# CYBER TERRORISM

The lecture begins with the perennially difficult task of providing a conceptual definition of cyber terrorism.

Apart from the various possible definitions, the practical importance of providing a correct conceptual framework can even go so far as to influence the treatment the phenomenon will eventually be given: the merely jurisdictional framework, based on the Criminal and Procedural Code in which generally there would be a danger of falling into police or militarised states and as a transition towards normality in democratic societies, or the military camps or secret services in which they have practically always resided to date.

In order to discover this it is necessary to analyse the manifestations of cyber terrorism which the lecture summarises mainly as the two following practices:

- The use of internet as an instrument or means used by a terrorist organisation to structure part of its activities designed to assist disturbance of the social order or subversion of the political system it is attacking.

Thus a number of services are analysed that the Web brings to any structured group in order to communicate in a clandestine manner and to ensure the planning and execution of its objectives and the activities – more public – which it carries out through the web, such as advertising, propaganda, recruiting of members and dissemination of proposals, fundraising etc.

- As the actual objective of that attack, from the perspective that to attack internet can lead to the achievement of some of these ends, focusing on what has been termed serious attacks through electronic means of the critical infrastructures in democratic societies.

Subsequently real cases are analysed from which conclusions have been drawn from the main cyber terrorist attacks of the last five years, some closer to terrorist crime, others tending more towards the so-called Web Wars.

Finally, some comments are added on the massive depositions of control over the Web of private networks – particularly botnets – which if used for terrorist purposes would presuppose and in fact already do, as cases have already reached the Central National Courts in Spain – the most serious threat facing civil society and its Criminal Code in their fight against this emerging terrorist phenomenon.

The talk will end with a comparative study of the advantages and disadvantages of cyber terrorism with respect to conventional terrorism.

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