral Sciences and the Law](#) and will be online in the next weeks.

Journal of Threat Assessment and Management

the next issue will include a special section and a series of articles on "threats and attacks toward public figures".

VIOLENT EXTREMISM & TERRORISM

The recent attacks in Paris and Denmark motivated us to gather new literature on topics related to terrorism and violent extremism. We have selected articles varying from professional opinions to evidence based literature. It is clear that the political debates as well as the focus of scientific research in this field seem to vary from a more classical approach: organised groups with a strong ideological motivation, towards a more individual - behavioural approach: the lone-actor, or 'lone wolf' as they are often called in the media. A growing amount of research addresses the relationship between mental illness and such 'terrorist' acts.

This issue of Newsflash will for an important part focus on the above mentioned topic.

As an organisation AETAP wants to contribute to a safe and stable society, support professionalism in the field of risk and threat assessment, and stimulate good research.

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Published research

From Bouyeri and Breivik to Jihadist: conviction or psychopathology?

Allard R. Feddes (2014)

In a Dutch mental health journal dr. Feddes raised the question whether or not lone actor terrorists suffer from major mental illness. Or is it that they are mainly motivated by extreme beliefs? Both Bouyeri, the man who in 2004 violently killed a Dutch moviemaker on clear daylight in the streets of downtown Amsterdam, and Breivik, the offender who caused the massacre in Norway in 2011, seem to refer to themselves as 'soldiers for a good cause'.

Bouyeri said that he was motivated by his Islamic beliefs. Breivik had the purpose to 'fight' against the dangers caused by a multicultural society and the Islamic threat. Both were held criminally responsible for their acts. Insanity did not play a role. The fact is that both Breivik and Bouyeri seem to have strong feelings of (moral) superiority of their own group, and feelings of inferiority and perceived dangerousness related to the other group.

About 140 'Jihadi's' from The Netherlands have travelled to Syria. Some of them died and some of them will return. The French newspaper *Le Monde* commented: 'These 'Jihadi's' (an estimated amount of 3000 from Western countries) direct themselves towards 'the infidels, crusaders and Jews'. The *Le Monde* journalist continues: "hallucinating about a Caliphate IS wants to break down the borders of states in the Middle East'. Is this just an extreme belief or is serious psychopathology involved?

Allard Rienk Feddes (PhD) works for the university of Milano-Bicocca (Department of Psychology) in Italy. He studies the effectiveness of counteractive programs against violent radicalisation.

Lone Wolf Killers: A perspective on Overvalued Ideas

Matthew H. Logan, PhD. (2014)

The new journal "Violence and Gender" also discusses the circumstances in Canada and Paris. Matthew H. Logan, PhD, a veteran police officer with the Royal Mounted Police (RCMP), and an RCMP Criminal Investigative Psychologist (ret.) jumps right into the gap that is mentioned by dr. Feddes - extreme belief and delusional thinking patterns.

In Canada, Zehaf-Bibeau was converted to Islam but also frustrated in his attempt to get a passport to travel to Iraq, Libya, and Syria.

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On October 22, 2014, he shot and killed a Canadian military reservist who was on duty that day. He also fired at a second military reservist, ran into the parliament building with a rifle and shots were fired again. He was killed by the police. Logan comments that this act was committed by a young man living with overvalued ideas. This concept is defined as “an unreasonable and sustained belief that is maintained with less than delusional intensity” (DSM IV). These individuals have idealised values, which have developed into such an overriding importance that they totally define the “self” or identity of the individual. It is an unreasonable belief over which the person has become obsessed to the extent that he/she is unable to adapt to different circumstances. Although they can remain functional, they have a high degree of affect (e.g. anxiety or anger) when there is a threat to the loss of their goal or object of the belief and may take action they believe is justified. Overvalued ideas are in the middle of a continuum of obsessional doubts to delusional certainty. People with overvalued ideas are not completely and irrationally fixed in their beliefs. However, rigidity of belief makes them more resistant to treatment and also reduces the ability to oversee the consequences of their extreme behaviours. As a result, according to Logan, they are more likely to commit violence than persons with delusions. ‘Lone wolf’ may be a misnomer and in the future, Logan believes, we will see more “packs” of these wolves as they unite on common beliefs and themes. Logan prefers to look at the “motivating mindset” and the “psychopathology” when commencing an evaluation on the likelihood of targeted violence. The motivating mindset is simply answering the question, “what need is being fulfilled by taking this action?” Although this genre of subjects sees themselves as rebels for a cause or warriors, their actions are more a result of their psychopathology and motivating mindset. They can be recognised as people who don’t fit society well and are even misfits within radical organisations.

<http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/pdf/10.1089/vio.2014.0036>.

The violence of the Islamic State of Syria (ISIS): A behavioural perspective

Thomas Neer and Mary Ellen O’Toole (2014)

Another paper from “Violence and Gender” discusses the use of violence by ISIS from a behavioural perspective. The strength of this paper consists also of the combination of different perspectives to view the problem: both historical, sociological and psychological issues are taken into account. To put it into a comprehensive context the authors start off with a historical introduction. This gives more insight into the growth of ISIS after the war in Iraq, the Arab Spring and the uprising in Syria with its proliferation of Sunni resistance groups.

Specific attention is given towards the beheadings. The behaviour and words of the executioner in beheadings, suggest a pleasure in being in charge.

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Considering his tone, it is likely the executioner feels a rush of excitement with the world watching him literally holding the power of life over a person whom he has clearly demeaned and depersonalised. Those who kill, the decision often involves several factors, the most compelling being the demands of a strong leader and/or allegiance to peers. Killing binds the participants together, and collectively they work hard to rationalise their behaviour. On a practical level, ISIS believes murders committed in this manner will facilitate its demands for ransom, discredit transitional states, discourage foreign investments, and help attract new recruits (McCoy, 2014). From a psychological perspective, these murders bestow ISIS with an enormous attention and publicity. It has a reinforcing aspect to it. The more it perceives that extreme violence helps the group to achieve their goals, the more likely it will continue to use it. Violence will then become “normalised”. The use of propaganda has another advantage for ISIS: it affords ISIS the opportunity to deflect self-serving criticism, and thereby justify its use through self-serving statements and selective interpretations from the Koran. ISIS has decided crowdsourcing offers a more efficient means of communication that cannot be easily countered by law enforcement or intelligence agencies. ISIS's aggressive propaganda campaign has enabled them to attract recruits and gain status far beyond the geographic region where they commit their acts.

Although extremist groups are populated by people with all types of personalities, former CIA psychiatrist Jerold Post (2004) sees a relationship between charismatic leaders and their followers. He describes the former as narcissistic, “mirror hungry” selves, and the latter as “ideal hungry”. On a psychological level, both are attracted to the organisation not so much for ideological reasons, but in search of ways to fulfil their respective psychological needs.

Recent reporting suggests Western women are increasingly being targeted online for recruitment. This demonstrates the breadth of ISIS's international influence. Those recently recruited appear to be motivated by a desire for adventure or the potential to marry a jihadist. Young (female) adults likely accept at face value ISIS's propaganda and reframing of their actions as noble and necessary to ease suffering in the world. However, the decision of an individual to join an extremist group is seldom the result of a single reason or event, but instead involves a process. Not all of them who join will be willing to commit violent acts. The decision to use violence depends on a number of factors, including allegiance to a leader, peer pressure, anger, a need for excitement, a need to prove oneself, or a desire for revenge (Allard 2007;Horgan 2005). Last but not least, context is important!

We have just given a summary of this paper. Are you interested in more, please go to: <http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/pdf/10.1089/vio.2014.0037>

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Emily Corner and Paul Gill (2015)

In the latest issue of *Law and Human Behaviour*, Corner and Gill from the University of London published their study on the differences in mental illness between lone- and group-based terrorists. Over the space of 40 years of research on terrorist motivation the literature has jumped from one extreme position ("they are all mentally ill") to the exact opposite ("by definition, a terrorist cannot be mentally ill"). In reality, such distinctions are probably less clear-cut. A false dichotomy may exist that categorises violent individuals as either a rational terrorist or an irrational and unstable individual. However, some studies have shown that individuals with mental illness can display rational motivations. Gruenewald et al. (2013) found that lone-offenders had a significantly higher rate of mental illness than group-offenders (40% vs. 7.6%). In this study the odds of a lone-actor terrorist having a mental illness is also 13.49 higher than the odds of a group actor having a mental illness. Lone-actors who were mentally ill were 18.07 times more likely to have a spouse or partner who was involved in a wider movement than those without a history of mental illness. This suggests that those with a mental illness may be susceptible to ideological influences in their immediate social environment. Furthermore, those with a mental illness were more likely to have a proximate upcoming change, more likely to have been a recent victim of prejudice, and experienced proximate and chronic stress.

The full article is freely available at: <http://psycnet.apa.org/journals/lhb/39/1/23.pdf&uid=2014-33751-001&db=PA>.

Bombing Alone: Tracing the Motivations and Antecedent Behaviours of Lone-Actor Terrorists

Paul Gill et.al. (2014)

This article in the *Journal of Forensic Sciences* analyses the socio-demographic network characteristics and antecedent behaviours of 119 lone-actor terrorists. This analysis led to several conclusions. There was no uniform profile identified. Lone-actor terrorists should largely be characterised by what they do rather than who they are. In the time leading up to most lone-actor terrorist events, other people generally knew about the offenders' grievance, extremist ideology, views, and/or intent to engage in violence. However, in many cases those aware of the individual's intent to engage into violence did not report this information to the relevant authorities. Many but not all lone-actors were socially isolated. Lone-actor terrorists regularly engaged in a detectable and observable range of activities with a pressure group, social movement, or terrorist organisation. Lone-actor terrorist events were rarely sudden and impulsive. Significantly, more than 40% of the sample had previous criminal convictions.



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At least a third of this subset adopted the ideology and radicalised during jail time, for the event they later conducted or planned. A third of the sample had a history of mental illness or personality disorder.

The full article can be read online at: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1556-4029.12312/full>.

Thank you to dr. Reid Meloy for sharing the following article with us:

Allahu Akbar! A Psychological Abstract for Mass Murder?

J. Reid Meloy, PhD

During the attack on the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo in Paris, January 7, 2015, shouts of “Allahu Akbar!” could be heard in the midst of AK gunfire. The Takbir is the term for this Arabic phrase, usually translated as “God is great” or “God is the greatest.” Although the phrase is commonly used among Muslims in calls to prayer, informal expressions of faith, celebration, victory, determination, defiance, and distress, it is most familiar to Westerners as a phrase which precedes violent jihad. Malik Hasan shouted it prior to his massacre at Ft. Hood in November, 2009. Mohammed Atta, the cell commander for 9/11, urged his comrades to shout the phrase since it would strike fear in the hearts of nonbelievers. And Faisal Shahzad, the failed New York City Times Square bomber, spoke these words as he was sentenced to life in prison by a federal judge in 2010. Its narrow association with the intentional killing of nonbelievers is a gross distortion, but words shouted before a mass murder do have a history which we have studied over the past 20 years.

In 1999, my colleagues Anthony Hempel, Thomas Richards, and I coined the term “psychological abstract” which we defined as “a sentence or words uttered immediately prior to or during a mass murder” (p. 217)¹. We theorized that the phrase gave insight into the perpetrator’s intent and motivation, at least his conscious one. Thirty per cent of our cases presented with a psychological abstract, and it was usually said with a loud voice and great emotion. Here are some examples among our first sample of 30 US adult mass murderers gathered during the last two decades of the previous century:

“This is for the feminists!”

“Happy new year pigs!”

“The people here have ruined my life!”

¹ A Hempel, JR Meloy, T Richards (1999). Offender and offense characteristics of a nonrandom sample of mass murderers. *J Am Academy Psychiatry and the Law*, 27:213-225.



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Two years later, we published a study of 34 US adolescent mass murderers, and found a psychological abstract in 37% of the cases.² Here are some examples:

“I’ve had a bad day.”

“This ends now.”

“Jocks get up.”

Both samples of psychological abstracts suggested themes of anger and control. In a third comparative study of both samples, we wrote, “ubiquitous throughout our data for both the adolescents and the adults...is a right to kill others, a sense of entitlement that may have been exacerbated by the porcupine quills of paranoia or the suffocating blanket of depression. Such feelings and attitudes, however, still need to be hardened by a shell of callousness to be acted upon” (p. 304).³

“Allahu Akbar” does appear to convey both conscious intent and motivation—the choice to do something and the reason why. It is different from other abstracts shouted by mass murderers, however, in its religious connotation. As I have written here previously, motivation for lone terrorists usually has three components: a personal grievance, a vicarious identification, and an ideological framework. In these cases, the ideology is a politicized and authoritarian form of conservative Islam, and the most disturbing aspect is that it gives religious sanction, if not moral obligation, for violence against unbelievers. Acting as an agent or soldier of God to advance His Will brings a resolve and commitment that is steeped in righteousness, often masking a self-righteousness that views others with contempt, if not disgust; deterrence involves threat assessment through intelligence gathering, but if the pathway is undetected, interdiction may only be an efficient and lethal tactical response to the attack. A French social worker commented that Cherif Kaouchi—the younger of the two brothers who attacked the magazine headquarters in Paris—told him “he had been tricked and sucked into something he himself did not control or understand”⁴ following his detention as he was about to leave for Iraq as a foreign fighter in 2005. He was charged with criminal association in relation to a terrorist enterprise, and expressed relief at the time he was stopped.

² JR Meloy, A Hempel, K Mohandie, A Shiva, T Gray (2001). Offender and offense characteristics of a nonrandom sample of adolescent mass murderers. *J Am Acad Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 40:719-728.

³ JR Meloy, A Hempel, T Gray, K Mohandie, A Shiva, T Richards (2004). A comparative analysis of North American adolescent and adult mass murderers. *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 22:291-309.

⁴ Retrieved at <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/08/world/two-brothers-suspected-in-killings-were-known-to-french-intelligence-services.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&module=b-lede-package-region®ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news> on January 8, 2015



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He was convicted, but subsequently released back to French society. His behaviors, associations, and the reasons for his return to violent jihad are unknown at this time, but typically the motivations and reasons for acts of terrorism are numerous, and not limited to just a conscious rationale shouted before the killing begins.

“Allahu Akbar” is a psychological abstract. When used by terrorists it is also a totalitarian perversion of a deeply meaningful and personal expression for most Muslims which does not invite violence. When it was utilized by the brothers Kouachi in Paris, it conveniently fueled their predatory and homicidal aggression against civilians.

End

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Other published research

Finding a Needle in a Haystack: Toward a Psychologically Informed Method for Aviation Security Screening

Thomas C. Oremrod and Carol J. Dando (2014)

In the Journal of Experimental Psychology Oremrod and Dando present a new procedure for aviation security screening that is based, not on behavioural indicators selected from previous incidents, but on testing the veracity of passengers' verbal accounts. Behavioural indicators typically yield low discrimination rates. Indeed, earlier is found that accuracy in discriminating truth-tellers from deceivers was lower when judgments were made from visual rather than auditory media. Veracity testing offers an alternative approach to detecting that focuses on the nature of the verbal exchange between the sender and the receiver.

Recent laboratory studies have revealed six aspects of dyadic verbal exchanges that can discriminate deceivers from truth-tellers:

1. Evidence-based techniques. For example tactical and strategic interview methods.
2. Questioning styles that elicit rich verbal accounts.
3. Test of expected knowledge, which compares the content of what someone says with information already known.
4. Interviewing methods that restrict the verbal manoeuvre of deceivers. Specifically, deceptive individuals tend to be as verbose as truthful tellers when they are in control of the conversation, and they tend to produce as much unsolicited information than truth-tellers. However, deceivers become less verbose and deliver less information than truth-tellers when their accounts are being challenged under questioning.



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5. Procedures that raise cognitive load. For example, unanticipated questions.
6. Speech content. Deceivers' response length, unique words and ratio of response length and token words when answering prompts differ significantly to truth-tellers who speak longer, say more, and use more unique words than deceivers.

The authors developed a new security screening method on this basis: "Controlled Cognitive Engagement (CCE)". Their study showed that CCE leads security agents to assess the content of individual's account, rather than relying on intuitive judgments about passenger appearance and disposition. It is suggested that deception detection methods that rely on observation are unlikely to be as effective as those that include the verbal exchange.

The full article is freely accessible at: <http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/releases/xge-0000030.pdf>.

The Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting

This dramatic event occurred on December 14, 2012, in Newtown, Connecticut, when 20-year-old Adam Lanza fatally shot 20 children and 6 adult staff members. Prior to driving to the school, Lanza shot and killed his mother at their Newtown home. As first responders arrived at the scene, Lanza committed suicide by shooting himself in the head. The incident was the deadliest mass shooting at a high school or grade school in U.S. history and the second-deadliest mass shooting by a single person in U.S. history, after the 2007 Virginia Tech shootings. The shooting prompted renewed debate about gun control in the United States, including proposals for making the background check system universal, and for new federal and state legislation banning the sale and manufacture of certain types of semi-automatic firearms and magazines with more than ten rounds of ammunition. A November 2013 report issued by the Connecticut State Attorney's office concluded that Lanza acted alone and planned his actions, but no evidence collected provided any indication as to why he did so, or why he targeted Sandy Hook Elementary School.

The *New York Times* published a 114-page report in which new details into Adam Lanza's life leading up to the massacre are provided.

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/11/22/nyregion/report-on-adam-lanza.html?_r=1

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WHO Global Status report on violence prevention (2014)

The *Global status report on violence prevention 2014*, which reflects data from 133 countries, is the first report of its kind to assess national efforts to address interpersonal violence, namely child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner and sexual violence, and elder abuse. Jointly published by WHO, the United Nations Development Programme, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the report reviews the current status of violence prevention efforts in countries, and calls for a scaling up of violence prevention programmes; stronger legislation and enforcement of laws relevant for violence prevention; and enhanced services for victims of violence. http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/status_report/2014/en/

Website worth visiting

Former FBI agent and author of the fascinating book 'The Black Banners' Ali Soufan runs his own consulting company in New York City – The Soufan Group. He is a Lebanese who speaks fluent Arabic and did many of the early interrogations of Al Qaeda leadership. With his group he focuses on counter terrorism matters and especially the Intel-briefs on his website are worth subscribing to. <http://soufangroup.com/category/commentary/intelbriefs/>

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS & EDUCATION

CATAP

The Canadian 2015 Annual Workshop and Conference will take place from 17 – 21 October in Alberta, at the beautiful and impressive Lake Louise. Details to follow.





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APATAP

The next annual conference is planned to be in Bangkok, Thailand, 2- 5 November 2015. This one will include participation from threat management experts from around the globe. They are encouraging presenters in fieldwork, academia and policy to submit presentations on case studies, recent research findings and program development. Topics of interest include:

- Interdisciplinary and cross-cultural threat management
- Violence prevention programs
- 'Lone Wolf' attacks
- Analysis of written threats
- Complex and challenging case studies
- Threat assessment tools and techniques
- Stalking
- Unreasonable complainants
- Public figure threats
- Violent extremism
- Counterterrorism and group based violence
- Elder abuse
- Online harassment
- Computer attacks and hacking
- Cross jurisdictional prosecution
- Sexually deviant conduct.

The call for abstracts is open right now:

<http://us9.campaign-archive2.com/?u=f7c3385bc38ea767aad4d1098&id=ba91312097&e=bb47df3e1d>

ATAP

ATAP's 25th annual conference on Threat Management is planned: 11-14 August 2015, Anaheim. They are now accepting presentation submissions, deadline is already March, 27! <http://www.atapworldwide.org/?page=2015Call>. They are particularly interested in practical case management presentations, including workshops and detailed case studies. Especially new and exciting speakers are invited to submit their presentation.

International conference on forensic psychiatry

Bergen, Norway

Last September Norway hosted the third annual conference on forensic psychiatry. This latest meeting focused on the understanding, treatment and management of psychosis. Though this is more from a forensic mental health perspective, many topics about the relationship between psychosis and violence are important to take into account during threat assessment and threat management tasks. To name a few relevant presentations for our practice: Stephen Hart "*The forensic relevance of psychosis*", Max Birchwood "*Pathways to violent aggressive behaviour during first-episode psychosis: Results from the UK national EDEN study of early intervention services*", Stål Bjørkly "*The expert witness: Acts and facts in reconstructing a psychosis – violence link*" and Kevin Douglas "*Psychosis and risk assessment*". All the presentations are available on the Internet: <http://www.bergenconference.no/presentations/>.



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Online training and webinars from Proactive Resolutions

Dr. Stephen Hart, Dr. Randy Kropp, Dr. Laura Guy and Dr. Kevin Douglas have announced a newly scheduled spring training session on the new version 3 of the HCR-20 (Online Guided + Consultation) and also a new webinar series called: "Wednesday Webinars"! This series will include a 3-hour live webinar on a topic that you have requested. There are still many webinars planned until the end of the year: Further questions about this great initiative can be directed towards: info@proactive-resolutions.com.

Stalking Risk Profile

Dr. Rachel MacKenzie and Dr. Troy McEwan are organising another Stalking Risk Profile workshop in Europe. This time in London, United Kingdom, from 30 June -1 July 2015. For more information visit their website: <https://www.stalkingriskprofile.com/products/courses/london-uk-13-14-june-2013>