

Cyberterrorism. Developing Conceptual Understanding for Policy Decisions

Abstract:

The internet is one of the most convenient communication tools. A special attribute that sets the internet apart from other communication tools is its usability. All types of people can share their thoughts over the internet through words, images, sound, and/or video. The internet is also the first medium with immediately accessible dissemination materials that are available 24/7. People can post any sort of audiovisual material on the web and contribute to other posts dialogically. Therefore, the internet is the biggest source of information that individuals can currently reach.

As with any form of media, the content on the internet and its usage must be regulated. The web contains content that needs to be deleted because of its potential harmfulness. For example, some political groups have posted ideas in which they strongly believe, but those ideas might be harmful to other constituencies. The most notable example of this type of post is the ideas of terrorists, which overtly request people to attack a target constituency. This type of information dissemination is known as cyberterrorism. Cyberterrorism is a growing security challenge. One of its strengthen factors is the lack of understanding of cyberterrorism.

In this paper, the researchers will provide a conceptualization of cyberterrorism and some of the techniques that terrorists are currently using to carry out their missions. The researchers will then explain some of the counter measurements that a few governments are following to prevent cyberterrorism, and the researchers will finish this explanation by making recommendations for what governments should do in the future.