TERRORISM

What is it?
What can we do about it?
First video

Link to video: (only the first half)

https://youtu.be/tcYyFv1XaZQ
Did the world really

“only become aware of terrorism”

on

11 September 2001?
Between 1961 and 9/11

US Department of State lists nearly 150 “significant” terrorist events
• Munich Massacre – 1972
• Dublin-Monaghan bombings -1974
• Entebbe Hostage Crisis – 1976
• La Mon restaurant bombing - 1978
• Assassination of Anwar Sadat – 1981
• Bombing of Marine barracks, Beirut - 1983
• Assassination of Indira Ghandi - 1984
• Air India Flight 182 – 1985
• Enniskillen bombing - 1987
• Lockerbie bombing – 1988
• Oklahoma City bombing - 1995
• Omagh bombing - 1998
The vast majority of terrorist incidents take place outside Europe or the US.
What exactly is Terrorism?

In 1996, the international community

• “reaffirmed its unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism, as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomever committed

BUT

• It has been unable to reach full agreement on a definition of terrorism.
What exactly is Terrorism?

In the UN’s Sixth (Legal) Committee there is general agreement that a person commits the crime of terrorism if that person,

• by any means, unlawfully and intentionally,

• causes:
  (a) Death or serious bodily injury to any person; or
  (b) Serious damage to public or private property

• when the purpose of the conduct, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a Government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act
The major bones of contention

• Should armed forces of a state be excluded?

• Should those opposing foreign occupation be excluded?
Terrorists, statesmen or both?

- Michael Collins
- Jomo Kenyatta
- Fidel Castro
- Nelson Mandela
- Menachem Begin
- Mao Zedong (Mao Tse-Tung)
- Yasser Arafat
- Martin McGuinness
Second video

https://youtu.be/ZfJ4RVoaHOQ
UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

**Pillar I**
Addressing the Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism

**Pillar II**
Preventing and Combatting Terrorism

**Pillar III**
Building States’ capacity and strengthening the role of the United Nations

**Pillar IV**
Ensuring Human rights and the rule of law
European Union Counter-Terrorism Strategy

• Prevent
• Protect
• Pursue
• Respond
European Union

• Counter-terrorism strategy, which reads well, but questions about its added value;
• Counter-terrorism Coordinator, responsible to the Commission – value mainly persuasive
• Most effective in the area of money laundering, and inhibiting the financing of terrorism – 931 Working Party decides on individuals, groups and entities whose funds must be frozen
• Also promotes increased cooperation among member states – but Ireland and UK are only involved on an “opt-in” basis, and Denmark does not participate at all.
EU military operations which have an impact on terrorism

Four EU military operations contribute to combatting terrorism:

- EU Training Mission in Mali – mandate includes training Malian armed forces to neutralise organised crime and terrorist threats. Irish troops working closely with UK.
- EU Training Mission in Somalia – aims to build up effective armed forces in Somalia – in part so they can counter the threat from Al-Shabaab. Force Commanders have included Brigadier General Gerald Aherne and Colonel Michael Beary.
- EU NAVFOR Atalanta – mainly combats Somali piracy, but helps control terrorist transit between Africa and Arabian Peninsula
- EU NAVFOR Sophia helps enforce the UN arms embargo off the coats of Libya – Naval Service participation in the mission received Dáil approval on 13 July