



Sustaining Counter-Terrorism Efforts in Nigeria: The Need for Interdisciplinary Academic Research and Agency Collaboration

¹Owwoye Damilola James, ²Adamu Zubairu

¹*Department of Peace and Security studies,*

Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology, Ikere Ekiti,

²*Department of Political Science, Alvan Ikoku Federal University of Education,
Owerri, Imo State*

Corresponding Author: owwoye.damilola@bouesti.edu.ng

ABSTRACT

Terrorism has become a persistent threat to Nigeria's national security, necessitating hybrid approaches for effective prevention and response. This study advocates for the integration of interdisciplinary academic research and agency collaboration to strengthen counter-terrorism efforts in Nigeria. By examining the intersections of terrorism, security, and development, this research emphasizes the value of collaborative frameworks that combine academic expertise with the operational capabilities of agencies. The findings highlight the importance of tailoring counter-terrorism strategies to Nigeria's unique socio-political landscape, leveraging local knowledge to inform evidence-based policies. Additionally, the study underscores the need for interdisciplinary investigation and collaboration as key drivers of more effective counter-terrorism initiatives in the country. It argues that a comprehensive approach that incorporates insights from multiple disciplines is essential to addressing the complex factors fueling terrorism in Nigeria. In its recommendations, this paper emphasizes the need for sustained investment in interdisciplinary research, the fostering of agency-academic partnerships, and the promotion of community-led initiatives to prevent and mitigate the impacts of terrorism in Nigeria.

Keywords: Counterterrorism, Nigeria, Interdisciplinary Research, Agency Collaboration, Sustainable Security.

INTRODUCTION

The rate at which terrorism constitute threat to global security is alarming and this has made countries of the world including Nigeria to be one of the country under the siege of terror with recorded frequent occurrence of insurgency and activities of rebels groups especially that of Boko Haram since 2009, this perpetual imbroglio doesn't only led to the disorganization of the societies but had resulted into lots of lives, destruction of our social cultural and economic viability. Political leaders and non-state actors through international collaboration has in the recent past geared efforts to combat terrorism while the threat persist, and this emphasize the need for more combative approach for sustainable peaceful society.

The challenges for combating terrorism are not new and indeed have a long history, Falk, A. (1990), described terrorism as old as the

government, armed struggle and pervasive. Nigerian has one of the highest terrorism threats in the world (Doris, 2023), despite the proactive mechanism of the government to mitigate incessant occurrence of terrorist activities in the country, Nigeria was yet declared as the eight highest country with terrorism activities after Myanmar.

Bumma a country in the South Asian nation of more than one hundred ethnic groups that shared border with India, Bangladesh, China and Thailand according to Institute for Economic and Peace (IEP) The Global Terrorism Index which publicized comprehensive study that analyzes the impact of terrorism across 163 countries covering 99.7% of the world's population provides a comprehensive summary of the key global trends and patterns in terrorism since year 2000 GTI, (2022)



Nigeria situation and terrorism activities had significant record of several notable attacks on civilians and military targets especially in the Northern part of the country where number of casualties was majorly attributed to either Boko Haram insurgency, Fulani extremist and in the Southern part of the country with usual conflicts between herders and farmers, also there was occasional occurrence of banditry characterized with ethnic and religious prejudice which often fueled by unnecessary emotional sentiment. Some of Borno, Zangfara, Kaduna, Benue, Adamawa, Plateau and Yobe states were the highest number of terror related attacks according to statistics survey from Global Terrorism Index, with other minor terror activities of Fulani and farmer - header related crisis in the other part of the country. The trend and dynamic of the present-day terror in Nigeria are very alarming and never has the magnitude and intensity been as frightful and devastating as currently experienced, (Eke, 2002), the situation becoming serious threat to national security and that of Nigeria political entity as a nation. Several discretionary measure that are constantly committed by the government through state actors to mitigate the occurrence of terrorism in Nigeria cannot be undermined but yet the mayhem of terrorism appearing difficult to tamed and incessantly reoccurring , it is of the opinion with critical analysis from both theoretical and empirical findings that to curb this menaces will require hybrid approaches through combinations of interdisciplinary academic research to identify the root causes of terrorism reoccurrence in Nigeria, intensify further measure to mitigate this syndrome via agency collaboration and demoralize pervasive factors that has sustained this myriad despite several government intervention .

CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATION

There has been no consensus as to what the concept of Terrorism is, several security professionals policy maker and scholars of various discipline view terrorism from different perspectives, (GTI, IEP and UN, 2022) in the quest for better understanding and to critically examine the topic there is need to make conceptual clarification of terrorism and to examine other concepts in this paper.

Terrorism

The commonly use or acceptable meaning of the world terrorism is any use of terror in the form of violence or threat means to coerce an individual group or entity in a manner whereby person could not otherwise lawfully force them to act Hoffman, B. (2022). That, terrorism also may refer to the use of violence or threats of violence to intimidate or coerce societies, governments, or individuals in pursuit of political, ideological, or religious goals terrorism vary depending on the group or individual, but common goals include achieving political or ideological objectives, inflicting harm, or fear on target populations, and gaining attention or notoriety. Terrorism methods include bombings, assassinations, kidnappings, hijackings, and other forms of violence or intimidation.

Nigeria

Nigeria is a country in the west African region bordering the Gulf of Guinea between Benin and Cameroon, it has tropical climate temperature with over 200 million population hence was considered as the most populous country in Africa. The country builds on economic opportunity of agriculture, mining, infrastructure development and oil and gas among other economic opportunities, though the country is face with security challenges of Boko Haram and banditry that has put it in the high rising profile of Institute of Economic and Peace (IEP) through Global Terrorism Index (GTI)

Counterterrorism

Counterterrorism refers to the practices, strategies, and tactics used by governments, law enforcement agencies, and other organizations to prevent, respond to, and mitigate the effects of terrorism Wilkerson, p. (2002). The primary goals of counterterrorism are to protect citizens and infrastructure from terrorist attacks, disrupt and dismantle terrorist organizations, and prevent the spread of extremist ideologies Counter-terrorism methods include intelligence gathering, surveillance, law enforcement operations, military interventions, and diplomatic efforts.



Agency Collaboration Agency collaboration refers to the cooperation and coordination between different government agencies, law enforcement organizations, and other stakeholders to achieve common goals and objectives. The primary goals of agency collaboration are to share information, resources, and expertise, and to coordinate efforts to prevent and respond to security threat, Agency collaboration methods include information sharing, joint operations, training and capacity building, and coordination mechanisms.

Interdisciplinary Academic Research

Interdisciplinary academic research refers to the integration of multiple disciplines and methodologies to study complex problems and phenomena. interdisciplinary academic research is to advance knowledge, understanding, and innovation, and to address real-world problems and challenges. Interdisciplinary academic research methods include collaborative research teams, mixed methods approach, and the integration of theoretical and practical perspectives.

Sustainable Security

Sustainable security refers to a long-term approach to security that prioritizes prevention, addresses the root causes of conflicts and instability, and promotes human well-being, social justice, and environmental sustainability. Cogent attribute of the sustainable security is to create a stable and secure environment that supports human development, promotes social cohesion, and protects the environment. Sustainable security methods include conflict prevention, peacebuilding, development cooperation, environmental protection, and human rights promotion.

CAUSES OF TERRORISM IN NIGERIA

The causes of terrorism in Nigeria are complex and multifaceted, driven by a combination of socio-political, economic, religious, and environmental factors. The following are some of the key causes of terrorism in Nigeria.

- **Political Instability and Corruption**

Poor governance, lack of accountability and widespread corruption contribute to the disillusionment of the population, especially among the youth. When the government fails to provide basic services, create job opportunities, or ensure security, groups may resort to violence as a means of expressing dissatisfaction or achieving political goals. The marginalization of certain regions or ethnic groups, especially in the Northern part of the country, can breed resentment and make some susceptible to extremist ideologies.

- **Religious Extremism**

The rise of radical religious ideologies, particularly among some Islamic groups in Northern Nigeria, has fueled terrorism. Groups like Boko Haram and the Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) have capitalized on religious sentiments to recruit and radicalize individuals, promising them a utopian society governed by strict interpretations of Islamic law. The spread of extremist views, sometimes supported by local and international networks, has exacerbated the terrorist threat.

- **Ethnic and Regional Tensions**

Ethnic and regional divisions in Nigeria, especially between the North and South, create opportunities for terrorist organizations to exploit grievances. These divisions are often manipulated by terrorist groups to gain support from marginalized communities who feel excluded from the nation's power structures.

In addition, the conflict over land and resources, particularly in the Middle Belt and other areas, can intensify local tensions and make people more susceptible to violent extremism.

- **Poverty and Unemployment**

Widespread poverty and high unemployment, particularly among young people, make individuals vulnerable to recruitment by terrorist organizations. These groups often



promise financial support, education, and a sense of belonging, making their violent ideologies appealing to disaffected youth. In some cases, terrorist groups offer financial incentives or the promise of social status, making it more difficult for individuals to resist their influence.

- **Social Media and Propaganda**

The use of social media by terrorist organizations has played a significant role in spreading radical ideologies, recruiting members, and inciting violence. Platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Telegram have become key tools for terrorist groups to communicate their messages, especially to vulnerable young people who may be drawn to extremist beliefs.

Propaganda that glorifies violence, martyrdom, and anti-government sentiments spreads rapidly through social media, amplifying the recruitment of new members.

Conclusion

The causes of terrorism in Nigeria are deeply rooted in the country's political, social, economic, and religious fabric. Addressing terrorism requires a comprehensive approach that tackles the underlying factors such as poverty, unemployment, corruption, poor governance, and religious extremism. It also requires better coordination among security agencies, improved education, and the use of counter-radicalization strategies to prevent the spread of violent ideologies. Only by addressing these root causes can Nigeria hope to effectively combat terrorism and achieve lasting peace and stability.

CATEGORIES OF TERRORISM

Terrorism in Nigeria has manifested in various forms, driven by different ideological, political, and religious motivations. The types of terrorism in Nigeria can be broadly classified as follows:

- **Religious Terrorism (Boko Haram)**

Boko Haram is perhaps the most well-known terrorist group in Nigeria, primarily engaged in religious terrorism. The group, which

emerged in the northeastern part of Nigeria, follows an extremist interpretation of Islam, and opposes Western education and governance. Its aim is to establish an Islamic state in northern Nigeria. Boko Haram has carried out bombings, abductions, and attacks on government and military targets. The infamous kidnapping of over 200 schoolgirls in Chibok in 2014 brought the group international attention and thus characterized with religious extremism driven by a radical interpretation of Islam and their targets include government institutions, schools, and innocent civilians.

- **Resource-Based Terrorism (Niger Delta Militancy)**

The Niger Delta militants engage in resource-based terrorism, often motivated by the desire to control the region's oil wealth. The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) is a well-known militant group that uses terrorism to demand a greater share of the region's oil revenues and to protest the exploitation of the region's resources without sufficient benefit to the local population. This form of terrorism often involves sabotage of oil pipelines, kidnapping of foreign oil workers, attacks on oil infrastructure and frequent use of bombings with sabotage.

- **Kidnapping for Ransom**

Kidnapping has become a widespread form of terrorism in Nigeria. While it may not always be ideologically motivated, it is often carried out by criminal groups or insurgent factions who use it as a form of financial terrorism. Kidnappers frequently target both civilians and high-profile figures, demanding ransom for their release. This form of terrorism is common in both rural and urban areas, particularly in the northern and southwestern parts of Nigeria often carried out for financial gain.

- **Transnational Terrorism (ISWAP)**

The Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) which splintered from Boko Haram,



is a transnational terrorist group operating in Nigeria, primarily in the northeastern region. ISWAP aligns itself with the Islamic State (ISIS) and conducts sophisticated terrorist activities, including suicide bombings, attacks on military and government facilities, and the establishment of territorial control. ISWAP operates not only in Nigeria but also across the borders into neighboring countries like Chad, Cameroon, and Niger, with aspirations of creating an Islamic caliphate in the region. This form of kidnapping operates across national borders, aligned with the global Islamic State (ISIS) and globally known for its complex, organized attacks and territorial control.

- **Criminal Terrorism (Banditry and Armed Groups)**

Banditry and armed groups, particularly in the northern and central parts of Nigeria, involve groups who use violence to achieve criminal objectives, including extortion, land disputes, and control over resources. These groups frequently engage in raids on villages, kidnapping for ransom, and armed robbery. While not always ideologically motivated, these groups contribute to the overall instability in Nigeria and create an environment of fear and insecurity. Criminal terrorism primarily motivated by financial gain and control over resources.

These are the main types of terrorism that have plagued Nigeria in recent years, each with its distinct characteristics and motivations, though they often overlap in terms of targeting vulnerable populations and destabilizing the country's social and political order.

IMPACT OF TERRORISM

The impacts of terrorism in Nigeria have been widespread and far-reaching, affecting various aspects of the country's security, economy, social fabric, and political environment. The following are some of the major impacts of terrorism in Nigeria.

- **Displacement and Refugees:** Terrorism in Nigeria has caused massive displacement of people. Many Nigerians, particularly in the northeastern states of Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa, have been forced to flee their homes to escape violence. According to the United Nations, millions of Nigerians are internally displaced, living in refugee camps or with host communities. This displacement has created a humanitarian crisis, with millions lacking necessities such as food, shelter, healthcare, and education.
- **Security Concerns and Militarization:** Terrorism has escalated security concerns in Nigeria, leading to an increased militarization of the country. The government has spent significant resources on counterterrorism measures, including deploying military personnel, funding counterterrorism operations, and establishing security checkpoints in vulnerable areas. This has, however, led to human rights abuses in some instances, with reports of arbitrary arrests, torture, and extrajudicial killings by security forces. In addition, the presence of armed terrorist groups has made parts of Nigeria unsafe for civilians and security personnel alike.
- **Social Fragmentation and Ethnic Tensions:** The rise of terrorism in Nigeria has contributed to the fragmentation of social cohesion. In some areas, terrorist activities have exacerbated ethnic and religious tensions, particularly between Muslims and Christians. There have been reports of terror groups targeting specific ethnic groups, leading to reprisals and further straining community relations. This division creates a hostile environment and hinders efforts for national unity.
- **International Relations and Diplomacy:** The terrorism in Nigeria has also impacted its international relations. As the threat of terrorism spreads beyond Nigeria's borders, neighboring countries such as Cameroon, Chad, and Niger have been affected, and the region has witnessed cross-border terrorist activities. Nigeria's security challenges have attracted the attention of international



organizations such as the United Nations and African Union, as well as Western countries, which have provided military assistance and financial aid to counter terrorism. However, the situation has complicated diplomatic relations in the region and with other global powers.

- **Cultural and Psychological Impact:** The long-term impact of terrorism on Nigerian society is also psychological. The constant threat of terrorist attacks, the trauma experienced by survivors, and the fear of future violence have led to a culture of anxiety, fear, and mistrust among the population. This psychological toll affects not only individuals but also communities that have been living under the constant shadow of terrorism for years.

Conclusion

The impact of terrorism on Nigeria has been profound, affecting every aspect of the nation's security, economy, and social fabric. Addressing this challenge requires a multifaceted approach, including better security measures, addressing the root causes of terrorism such as poverty and marginalization, international collaboration, and rebuilding affected communities. Efforts must be made to restore peace, stability, and development in Nigeria and the broader region.

Theoretical Clarification

To tackle counterterrorism and interdisciplinary academic research, we need to dive into various theories that shed light on this complex issue.

Psychological Theories

These theories focus on the individual's mindset and motivations, exploring factors like personality, socialization, and cognitive processes, it emphasizes how individual develop moral reasoning or possibility of a group to make irrational decision that is harmful to their fellow citizen without taking recourse of the aftermath effect on the society. It plays a pivotal role on how individuals may justify violent or terrorist actions (Ojo, 2019).

Criminological Theory

This approach views terrorism as a form of deviant behavior, applying criminological theories like strain theory and social learning theory. Criminological theory posits that individual rational decision mostly been influenced by cost- benefit analyses mentality on what they will stand to gain during their action, sometimes personality trait, biological factors such as genetics or brain chemistry can contribute to individual possibility of involving in terrorist activities Chukwuma, (2018)

Methodology

The data used for this study was generated from secondary sources. Accordingly, books, journals, periodical, monographs, seminars and conference papers, unpublished research works, newspaper and magazines, internet materials etc., constituted the source of data for the study. This relevant data and information were collated from the foregoing sources and studied. The secondary data were generated during this study were analyzed using content analysis. Content analysis has to do with the rigorous analysis and examination of written records and documents in a critical, analytical, descriptive, and explanatory manner to make generalizations and meaning from such written record and document. According to Kerlinger (1973), content analysis is a research technique for the objective, systematic, quantitative, and qualitative description of the manifest content of communication. The central objective of content analysis is to convert recorded data or information into data which can be treated in a scientific manner so that a body of knowledge may be built up. Content analysis as a method of analyzing qualitative data was used in this study to explore the need for interdisciplinary academic research and agency collaboration particularly in the context of counters- terrorism efforts.

Sustaining counter- Terrorism efforts in Nigeria. Sustaining counter- Terrorism efforts in Nigeria is a complex and urgent issue given the increasing prevalence of terrorism in the country, particularly from groups like Boko Haram and ISWAP (Islamic state West African province). Effective counter- terrorism efforts require a



comprehensive approach that involves multiple layers of action and collaboration across various sector. According to Okoro J, L (2019), stated that, interdisciplinary academic research plays a crucial role in understanding the root causes of terrorism and the dynamic behind radicalization that researchers can analyze social, political, economic, and psychological factor contributing to extremism, research on the impact of terrorism on local communities and the economy is also important to develop sustainability policies. Encouraging interdisciplinary studies can help combine insight from political science, sociology, psychology, and law intervention for better counter- terrorism strategies. Yusuf, T. (2018), posit that, agency collaboration between various national and international security agencies and border control agencies that coordinate among different governmental department and international partners can increase intelligence - sharing, operations, and the ability to track terrorism movement and funding, that intelligence,

cooperation also enhances the legal and diplomatic frameworks to address terrorism, especially in vulnerable regions. Local communities can provide valuable intelligence help in countering radical ideologies, and promote peace building, that involving local leaders, youth groups, religious figure, and NGOs in counter-terrorism programs can foster trust and cooperation between the state and the public so also, that de-radicalization programs and reintegration efforts for ex-terrorism can help reintegrate them into social, reducing the pool of potential recruit for terrorism organization. Sani I (2021), narrate that addressing the socio-economic factor that contribute to terrorism, such as poverty, unemployment, and lack of education, is key to long-term counter-terrorism success that providing opportunities for economic development groups that exploit these vulnerabilities, and that strengthening the legal framework for counter-terrorism is essential to ensure the prosecution of terrorism and prevent the abuse of anti-terrorism laws and that reforms to make the judicial system more efficient and transparent are necessary to ensure that terrorism

related cases are handled effectively, the establishment of special court for terrorism cases could speed up the legal process. Nwachukwu, I. (2021), stress that using advanced technology, such as drones, surveillance systems, and cyber intelligence, to monitor terrorist activities and movements can significantly enhance counter-terrorism operations, and capacity building in intelligence gathering and analysis is vital for identifying and preventing terrorism plot before they occur. Meanwhile, he stresses that terrorism in Nigeria is not isolated to its borders. Group like Boko Haram have cross – border affiliations and rely on neighboring countries for refuge training and resources, regional cooperation with neighboring counties (such as Niger, Chad, and Cameroon) is critical to ensuring a coordinated approach to combating terrorism. International partnership with organization like the United Nations, the African union, and regional security bodies are also important for providing resources, expertise, and financial supports. Countering the narrative propagated by terrorism groups is essential media, education, and religious leaders can help present alternative narrative that emphasize peace, unity, and national, development, raising public awareness about the changers of radicalization and the importance of reporting suspicious activities to authorities can significantly reduce the influence of terrorist groups.

The Need for Interdisciplinary Academic Research

According to Bekker E, & Greaf B (2011), stated that comprehensive understanding, of issues like terrorism political instability, and national security involve a complex mix of factors social, economic, political cultural, and legal. No single discipline can provide a holistic understanding of the problem. Interdisciplinary research, therefore, allows researchers to draw on the strength and perspective of multiple fields creating a more complete understanding of the issue. Aly, A., & Striegher J.L (2012), posit that bringing gabs between theory and practice, that academic often focus on the theoretical frameworks, while partitions (such as government agencies) focus on real – world applications. Interdisciplinary



research allows the creation of knowledge that bridges these two areas, rescaling in policies and practices that both theoretically sound and practically reliable and that complex changes such as terrorism require innovative solution. By bringing together different fields, interdisciplinary research encourages new approaches and ideas that may not arise within the confines of one discipline alone.

Findings and Discussion

- **The Need for Agency Collaboration**

Effective counter-terrorism strategies; terrorism, organized crime, and national security threats cannot be solved by a single agency or group of people. Agencies such as the military, intelligence services, law enforcement, and academic institutions must collaborate to share resources, knowledge, and expertise. Through this collaboration, the combined effort creates more robust and comprehensive counter- terrorism strategies. The (TRI). (2020). " mention that local security agencies have on the ground knowledge and practical experience dealing with terrorism and security threats. However, they may lack the academic research and strategies frameworks need for long-term solutions. Collaboration with academic researchers can help agencies craft better policies based on empirical evidence, while academics can gain practical insight that inform their research. However, effective policy is built on solid research and data academic researchers provide objective, evidence-based analysis, while government and security agencies offer data, case studies, and insight into the practical needs of policy implementation. Working together ensures that policies are grounded and can be properly enacted. Ranstorp, M. (2016). Stress that counter-terrorism efforts require collaboration across multiple sectors, including law enforcement, government, civil society, and even the private sector. Effective counterterrorism is not just about military and intelligence actions, but also about addressing the underlying socio-economic, political, and ideological issues that fuel extremism. By

working together, different agencies can form a more integrated and comprehensive approach.

- **Impact of Social Vulnerability**

One of the primary finding of this study is the interrelatedness of poverty and the fact that there was greater nexus between poverty and certain vulnerable individual that involved in the act of terror, there was agreement a weak and indirect relationship between poverty and terrorism (john Horgan, 2009), this finding resonates with psychological of terrorism on how individual derive sense of belonging and identity from group membership which can lead to radicalization and violent extremism.

- **Effective Counter - Terrorism strategies**

The study also revealed the significant role of government institution in addressing underlying causes of terrorist activities in Nigeria with proactiveness tendency to effectively mitigate tensions and with evident in finding technically applicable solutions, (Alemika & Chukwuma 2018) To address the inordinate factors that causes terrorism and transform the submission into opportunities for sustainable terror free society.

- **Roles of academic research**

Academic research and agency collaboration shall play a crucial role in curbing terrorist activities through opportunities to x-ray interdisciplinary investigation that will provide comprehensive understanding of the complex factors that contribute to terrorist behavior and how such can be effectively reintegrate. This finding aligns with restorative justice theory, which emphasizes offender accountability and rehabilitation (Agboiboa, 2018). Genuine effort to identify the root causes of criminal behaviors and addressing the basic issues with proactive mechanism to foster further possible occurrence will not only break the circle of crime but eventually sustained a harmonious society.



Conclusion

in conclusion, the fight against terrorism in Nigeria is multifaceted, it is therefore essential to strengthening agency collaboration with hybrid measure through interdisciplinary approach that combined the synergy of academic research, government agency and local communities. This study emphasizes the importance of integrating academic research from various disciplines, including political science, sociology, criminology, environmental biological, security studies and psychology to deepen the understanding of terrorism's root causes and its impacts on Nigeria society. By drawing from multiple fields of expertise, more comprehensive counter-terrorism strategies can be developed, while consider the social, political, and economic factors contributing to the spread of terrorism equally important is the need for robust collaboration between academic institutions, security agencies, and policy maker. Such collaboration can enhance the effectiveness of counter-terrorism initiatives by ensuring that strategies are grounded in empirical research and tailored to the Nigerian socio- political landscape. This collaboration can also facilitate knowledge exchange, enabling security agencies to benefit from the scholars to remain informed about the practical challenges faced by law enforcement and military forces during their professional engagement and call to service. Furthermore, sustainable counter-terrorism efforts should focus on community involvement, as local knowledge and input are crucial in developing context specific policies that address the unique challenges in different regions of Nigeria. Building partnerships with local communities can help strengthen the social fabric and create greater resilience against extremist ideologies and violence.

Recommendation

The recommendations provided offer a roadmap for policy makers, security practitioner and terrorism analyst to enhance effectiveness of interdisciplinary approach and admonished laudable opportunities to be derived in the application of these recommendations:

- **To Strengthening interdisciplinary research;** it is essential to encourage academic institutions to conduct more research on terrorism from diverse disciplinary perspectives to better understand its drivers and consequences.
- **Enhancing collaboration between agencies:** improved coordination and cooperation between security agencies, policy makers, and academic –based counter-terrorism policies to sustain ongoing drive from state actors in curbing the menace.
- **Promoting community –led initiatives:** engaging local communities in counter –terrorism strategies ensures that solutions are grounded in the communities or in the area most affected by terrorism,
- **Sustained funding for research and training:** ongoing investment in research, academic collaboration, and training programs for security agencies will help keep counter-terrorism efforts adaptive and responsive to emerging threats.
- **Continuous assessment and evaluation;** to develop multifaceted training program and establish framework for monitoring academic activities by ensuring that publication findings and recommendations are effectively implemented.

References

- Aly, A, & Stiegher, J.L., (2012). Terrorism and counterterrorism; An interdisciplinary Approach" *Terrorism and political violence* 24 (2), 232-248
- Bakker, E, & de Graaf, B., (2011) " The Role of Academic in counter –Terrorism Research" *Journal of Terrorism Research*, 2(1), 50-65.
- Chukwuma, H. (2018). Nigeria counter-terrorism strategy: Construction of threat, response, and identity. *African Security*, 6(2), 123–126.
- Global Terrorism Index (GTI), 2022
- Hoffman, B. (2022). *Inside Terrorism* (3rd ed). Columbia University press.
- Institute for Economics & Peace. (2022). *Global*



- terrorism index 2022: Measuring the impact of terrorism. Retrieved from https://www.visionofhumanity.org
- Kerling, F.N. (1973) Foundations of behavioral Research New work, international publishers.
- Nwachukwu, I. (2021). The Impact of Regional Cooperation in counter-Terrorism efforts: case study of Nigerian and its neighbors. *African security Journal*, 30(2), 77–93
- Ojo, J. (2019). Governing ungoverned space on foliage of conspiracy: Fulani — Towards (re)ordering terrorism from Boko Haram insurgency, Fulani militancy to banditry in Nigeria. *African Journal of Conflict and Terrorism Studies*, 4(1), [Page numbers if available].
- Okoro, J.L. (2019). Understanding the dynamics of Terrorism in Nigeria: causes, impacts, and Responses. *Nigerian Journal of international Relations*, 27(4), 56-72
- Ranstop, M. (2016). "The Role of Academic and collaboration in counterterrorism and counter-Ra-dicalization." *Journal of strategic security* 9(1), 1-13
- Sani, I. A. (2021) Counterterrorism in the Sahel: Regional and international cooperation in the fight Against Terrorism. *Journal of international sec*
- Terrorism Research initiative (TRI). (2020). "interdisciplinary Research on terrorism; challenges and opportunities" internal Journal of terrorism studies
- Tom, M. (2022). Target and destroyed (Book 3 in the Matt Logan series). CC & Company.
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2022 Report Unity and Politics, 18(1), 34-51
- Wesley, D. (2023). Terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa: How terrorism leverages digital media. *Journal of African Studies*, 17(5), 68–91.
- Wesley, D. (2023). Terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa: How terrorism leverages digital media. *Journal of African Security Studies*, 17(5), 68–91.
- Wilkerson, P. (200). Terrorism versus Democracy: The liberal state response. London; frank cases publishers.
- Yusuf, T. (2018). Collaboration Among security Agencies in Nigeria: A model for effective counter-Terrorism strategy. *Nigerian security review*, 14(3), 112-130
- Falk, A. (1990). Islamic terror: Conscious and unconscious motive. University Press.