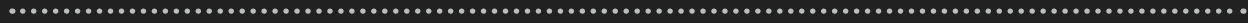


# SINGAPORE TERRORISM THREAT ASSESSMENT REPORT 2024



# Key Observations

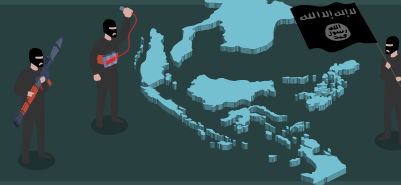
While there is no indication of an imminent attack, the terrorism threat to Singapore remains high.

- 1 The terrorism threat has been elevated since the Israel-Palestine conflict re-escalated following the 7 October 2023 HAMAS attack on Israel.** The conflict has generated emotive responses worldwide, including acts of violence, and terrorist elements have leveraged the conflict to further their agenda and called for attacks. These developments also impact Singapore. There has been an uptick in anti-Singapore rhetoric on social media from regional extremist elements.



- 2 Islamist terrorism remains at the forefront of the global terrorism threat landscape, in particular by the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS).** ISIS has transited into a covert organisation. It is behind the protracted insurgency in Iraq and Syria, while maintaining a global terror campaign. Meanwhile, Al-Qaeda (AQ) poses a simmering threat.

- 3 In Southeast Asia too, ISIS remains the primary threat actor. The region continues to see ISIS-linked or inspired attacks and foiled plots.**



- 4 In Singapore, the primary threat driver continues to be online self-radicalisation. 52 self-radicalised individuals (comprising 40 Singaporeans and 12 foreigners) have been dealt with under the Internal Security Act (ISA) since 2015. Youth radicalisation is a particular concern. 13 of the 52 were aged 20 or younger.**

- 5 Since the last report in July 2023, ISD has dealt with three self-radicalisation cases.** They were issued with Restriction Orders (ROs) under the ISA. Two were boys, aged 14 and 16. The third was a 33-year-old female. The ongoing Israel-HAMAS conflict triggered the radicalisation of the 14-year-old and 33-year-old. The 16-year-old was radicalised by far-right extremist ideologies.



- 6 Public vigilance and preparedness are key to our defence against terrorism.** The authorities will not always be able to neutralise plots before they are actualised, or identify radicalised individuals before they act. It is critical that the public remains strongly vigilant to the possibility of a terrorist attack against the country, and that such an attack may be successful.

- 7 Anyone with information or suspicion on terrorism-related activities, or persons who may be radicalised, should promptly contact the ISD Counter-Terrorism hotline at 1800-2626-473 (1800-2626-ISD).** We should also prepare ourselves for the eventuality of a successful attack, so that we are able to respond well and help mitigate the consequences. **Please learn more about SGSecure to understand the role we can play, or sign up as an SGSecure Responder, at [sgsecure.gov.sg](https://sgsecure.gov.sg).**



# External Terrorism Threat

## Threat from Islamist terrorist groups

On the external front, Islamist terrorist groups, in particular ISIS, remain a persistent threat, with their ability to radicalise and inspire followers to conduct attacks. Despite leadership attrition and financial setbacks, ISIS and its affiliates **retain their capacity to conduct terrorist attacks, both within and beyond the conflict zones.**

ISIS has embedded itself into the local populations in Syria and Iraq, and is rebuilding and recruiting from vulnerable communities, including those in camps for displaced persons, and detention facilities holding ISIS fighters. These are fertile conditions for an ISIS resurgence.

Beyond Syria, a United Nations report in January 2024 flagged the possibility that the centre of gravity of **the ISIS core could shift from Iraq and Syria to Africa or Afghanistan, with Africa being a higher possibility.**

In non-conflict zones, ISIS continues to encourage terrorist attacks and project its global brand through **dissemination of propaganda and ideology.** Such calls have resonated amongst radicalised individuals, and some have mounted

attacks in ISIS's name. ISIS is assessed to be attempting to reconstitute itself, with the number of attacks in Syria and Iraq set to double in 2024, compared to 2023, according to the US Central Command. ISIS and its affiliates are also believed to be rebuilding their ability to mount external operations, with at least four ISIS-linked attacks conducted in non-conflict zones in 2024.

Amongst the ISIS affiliates, Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISIS-K) is of particular concern given its track record of **successfully executing attacks in Asia and beyond!** Recent attacks have demonstrated not only ISIS-K's strong capabilities to coordinate and carry out attacks, but also its ability to inspire and recruit individuals from disenfranchised communities.



**The evolution of the threat in conflict zones in Africa continued to cause Member States concern, particularly in West Africa and the Sahel, where a deficit in counter-terrorism capabilities has been exploited by Da'esh. [...] ISWAP remained the most active Da'esh affiliate in the region, with the ability to carry out complex attacks outside its usual areas of operations, such as in countries neighbouring Lake Chad, where it remained active.**

- Extracted from the "Eighteenth report of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat",  
United Nations Security Council, 31 January 2024



- In Syria, thousands of ISIS fighters remain in custody in detention facilities run by the US-backed Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces. As of May 2024, the Al-Hol camp in Syria held 42,700 displaced persons.
- A substantial portion of those in Al-Hol reportedly espouse some form of ISIS ideology.
- According to a United Nations report, ISIS is focused on recovering personnel from detention facilities through attacks or other means, to backfill both their leadership and rank-and-file.
- There are reports that staunch female ISIS supporters in these facilities are grooming the next generation of ISIS terrorists by actively indoctrinating children in ISIS's violent ideology.
- Several countries have repatriated many of their nationals from these camps. Some of these returnees could pose a security threat to their home country.

<sup>1</sup>While the Taliban claimed to have defeated ISIS-K, terrorist attacks persist, indicating an ongoing threat. The UN reported that Sanaullah Ghafari (alias Shahab al-Muhajir) is alive and remains as ISIS-K's leader.

# Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISIS-K)



## 28 January 2024, Turkey:

Two gunmen attacked a Catholic church in Istanbul, Turkey during Sunday mass. The attack was subsequently claimed by ISIS, with one of the attackers reportedly being an ISIS-K fighter. One person was killed.

## 22 March 2024, Russia:

Four ISIS-K militants opened fire at the Crocus City concert hall in Moscow, Russia. The attack killed more than 140 people, with more than 550 others injured.



## 3 January 2024, Iran:

ISIS-K militants exploded two bombs in Kerman, Iran during a commemorative ceremony of Qassem Soleimani's death anniversary. Iranian officials reported that at least 84 were killed, with 284 injured.



Apart from ISIS, AQ and its affiliates have continued to build alliances among local communities as part of its “long game” strategy. In January 2024, the UN assessed that the relationship between AQ and the Taliban remains close. The latter reportedly allows AQ to remain in Afghanistan. Afghanistan is said to host senior AQ figures, new AQ training camps and several safehouses. None of the AQ-affiliated groups were reported to have recovered sophisticated external operations capabilities which

would allow them to launch major terrorist operations at long range. However, they are reported to harbour global ambitions, and have made covert and calibrated efforts to rebuild their capabilities. In June 2024, AQ’s de facto leader, Saif al-Adel, called for AQ supporters to travel to Afghanistan to gain training and experience, and encouraged attacks against “Zionist” and Western targets worldwide. AQ poses a simmering global threat.

## Impact of Israel-HAMAS conflict

The longstanding Israel-Palestine conflict escalated after HAMAS launched a large-scale surprise attack against Israel on 7 October 2023 from the Gaza Strip. Israel responded with airstrikes and an invasion of Gaza. This latest outbreak of hostilities has generated strong emotive reactions, and sparked hate crimes and religiously-motivated attacks in other parts of the world.

US intelligence has assessed that “it is likely that the Gaza conflict will have a generational impact on terrorism”.<sup>2</sup>

Terrorist groups like ISIS and AQ have leveraged the ongoing conflict to radicalise and recruit, and incite violence. They have called on Muslims worldwide to support their Palestinian brethren by attacking “Jews” and “Crusaders” (the latter can refer to Western countries as well as Christians). **HAMAS leaders have called for attacks against the interests of Israel, US and their allies.** In Southeast Asia, terrorist propaganda containing such incitements for attacks have made the rounds on social media.

### Examples of attacks triggered by the ongoing conflict

#### 14 October 2023

A six-year-old Muslim Palestinian boy (who later died) and his mother, were stabbed in their home in Illinois, US, by their landlord. The landlord was charged with murder and for hate crimes, having targeted the mother and son because of their religion and as a response to the Israel-HAMAS conflict.



#### 23 November 2023

Three male college students of Palestinian descent, who were speaking Arabic and wearing the keffiyeh (traditional Palestinian scarf), were shot and injured while taking a walk in Vermont, US by a gunman who was later arrested and charged with attempted murder.



#### 23 January 2024

A gunman fired shots and threw a homemade Molotov cocktail in the City Hall of Edmonton, Canada. In a pre-recorded video, the assailant said that his aim was to rise against leaders “responsible for the genocide in Gaza”. He was later apprehended and is facing terrorism charges.



#### 1 February 2024

A gunman took seven staff members in a Procter & Gamble (a US company) factory in north-western Turkey as hostages in protest against Israel’s military campaign in Gaza. During the nine-hour standoff, he demanded a cease-fire in Gaza and the opening of aid routes, before Turkish police arrested the assailant and rescued the hostages.



<sup>2</sup>Avril Haines, the US Director of National Intelligence, said on 11 March 2024 that the Gaza conflict “has galvanized violence by a range of actors around the world. And while it is too early to tell, it is likely that the Gaza conflict will have a generational impact on terrorism”.



**In February 2024**, newly established pro-ISIS media group Al-Aan Foundation published a recruitment video in English of a masked narrator urging militants in the region to “rise up” for oppressed Muslims across the globe such as those affected by the conflict in Gaza. Militants from Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines were called to “make hijrah” and pledge allegiance to ISIS.

There has been an uptick in anti-Singapore sentiments on social media, among regional netizens who perceive Singapore to be pro-Israel. Some regional extremist elements have also taken issue with Singapore’s contribution of personnel to Operation Prosperity Guardian,<sup>3</sup> and have made online posts inciting for Singapore to be targeted. There have been posts on social media urging for attacks against Singapore using “bombs” and “rockets”, and calling for Singapore to be “destroyed” and “wiped out”.

The heightened tensions in the Middle East also raise concerns that state actors and their proxies may engage in attacks against adversaries, including in third countries. Singapore’s interests may be caught in the crossfire. The Yemen-based Houthis for instance have reportedly attacked more than 80 commercial vessels since November 2023, ostensibly in support of Palestine. The Houthis claim they are targeting vessels linked to

Israel, including those whose owners have business with the Israelis. As commercial shipping involves an international coterie of ship owners, operators and crew, such attacks will inevitably affect third parties. In the past months, at least two Singapore-flagged vessels have been struck in Houthi attacks.

Transnational terrorist groups have also plotted attacks against Israeli and Jewish interests in third countries outside of conflict zones. A Hizbollah-linked plot to attack Jewish targets in Brazil was reportedly foiled in November 2023. In December 2023, European authorities announced that seven people, including four suspected HAMAS members, had been arrested on suspicion of planning attacks against Jewish institutions in Europe. While there is no indication of an imminent threat to Singapore, vigilance is required, given that militants linked to these groups have previously planned and conducted terrorist attacks here.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> It was also announced in January 2024 that Singapore would participate in Operation Prosperity Guardian, a multinational military operation to safeguard maritime security in the Red Sea.

<sup>4</sup> For example, in January 1974, four terrorists from the Japanese Red Army and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (which reportedly joined HAMAS in the 7 October 2023 attack) set off bombs in Shell’s oil storage facilities on Pulau Bukom. They subsequently hijacked a ferry and took five crew members hostage. Separately, in March 1985, a Palestinian terrorist planted the bomb which exploded at Faber House; it was targeted at the Israeli Embassy then located there.

# Strong counter-terrorism efforts in Southeast Asia

In Southeast Asia, **strong counter-terrorism (CT) efforts have curtailed ISIS-linked activities**. In the Philippines, security operations against the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) have weakened the group's operational capabilities. They have lost experienced members, particularly those with paramilitary expertise. For example, ASG sub-leader and bomb-maker Mundi Sawadjaan @ Mudzrimar (Mundi) was killed on 2

December 2023 when security forces on maritime patrol foiled his escape attempt in Basilan's coastal area.

Indonesia did not suffer any terror attacks in 2023. Authorities had undertaken pre-emptive CT operations against terror elements, arresting close to 150 individuals in 2023.



**Mundi Sawadjaan**

### About

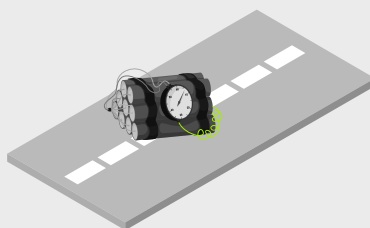
- ASG sub-leader and bomb-maker
- Operated in Sulu province, southern Philippines
- **Mastermind of two bombing incidents in Jolo, Sulu** between 2019 and 2020
- Nephew of Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan (deceased Islamic State East Asia Province leader)

### Notable operations and death



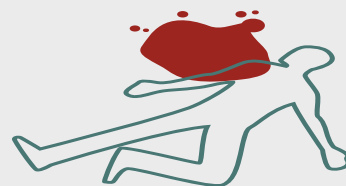
**27 January 2019**

Twin bombings at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral killed 20



**24 August 2020**

Twin bombings at Jolo roadside killed 15



**2 December 2023**

ASG bomb-maker killed in security operation at Basilan coast

# Regional Islamist terrorism threat persists

Nonetheless, overall, **Southeast Asia continues to face an active terror threat. Regional terror elements, particularly those with pro-ISIS leanings have remained resilient and adaptable, and have the capability to perpetrate attacks.**

In Malaysia, a radicalised male lone actor, likely motivated by ISIS's violent ideology, attacked a police station in Ulu Tiram, Johor on 17 May 2024, killing two police officers and injuring a third. The attacker's immediate

family members were arrested in the aftermath of the attack, and have been charged in court for terrorism-related offences. Authorities also undertook a series of operations in May and June 2024, arresting at least 15 pro-ISIS supporters.<sup>5</sup> Several suspects had allegedly made threats against Malaysia's King, Prime Minister and senior police officials. Meanwhile, in the Philippines and Indonesia, despite strong CT efforts, Islamist militants retain their bomb-making capabilities, and continue to plot attacks.

## Examples of recent Islamist terror incidents in Southeast Asia

### Ulu Tiram, Johor Bahru:

A lone-wolf attack at a police station by a radicalised 21-year-old on 17 May 2024 killed two police officers and injured a third.



### Marawi City, Lanao del Sur:

Islamic State East Asia Province (ISEAP) claimed the bomb attack on 3 December 2023 at Mindanao State University, which killed four and injured 50.



### Indonesia:

Approximately 40 Jemaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD) members were arrested across Indonesia in October 2023. They were involved in an attack plot targeting the Indonesian elections.

### Bekasi, West Java:

A pro-ISIS supporter was arrested for plotting to attack the headquarters of the Indonesian National Police Mobile Brigade Corps and the Indonesian Armed Forces in West Java.

### Solo, Central Java:

The authorities disrupted a plot by a JAD cell to carry out an attack against the police headquarters in Solo, Central Java in August 2023. The cell members were linked to the December 2022 suicide bombing in Bandung, West Java.



<sup>5</sup> Seven had been charged in court in June 2024 for terrorism-related offences, including supporting ISIS through their social media activities and for possession of pro-ISIS materials. One of the suspects, 28-year-old Muhammad Aabid Zarkasi, was also charged for producing explosive materials in preparation for carrying out terror activities.

# Lone actor: Ulu Tiram attack

On 17 May 2024, Radin Luqman bin Radin Imran (Radin Luqman), a 21-year-old Malaysian, attacked a police station in Ulu Tiram, Malaysia with a machete and killed two police officers, before he was shot dead by another police officer at the scene.

Radin Luqman's five family members were arrested and subsequently charged in court on 19 June 2024 for terrorism-related offences.

**The attack was likely ISIS-inspired.** The attacker's father Radin Imran bin Mohd Yassin was an ISIS supporter who had radicalised Radin Luqman and the rest of his immediate family.

This incident underscores the continued resonance of radical ideologies such as those extolled by ISIS, amongst the vulnerable and misguided. That this attack was carried out with an easily available bladed weapon, also highlights how lone-actor attacks involving simple means remain a serious threat.



Extract from Prime Minister Lawrence Wong's Facebook post on the Ulu Tiram attack (published on 21 May 2024).



## SPOUSE



**Radin Imran bin Mohd Yassin**  
former Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) member, 62 years old

- Propagated ISIS teachings to family members
- Stored four home-made air rifles for ISIS activities
- Pledged loyalty to former ISIS caliph Abu Bakar Al-Baghdadi
- In possession of ISIS-linked book



**Rosna binti Jantan**  
59 years old

- Deliberately omitted information on crimes related to terrorism

## CHILDREN



**Radin Romyullah bin Radin Imran**  
34 years old

- Pledged loyalty to former ISIS caliph Abu Bakar Al-Baghdadi
- Possessed hard disk with ISIS materials



**Farhah Sobrina binti Radin Imran**  
23 years old

- Deliberately omitted information on crimes related to terrorism



**Radin Luqman bin Radin Imran**  
21 years old

- **Attacker**



**Mariah binti Radin Imran**  
19 years old

- Deliberately omitted information on crimes related to terrorism

# Terror plot against the 2024 Indonesian Presidential Elections

In Indonesia, JAD remains the most operationally active terror group, accounting for several foiled terror plots in Indonesia over the past year. JAD-linked suspects made up the majority of the terror-linked arrests in Indonesia in 2023.

In October 2023, the Indonesian authorities arrested approximately 40 JAD suspects who were plotting to attack police facilities and personnel to disrupt the country’s presidential and legislative elections in February 2024.



A number of firearms including an AK-47 assault rifle, along with bomb-making chemicals like sulphur, and propaganda materials were seized during the arrests.



## Abu Umar

There were several terror recidivists among the arrested suspects, key among them being **veteran Indonesian militant Abu Umar**.

Abu Umar has been involved in Indonesia’s terror scene for many years:

- Participated in and organised military trainings in Indonesia and the Philippines.
- Coordinated the smuggling of arms and militants between Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.



He was previously arrested in 2011 for procuring firearms and plotting attacks on police posts in Jakarta.

- Investigations found he had also plotted to attack the Singapore Embassy in Jakarta.
- Both attack plans did not materialise.





**On 30 June 2024, the senior leadership of the AQ-aligned Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) announced that the terror group would be dissolved.** Several



Jl leaders, including former JI *amir* (leader) Para Wijayanto and cleric Abu Rusdan declared that the JI would adhere to Indonesia's laws, and remove extremist content from its teaching materials.

The JI's dissolution is a major accomplishment for Indonesian authorities. It has been weakened and decimated by waves of pre-emptive strikes and arrests against the organisation and its leaders since 2019. In 2023, JI terror suspects made up close to one-third of all terror-related arrests in Indonesia. Between January and May 2024, at least 20 JI-linked suspects were arrested.

Several of the terror suspects arrested in 2024 were found with weapons such as firearms and knives. Some were involved in training and recruitment whilst others had engaged in fundraising activities.

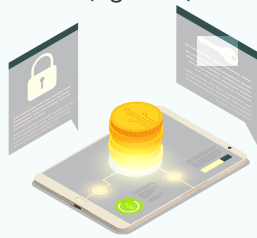
However, the terror threat posed by the JI remains. **Groups within the JI who do not agree with their senior leaders may splinter, and turn to violence and carry out attacks** to demonstrate their commitment to armed jihad. Some JI members may also continue to propagate **the group's ultimate ambition of establishing an Islamic caliphate in Southeast Asia.**

**Pro-ISIS narratives continue to have traction in Southeast Asia** as illustrated by recent terror-related developments in Malaysia. Southeast Asian pro-ISIS supporters have **also leveraged online communications to connect with regional ISIS supporters, and incite violence.** Singapore **remains a prized target and continues to be featured in ISIS propaganda.**

## Pro-ISIS “Virtual Caliphate”

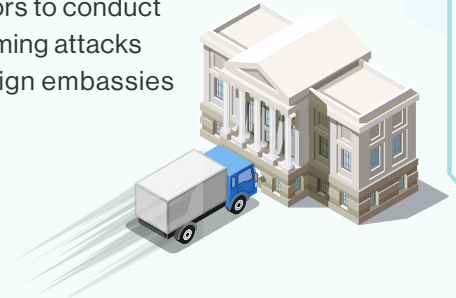
**1** A Philippines-based pro-ISIS media group “Al Fursan Media Foundation” (AFMF) reportedly **collaborated with possibly Malaysia-based pro-ISIS groups.**

- In February 2024, Al-Aan Foundation claimed to be a partner in AFMF's fundraising project to “support the *mujahideen* (fighters)” and shared the latter's poster soliciting cryptocurrency donations.

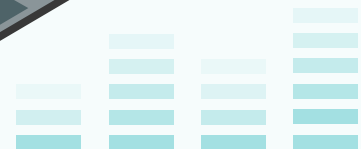
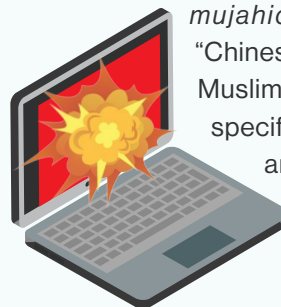


- In May 2024, At-Tamkin Malay Media shared posters by AFMF which threatened violence against Philippine authorities in retaliation for CT operations which had killed militants.

**2** In February 2024, Al-Aan Foundation published a series of infographics in English calling for lone actors to conduct vehicle ramming attacks against foreign embassies in Malaysia.



**3** A comment made in March 2024, in a forum of a pro-ISIS website, suggested that the *mujahideen* should attack “Chinese outside China”, in Muslim and Western countries, specifically mentioning Malaysia and Singapore.



# Far-right extremism a growing concern

Far-right extremism (FRE) is a fast-evolving security threat. It encompasses a wide range of beliefs that are often exclusivist, and advocate violence as a means to safeguard ethnic purity or achieve political objectives. **It is a growing security concern particularly in Western countries.** In its February 2024 report, the Center for Strategic & International Studies noted that violent FRE ideologies had become more prominent globally, with FRE posing the most pressing terrorism threat in the US, Canada, and Europe. Australia's security agency has also cautioned about a rise in FRE activity in the country.<sup>6</sup> While FRE does not have a clearly defined ideology, its adherents typically espouse rhetoric championing white (or ethnic) supremacy, xenophobia, racism, ultra-nationalism, Islamophobia and anti-immigration.

Though FRE is often conflated with white supremacy, its broader messages of ethno-religious chauvinism, nationalism, and nativism have found resonance amongst various ethnicities. Apart from encouraging individuals to engage in violence, such narratives also run the risk of polarising communities and deepening societal fault lines. Youths are particularly susceptible and may gravitate toward the sense of belonging and identity that far-right movements appear to provide. **Singapore has not been immune to this threat.** We have detected two cases of local youths being self-radicalised by FRE. The most recent is a 16-year-old Chinese youth, who was issued with a RO in November 2023 (see section on "Domestic Threat Situation" for details).

## Recent examples of non-white participation in far-right movements

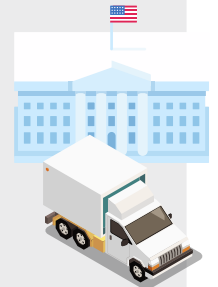
### Mauricio Garcia, *Latino*

On 6 May 2024, a 33-year-old Latino gunman Mauricio Garcia shot and killed eight people at Allen Premium Outlets, a mall in Dallas, Texas, while wearing a "Right Wing Death Squad" patch on his chest. A social media account believed to be operated by him indicated that he espoused anti-Semitic and Neo-Nazi views. He was shot dead at the scene by a police officer.



### Sai Varshith Kandula, *Indian*

On 22 May 2023, a 20-year-old Indian national residing in the US, Sai Varshith Kandula, crashed a truck into a barrier near the White House while carrying a Nazi Swastika flag. He reportedly had intentions of overthrowing the US government, and establishing a dictatorship inspired by Nazi Germany. He was arrested by US authorities.



### Enrique Tarrío, *Afro-Cuban*

Enrique Tarrío was the leader of far-right and neo-fascist group the Proud Boys from 2018 to 2021. He was sentenced to 22 years imprisonment in September 2023, for orchestrating the attack on the US Capitol on 6 January 2021.



### Proud Boys

Proud Boys is a US-based far-right, neo-fascist militant organisation founded in 2016, with

international chapters. The organisation promotes "Western chauvinism", and is known to advocate violence. Investigations into the 6 January 2021 storming of the US Capitol found that the organisation had been involved in plotting and leading the attack. Four of its leaders, including Enrique Tarrío, were subsequently convicted in the US for seditious conspiracy in relation to the attack. Countries like Canada and New Zealand have designated Proud Boys a terrorist organisation. Proud Boys is not known to have a presence in Singapore.

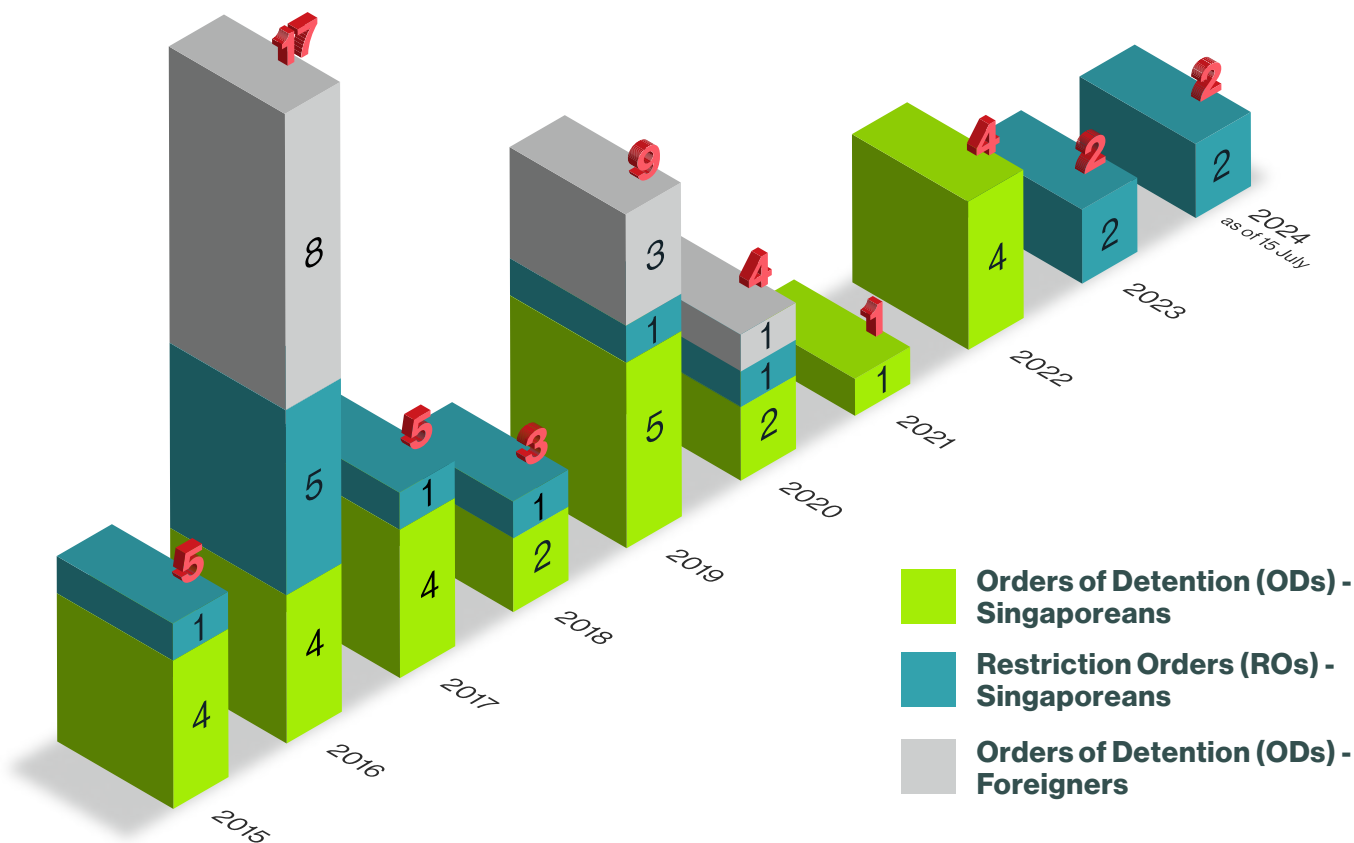


<sup>6</sup> Sources: "Global Terrorism Threat Assessment 2024", Center for Strategic & International Studies, February 2024, and "Rise in activity from rightwing extremists who want to trigger 'race war' in Australia, Asia warns", The Guardian, 9 April 2024.

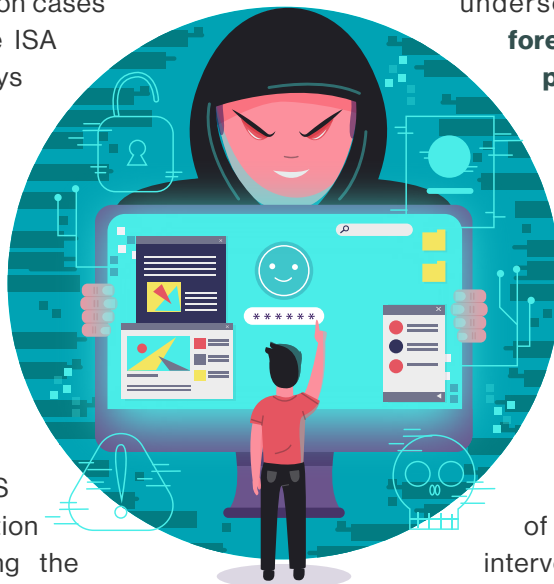
# Domestic Threat Situation

## Self-radicalisation is a key threat

On the domestic front, **self-radicalisation continues to be the primary threat driver**. 52 self-radicalised individuals – comprising 40 Singaporeans and 12 foreigners – have been issued with ISA orders since 2015. Among them are 13 Singaporean youths aged 20 or younger.



Since the issuance of the last report in July 2023, three new self-radicalisation cases have been dealt with under the ISA (all issued with ROs) - two boys aged 14 and 16, and a 33-year-old female Singaporean. Three points are worth noting. First, the cases **show that youths in Singapore remain vulnerable to online radicalisation by a variety of extremist ideologies such as FRE and Islamist extremism**. Second, the ongoing Israel-HAMAS conflict triggered the radicalisation of two of the cases (involving the



14-year-old and 33-year-old Singaporeans) – underscoring the **radicalising risk that foreign extremist narratives can pose to our national security and social harmony**. Third, these cases serve as a reminder that **anyone, regardless of age, gender, religion, or profession, is susceptible to radicalisation**. Such radicalisation can occur in the short span of months from the point of their imbibing extremist material online. The cases highlight the importance of public vigilance and early intervention.

# 16-year-old youth radicalised by FRE

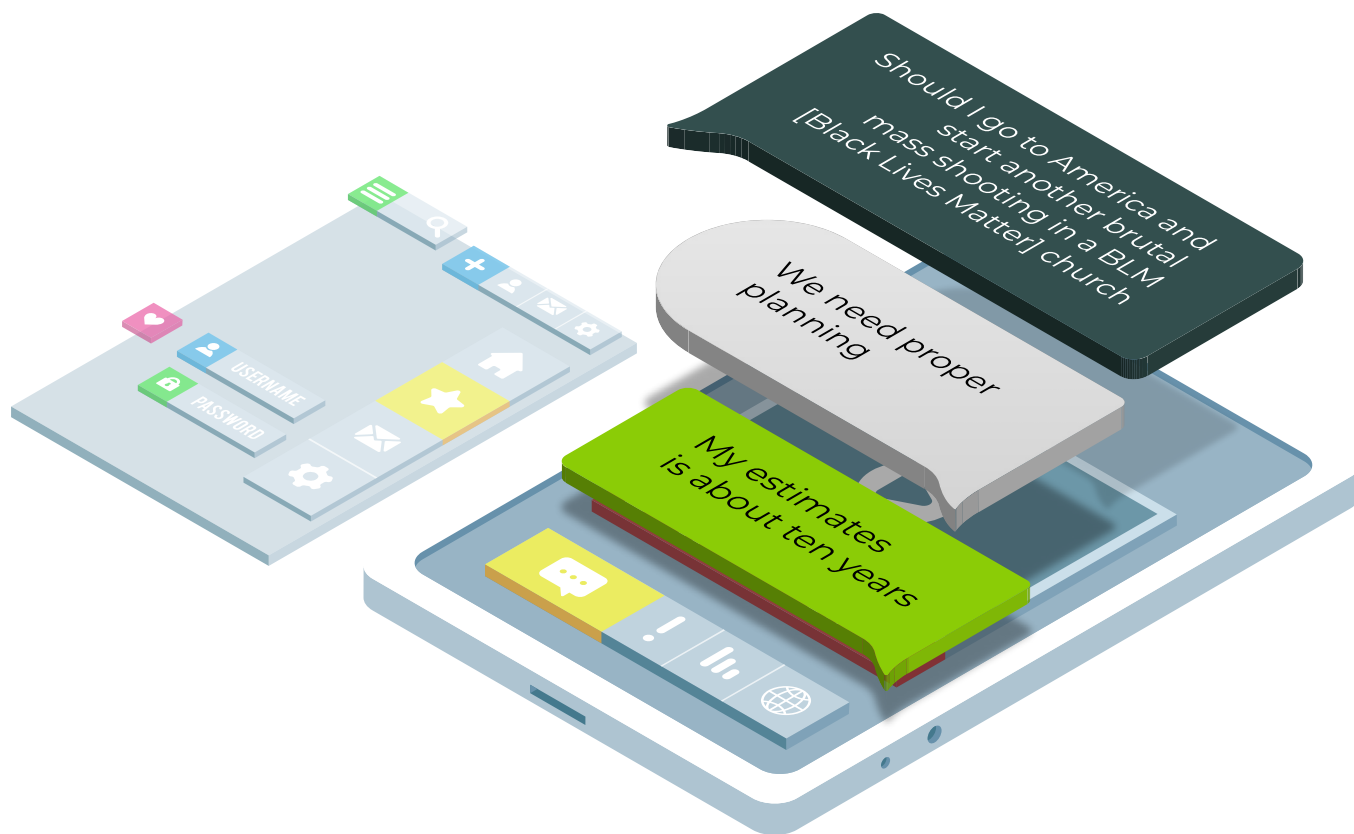
The first youth, then-aged 16, was **issued with a RO in November 2023**. He is the second Singaporean to be dealt with under the ISA for being radicalised by FRE ideologies. Although of Chinese ethnicity, he had identified as a white supremacist, and aspired to conduct attacks overseas in furtherance of the white supremacist cause. He was exposed to violent extremist online material in 2022, such as videos of American

far-right personality Paul Nicholas Miller, and by early 2023, had developed a strong hatred of communities typically targeted by far-right extremists including African Americans, Arabs and LGBTQ+ individuals. Fuelled by his extremist views, he wanted to commit a mass shooting in the US in ten years' time against the vilified communities. His case mirrors a global trend: the growing participation of non-whites in FRE and white supremacist movements.



## Paul Nicholas Miller

Paul Nicholas Miller, aged 35, is better known by his online alias, GypsyCrusader. An American far-right political commentator and white supremacist, he advocates for a race war, and espouses white supremacist and neo-Nazi rhetoric. He has been tied to multiple far-right organisations, including the Proud Boys and the Boogaloo movement.



Messages which the then-16-year-old youth posted in a far-right online chat group

# 14-year-old youth whose radicalisation was triggered by Israel-HAMAS conflict

The second case is of a 14-year-old youth, who was issued with a RO in June 2024. He is the youngest individual to be dealt with under the ISA. The youth's radicalisation was triggered by the Israel-HAMAS conflict. After extensively viewing online pro-HAMAS content and news, within the span of several months, he viewed Palestinian militant groups like HAMAS, Al-Qassam Brigades (AQB) and Al-Quds Brigades as "legitimate defenders of Palestine", and believed that "Zionists" were enemies to be killed. He also came across materials which prophesied the impending End of Times (EoT) and the rise of the Black Flag Army (BFA) in Khorasan (historical terms referring to parts of modern-day Afghanistan).<sup>7</sup> He became convinced that the EoT would occur in his lifetime, and that it was his obligation as a Muslim to fight for the BFA upon its emergence and die as a martyr.

**"My name is [redacted] and I'm a Muslim and my goal is to martyr for Allah and attack the enemies of Islam on the battlefield if god wills it."**

*– translated pledge which the youth wrote in Arabic, to motivate himself to stick to his plan*

**"In general, my plan is to go to a kuffar (non-Muslim) festive celebration and start attacking random people. I will also use this opportunity to mobilise my group to ensure that the effort achieves the maximum impact and create a sense of fear among the kuffars."**

*– Extract of youth's statement during investigation*

*Quoted from 14-year-old self-radicalised youth, issued RO in June 2024*

The youth took steps to prepare himself physically to fight for the BFA. He planned to save money by working part-time to fund his travel to Afghanistan, where he believed the BFA would emerge. He also tried, unsuccessfully, to radicalise several schoolmates, with the aim of recruiting them to fight with him alongside the BFA, and to help him carry out his attack aspirations. He aspired to conduct attacks against non-Muslim communities during their local festivals such as Christmas, Chinese New Year and Deepavali, to instil fear amongst non-Muslims, to deter them from celebrating such "un-Islamic" festivals, and facilitate the establishment of an Islamic state in Singapore. In the event that he was unable to travel to join the BFA during the EoT, the youth admitted he was willing to conduct attacks in Singapore on the BFA's instructions.



**It is possible to hold very strong views on what is happening in the region. It is possible to deplore how the Palestinians have been treated over the years. It is possible to deeply sympathise with the plight of the Palestinians, and yet still unequivocally condemn the terrorist attacks carried out in Israel. Their atrocities cannot be justified by any rationale whatsoever, whether of fundamental problems or historical grievances... We need to be clear about our stance – we condemn all acts of terrorism and wanton violence.**



**Mr K Shanmugam**  
**Minister for Home Affairs**

*Doorstop interview on  
12 October 2023*

<sup>7</sup> EoT prophecies discuss apocalyptic signs, the destruction of the universe, and Judgment Day (where humans will be held accountable for their deeds by being judged by God). The BFA is a prophesied Muslim army carrying black flags led by Mahdi, the saviour of Muslims, which will emerge in Khorasan to engage in a final battle with non-believers during the EoT. Terrorist groups such as ISIS have misappropriated the imagery of the black flags to garner support for their struggle for power.



## 33-year-old Singaporean whose radicalisation was triggered by Israel-HAMAS conflict

An'nadya binte An'nahari (An'nadya), a 33-year-old former public servant, was issued with a RO in July 2024. An'nadya's radicalisation was similarly triggered by the Israel-HAMAS conflict, following HAMAS's attacks against Israel on 7 October 2023. She started watching online videos of the situation in Gaza, many of which showed Palestinians being killed. She also joined several social media groups that shared information on military operations by HAMAS and its military wing, AQB. From these groups, she became aware of the "Axis of Resistance" (AOR) and their military operations.<sup>8</sup>

She began to view the groups under the AOR as resistance fighters, despite knowing that they had been designated as terrorist organisations in several jurisdictions. An active participant in pro-AOR social media groups, An'nadya made violent threats against Israel and Jews, and also called for violence against Singapore. She maintained close online contact with several foreign pro-AOR individuals from her chat groups, and was the administrator of a social media channel that aimed to encourage support for the AOR and its violent operations. An'nadya is the second public servant to be issued with an ISA order.<sup>9</sup>

“

**We have to stay vigilant. Terrorist groups will exploit such conflicts. They have already issued calls for followers to join in a wider jihad against Israel. There have also been reports of anti-semitic incidents overseas. Our position has been made very clear over the years. We act against anyone who promotes or espouses extremism and violence.**

”



**Mr K Shanmugam**  
**Minister for Home Affairs**

*Doorstop interview on  
12 October 2023*



<sup>8</sup> The AOR refers to a network of Islamist militant and terrorist organisations including HAMAS, AQB, Hizbollah and the Houthis.

<sup>9</sup> The first public servant is former Ministry of Education teacher Mohamed Khairul Riduan bin Mohamed Sarip, then aged 38, who was issued with an Order of Detention in November 2022 for making plans to travel to Gaza to engage in armed conflict alongside HAMAS and AQB. He remains in detention.



# Zero tolerance of violence

ISD will take firm action against any individual in Singapore who supports, promotes, undertakes or makes preparations to undertake armed violence, regardless of how they rationalise such violence, or where the violence takes place. Extremist narratives surrounding external developments should not be allowed to take root in our society, even as the public continues to be deeply and rightly concerned with the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.



**We have a zero-tolerance policy – we move in very early, we don't wait for the threat to materialise, or about to materialise, and we don't take chances.**



**Mr K Shanmugam**  
**Minister for Home Affairs**

*Doorstop interview on  
28 June 2024*



# Terrorism Financing

## Singapore as a potential source of terrorism financing



Most ISIS-affiliated groups are financially autonomous and some affiliates use social media to raise funds. Although **there is increasing use of cryptocurrencies, the predominant means for financial transactions by ISIS and its affiliates remain cash couriers and informal value transfer systems** (hawala). Funds have been flowing to ISIS fighters and their families in Syrian detention facilities or camps through financial institutions, money service businesses and cash couriers in neighbouring states. In February 2024, US authorities reported that ISIS “transferred funds – up to USD20,000 (S\$27,100) per month each – to individuals at the Al-Hol detention camp through intermediaries in Turkey via the hawala system, and via cash transfer apps and cryptocurrency”. Within Syria, charity operations and aid are reportedly among the fund-raising methods used by AQ-related groups. In February 2022, US authorities sanctioned Indonesian charity World Human Care, which was accused of raising and providing funds to AQ-linked elements in Syria under the guise of humanitarian aid.

In Singapore, the Terrorism (Suppression of Financing) Act (TSOFA)<sup>10</sup> criminalises the act of providing money for terrorist purposes. Since 2015, there have been 13 convictions under TSOFA – three Singaporeans and 10 foreigners. These cases involved funds being collected or raised in Singapore and transferred (or was going to be moved) in support of terrorists and terrorist activities abroad.

There have been **no prosecutions of terrorism financing (TF) offences in Singapore in the past 12 months**, but as a global financial centre and transport hub with a significant migrant workforce, Singapore remains a potential source of funds for terrorists and terrorist organisations abroad. Guided by the National Strategy for Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CTF), unveiled in 2022, Singapore law enforcement and government agencies continue to work together with financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions, and non-profit organisations to monitor and mitigate our TF risks. Singapore also engages with our foreign partners in CTF efforts including as a member of the Financial Action Task Force.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>10</sup> TSOFA gives effect to Singapore’s obligations under the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, which Singapore adopted in 2001.

<sup>11</sup> The Financial Action Task Force is an independent inter-governmental body that develops and promotes policies to protect the global financial system against money laundering, terrorist financing and the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

## Israel-HAMAS conflict being exploited by terror elements for TF purposes

Charities and non-profit organisations around the world have organised fund-raising activities in response to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. While these activities aim to collect and channel aid to those in need, **terrorist elements are known to exploit such platforms for TF purposes.** Charities and NGOs are reportedly among the vehicles commonly used by HAMAS networks to collect funds for the group globally.

US officials have commented that an increased interest to donate has provided greater cover for HAMAS. There have been **reports of HAMAS receiving USD 8 - 12 million a month through front charities. HAMAS officials have also publicly called for donations,** and termed such donations as financial jihad.

Singaporeans have donated generously to provide aid for the affected communities in Gaza. There is a need to be vigilant about the avenues through which aid is donated. Singaporeans wishing to make donations should do so through charities such as the Red Cross and the Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation (RLAF).

**Members of the public are reminded not to remit monies of any amount, or provide any other form of support, to terrorist organisations or for facilitating terrorist activities.** For those seeking to donate to humanitarian causes, the Charity Portal ([www.charities.gov.sg](http://www.charities.gov.sg)) provides information on Safer-Giving, which can help ensure that one's donations are used for genuine charitable purposes. Anyone with information on suspected TF activities should alert the authorities promptly.

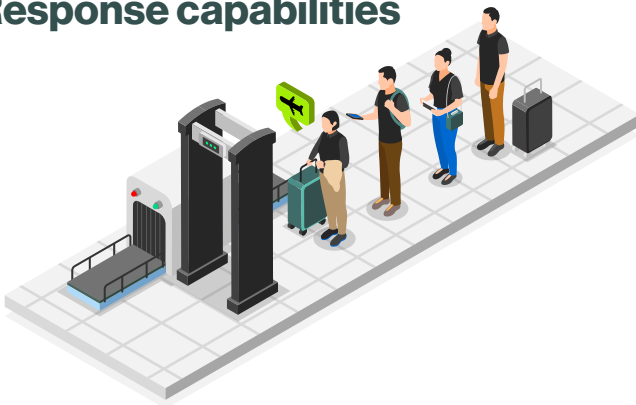


# Our Response Matters

ISD, in close partnership with our Home Team agencies, will continue to work with other Government agencies and the community to keep Singapore safe and secure. This is done through our ongoing efforts to enhance our CT capabilities, while also leveraging on the SGSecure responders network mobilise the community in the fight against terror.

## Efforts to enhance CT capabilities

### Response capabilities



As the terror threat continues to evolve, the Home Team ensures preparedness by continuously enhancing our counter-terrorism capabilities. To validate our operational readiness against the terror threat, the Singapore Police Force (SPF) conducts regular counter-terrorism and emergency preparedness exercises with various stakeholders, such as the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) and partners from the Safety and Security Watch Group (SSWG). Between January 2023 and March 2024, more than 20 exercises were conducted with SSWG members, which included a large-scale counter-terrorism exercise, codenamed 'Exercise Heartbeat', held in the vicinity of Millenia Singapore on 20 November 2023.

Another large-scale counter-terrorism exercise involving multiple agencies including SPF, SCDF, Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA), and Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) was conducted from 30 April 2024 to 1 May 2024. The exercise is part of continued efforts by the Home Team and the SAF to test and validate Singapore's multi-agency response plan to a terrorist attack. More than 600 personnel from across the various agencies participated in the exercise which covered a myriad of scenarios including discoveries of an improvised explosive device (IED), armed attacks and armed intrusion by sea.

SPF continues to strengthen our ability to deal with new and emerging threats, such as from Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). Together with the Home Team Science and Technology Agency, a suite of counter-UAS systems has been developed to enhance the Police's capabilities to detect, track and neutralise threats by rogue UAS. SPF has also progressively trained and armed its ground forces with handheld jammer guns to disrupt the drone's control signal, and neutralise the threat. In 2023, Singapore implemented a new framework for cross-border unmanned aircraft operations which stipulates that cross-border unmanned aircraft flights are prohibited unless the operator is issued with a valid permit. The regulations for cross-border unmanned aircraft flights also empower authorities to take decisive enforcement actions against such.

On the other hand, SPF is harnessing UAS to strengthen its operational capabilities, including in counter-terrorism.

SPF will be progressively rolling out Police Patrol Robots at key transport nodes such as the Airport Terminals, and Integrated Transport Hubs, and also at Police/Police-protected establishments. The robots will augment police patrols by serving as additional eyes on the ground and by projecting police presence round the clock. They will be able to sense-make an incident, respond and complement officers in their duties.



*Police Patrol Robot*

## Border Security

ICA plays a significant security role at our borders as the first line of defence for the country. To achieve this mission, ICA has continued to innovate and enhance its capabilities. In January 2023, ICA took over from SPF, protective security functions at the land checkpoints. This added role enables ICA to achieve greater operational coordination, and command and control in border security incidents at the checkpoints. Regular exercises were held to validate the Home Team's operational readiness to deal with security incidents at our borders.

ICA introduced the New Clearance Concept (NCC) to make automated immigration clearance the norm at checkpoints. This includes the use of facial and iris features in lieu of fingerprints as the primary biometric identifier during immigration clearance. The employment of both iris and facial scans enables more secure and reliable authentication of travellers' identities, further increasing our ability to safeguard our borders.

The NCC enables ICA to do more than just automated clearance. For example, data analytics will also be applied to advance passenger and crew information. With the analysis, risk profiles will be generated to aid officers in the risk assessment of travellers. As the reliance on manual clearance is reduced and checks are more targeted, ICA officers can take on higher-value job functions to safeguard Singapore's border security. As part of the NCC for cargo, ICA has streamlined our cargo clearance processes and enhanced our screening capabilities by leveraging artificial intelligence to detect anomalies in the scanned images of cargo, parcels, and baggage. This will strengthen our ability to detect potential threats in items before their entry into Singapore.



# Enhancing Community Resilience

In a bid to further enhance community resilience, the SGSecure Movement entered a new phase in July 2023, urging Singaporeans to deepen social cohesion, and to play an active role in safeguarding our society from terrorism and extremism. The updated tagline, “What’s Your Role?”, aims to inspire Singaporeans to leverage their individual strengths to help counter terrorism.

Together with partner agencies, the SGSecure Movement aims to continue developing new programmes and augment existing initiatives to better engage and mobilise the community to keep our home safe from terrorism. There has been an expansion of efforts in enhancing awareness and relatability of messages, strengthening

preparedness, and engaging youths to inoculate them from extremism. Key developments include (i) Enhancing Awareness and Relatability; (ii) Strengthening Preparedness; and (iii) Engaging Youths (see Annex for details).

The Ministry of Digital Development and Information [formerly known as the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI)] conducted a national-level survey from March to June 2023 to gauge awareness and public perception towards national security issues, including the threat of terrorism and participation in emergency preparedness efforts as part of the SGSecure movement.<sup>12</sup>

## Results of national-level survey

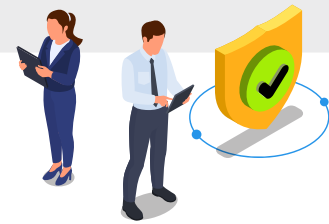
**49%**

of respondents believed that Singapore is a target for terrorist attacks.



**67%**

agreed that they were generally alert and would keep a lookout for suspicious behaviours or items when in a public place. About 47% would contact the authorities if they believed that one of their loved ones (e.g. family, relative or friend) was displaying signs of radicalisation.



**68%**

were familiar with or trained in emergency preparedness skills.<sup>13</sup>



**92%**

were willing to help other Singaporeans affected by a national crisis, such as a terrorist attack.



<sup>12</sup> The survey involved a representative sample of 2,012 Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents (aged 15 and above) through face-to-face interviews.

<sup>13</sup> These skills include performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), using an automated external defibrillator, providing first aid, psychological first aid/counselling, performing improvised first aid, operating a fire extinguisher, or managing/facilitating evacuation and lockdown during emergencies.



Members of the public are encouraged to continue being vigilant in their daily routine, pick up important emergency preparedness skills that might come in useful to save lives, and build on our racial and religious harmony to maintain a cohesive society. As of April 2024, more than 170,000 people have joined the SGSecure Responders' Network. Scan the following QR codes to join us in keeping Singapore safe and secure today.

QR Code for Android



QR Code for IOS



Time is of the essence when someone is already displaying signs of radicalisation. By alerting the authorities early, we can help the individual to receive timely help, guidance, and counselling.

**Anyone who knows or suspects that a person is radicalised should promptly contact the ISD Counter-Terrorism hotline**

**1800-2626-473 (1800-2626-ISD)**

**The identity of the informer will be protected.**

When a report is made, authorities will carry out checks to ascertain the veracity of the report. In situations where there are no indications of radicalisation, no further action will be taken against the individual(s). Where there is basis to suspect that the person may be radicalised, he/she may be referred for counselling and other mitigating measures.

## Signs of possible radicalisation include, but are not limited to:



Frequently surfing radical websites;

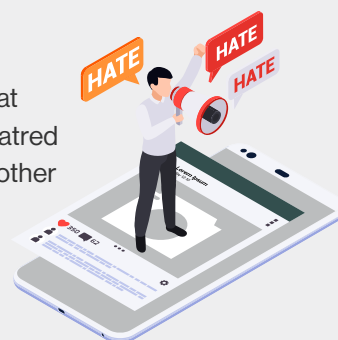


Posting/sharing extremist views on social media platforms, such as expressing support/admiration for terrorists/terrorist groups as well as the use of violence;



Sharing extremist views with friends and relatives;

Making remarks that promote ill-will or hatred towards people of other races, religions or communities;



Expressing intent to participate in acts of violence overseas or in Singapore; and/or



Inciting others to participate in acts of violence.

# Conclusion

The terrorism threat to Singapore is very real, and remains high. We continue to be viewed as an attractive target, and continue to detect self-radicalised individuals within our communities. Our strongest defence is our collective vigilance, preparedness, resilience and unity, along with a zero-tolerance approach to those who seek to conduct or finance terrorist acts, or propagate extremist rhetoric.

## Internal Security Department

25 July 2024



# SGSecure Movement Enhancing Awareness and Relatability

## “What’s Your Role?” Campaign

Our latest campaign brings across the idea that everyday Singaporeans, from all walks of life, can leverage their individual and existing strengths to keep Singapore safe and secure. The following personas help to illustrate that we need not have special skills to keep terrorism at bay:

As of June 2024, more than **13,900** people have taken the personality quiz hosted at [www.sgsecure.gov.sg/whatsyourrole/quiz](http://www.sgsecure.gov.sg/whatsyourrole/quiz) and found their roles in keeping Singapore safe. Find yours today.

- **The Uniter** – A person who cares for others and helps keep the kampong spirit alive.
- **The True Friend** – A person who is observant and shows care for a friend who is potentially radicalised.
- **The Fact-checker** – A person who is alert and calls out fake news to stop it from spreading.
- **The Lifesaver** – A person who is ready to respond with his or her emergency preparedness skills in moments of need.
- **The Guardian** – A person who is calm and quick to lead others away from danger.
- **The Lookout** – A person who is vigilant and reports suspicious behaviours or items.



Visuals for the “What’s Your Role” campaign



## New Series of SGSecure Roadshows

A new series of SGSecure Roadshows, launched in September 2023, leverages innovative digital technology and interactive gameplay to sustain awareness on the terrorism threat and educate the public on important skills and knowledge to keep Singapore safe. Visitors would embark on an experiential journey to learn how to detect and report suspicious behaviours and items; equip

themselves with emergency preparedness skills such as CPR and improvised first aid; how to spot misinformation and fake news; and how staying united is our best defence against terrorism. In total, close to 13,000 visitors visited the five roadshows held at Funan, Bugis+, Waterway Point, Jurong Point and Plaza Singapura.



A visitor using a cue card to aid her in spotting suspicious behaviours and items on a location drawing at the SGSecure Roadshow



A visitor learning from a SCDF officer on how to save a life during an attack using the 'Press-Tie-Tell' protocol at the SGSecure Roadshow

## Strengthening Preparedness

### Community Response Roundtables

MHA and the People's Association (PA) have been enhancing emergency preparedness and response at the community level via the Community Response Roundtable (CRRT). This initiative is part of the broader SGSecure movement to foster collaboration among local community stakeholders to enhance crisis preparedness and community resilience. To date, there are 34 CRRTs islandwide.

Besides meetings and table-top exercises, the CRRT members proactively engaged in projects to enhance their emergency preparedness. For example, in conjunction with the SGSecure Roadshow at Jurong Point on 30 March 2024, Pioneer CRRT, together with CRRT members from Boon Lay, Ayer Rajah-Gek Poh, West Coast and Jurong East-Jurong West Town, learnt

about Psychological First Aid and participated in SCDF's Responders Plus Programme before attending the SGSecure Roadshow together.



CRRT participants attending the CPR training as part of SCDF's Responders Plus Programme

## Engaging Youths

### Counter Radicalisation Workshops

MHA and MOE have run a series of counter radicalisation workshops for the Community Engagement Programme teams from the Junior Colleges and Secondary Schools, as well as student ambassadors in the Junior Colleges. These workshops raised awareness of the threat of terrorism and online radicalisation. Members of the Government Parliamentary Committee (GPC) for Home Affairs and Law also graced several workshops for the JC student ambassadors to engage in meaningful discussions and provide valuable insights on the safety and security landscape in Singapore.



Former Chairperson of GPC (Home Affairs & Law), Mr Murali Pillai, interacting with students from the NUS High School of Mathematics and Science

### Collaboration with the Institutes of Higher Learning

MHA has also extended our reach to youths studying in the Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs) to raise awareness and encourage mobilisation by exploring ground up initiatives and collaboration. Thus far, we have established partnerships with Singapore Polytechnic,

Republic Polytechnic, and ITE College Central through Singapore Cybersports and Online Gaming Association. Examples include training staff in Psychological First Aid and engaging students on SGSecure advisories during school events.



MHA staff engaging Republic Polytechnic students at an event



MHA staff with Singapore Polytechnic student leaders who raised awareness on SGSecure at Singapore Polytechnic Co-Curricular Activities Carnival

