

Blocking VEO financial transactions will curtail VEO activity.

86

General Description of the Literature:

A number of scholars in the disciplines of political science, policy, and law have argued that blocking the financial transactions of VEOs will curtail VEO activity and have offered a variety of policy solutions for doing so, including Fitzgerald (2001/2002), Myers (2002), and Yager (2005). Others question, however, whether efforts to block terrorist financing will succeed given terrorists ability to replace blocked financial channels, including Basile (2004), and Levi (2010). Apart from the research on sponsorship of terrorism, generally there has been no empirical research into the effectiveness of countering terrorist financing on terrorist activity. As Levi (2010) writes, "Currently, it remains largely a matter of faith in assertions by those in authority rather than on published evidence that anti-terror financial intelligence efforts have some impact."

Detailed Analyses

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Summary of Relevant Empirical Evidence: N/A

Empirical Support Score: 0 = No empirical support (for or against the hypothesis)

Applicability to Influencing VEOs: N/A.

Applicability Score: Not Applicable – There is no empirical support in any context

Bibliography:

Basile, Mark. 2004. "Going to the Source: Why Al Qaeda's Financial Network is Likely to Withstand the Current War on Terrorist Financing." *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* 27: 169-185.

Fitzgerald, Peter L. 2001/02. "Tightening the Screws: The Economic War against Terrorism." *National Interest* 66: 76-82.

Levi, Michael. 2010. "Combating the Financing of Terrorism: A History and Assessment of the Control of 'Threat Finance'." *British Journal of Criminology* 50: 650-669.

Myers., Joseph M. 2002. "Disrupting Terrorist Networks: The New U.S. and International Regime for Halting Terrorist Funding." Selected Symposium Remarks from the Financial Aspects of the War on Terror, March 18, 2002. *Law and Policy in International Business* 34: 17-23.

Yager, Loren. 2005. "Terrorist Financing: Better Strategic Planning Needed to Coordinate U.S. Efforts to Deliver Counter-Terrorism Financing Training and Technical Assistance Abroad." *Government Accountability Office*.