

## Countering Terrorism and Defending Human Right after 9/11: The European Perspective

**Authors :** Anita Blagojević

**Abstract :** It is well known that the terrorist attacks on the New York City and Washington, D.C. prompted unprecedented international action to enhance international cooperation in the prevention and suppression of terrorism. In the months (and years) after September 11, the world community focused on two main efforts: first, on efforts to bring those responsible for terrorist attacks to justice, and second, on efforts to prevent future terrorist attacks. In that sense, many governments took advantage of these efforts to strengthen their national security. In that process, however, human rights and civil liberties of certain groups of people were alleged. As a consequence, part of the price paid for protecting national security against terrorist attacks was the threat of infringement on people's fundamental rights and freedoms. The aim of this paper is to analyze the role of the European Union and the Council of Europe in finding the answer to the one of the main security dilemma for the present era: how to find the balance between the protection of national security and guarantee of the people's rights and fundamental freedoms?

**Keywords :** terrorism, antiterrorism, European Union, Council of Europe, human rights

**Conference Title :** ICPSSIR 2015 : International Conference on Political Science, Sociology and International Relations

**Conference Location :** Lisbon, Portugal

**Conference Dates :** April 16-17, 2015