

## Chapter 11

### Terrorism and the state

The upsurge in international terrorism has led to a great political debate about strategies and counter-terrorism. In the video below, Dr Michael R. Kraig points out three different types of terrorism: local, state-sponsored, and transnational. Watch the video and discuss the following questions:

- What is the difference between the three types of terrorism?
- Which counter-terrorist strategies are useful in which cases?
- Do some IR theories deal better with certain types of terrorism?

**Dr Michael R. Kraig on the different types of terrorism:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gOzuxu5QdA>

### Balance of Power versus Empire

As related in Chapter 11, hegemony and empire is more of the rule than the exception in historical state systems. Read the chapter and watch the two following documentaries on the unification of China in 221 BC and the aborted attempts by Habsburg Emperor Charles V to create a similar hegemony over the European state system:

The Unification of China: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yb1CcvqJ0gc>

Habsburg Emperor Charles V: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MRYzW3BSiOI>

1. What is the difference between the power struggles in Ancient China and medieval and early modern Europe?
2. How can we – more generally – explain that some multistate systems have equilibrated on the balance of power whereas others have seen empire or hegemony roll up the system?
3. What are the implications of this for the future development of the present multistate system? (Hint: what, if anything, will replace American unipolarity?)