C·A·P — Center for Applied Policy Research

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Terrorism, Counterterrorism, European Political and Security Culture and the 'War of Ideas'

Terrorism in the Transatlantic Context: Cultural and Economic Implications and Solutions

American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (AICGS)

Fritz Thyssen Stiftung

Potsdam, Germany

How much has Europe changed in the past decade through the impact of terrorism?

- Terrorism is perceived as a common risk by all member states and the European public

- Terrorism is primarily regarded as topic for domestic (or for that matter inner-European) security

- Terrorism as a risk-multiplier, internalised in security political thinking and public discourse

- Through its activity in the field of counter-terrorism the European Union actually constitutes itself as a political actor

How can the West win the 'War of Ideas' and gain the support of public opinion in the Middle East?

- A 'war of ideas' between the 'West' and 'Islam'? Rather a discourse within Islam about adequate interpretation of Quran, religious duties etc. (similar to other inner-religious discourses)

- Middle Eastern public opinion about the West
- ➢ Reflecting on Western policy vis-à-vis the Middle East
- ➢ Addressing the anti-Western narrative in the Middle East
- ➢ Addressing anti-Islam sentiments in the West

Thank you for your attention!