

TI ESTI STATE-TERRORISM

Critical Terrorism Studies and Human Rights
Philosophy and Law

by

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Cyclo XXV

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Three main parts comprise this dissertation:

Chapter II is an attempt to illuminate the general understanding of the phenomenon of State-terrorism, through a review of literature and available descriptions.

Chapter III is built on a philosophical aporetic path, and an enquiry on the concept of State-terrorism, while attempting to uncover its essence.

Chapter IV is a legal analysis of the implications surrounding the practice of State-terrorism, and an assessment of its prospect to become a subject of criminal law, built upon the recognition that State-terrorism is a form of terrorism; and since the latter is a punishable crime, I make the case that State-terrorism also requires to be treated, prohibited and punished by law with equal zeal.

This study is an attempt to answer the raw philosophical question ‘*ti esti State-terrorism.*’ Is a critical philosophical analysis of the concept of State-terrorism based upon an epistemological discussion, in an effort to re-formulate the question of terrorism, by making the case that State-terrorism is the mother phenomenon and root of all forms of terrorism.

My ambition is to contribute in our understanding of terrorism by revealing that, in ancient (and modern) Greek, which is the language of concepts and philosophy, the term terrorism literary means State-terrorism, and it belongs to the same family of words as democracy, aristocracy, autocracy and so on and so forth, since they share their second synthetic and suffix –crazy. An acknowledgment that may have the power to unlock a radically fresh comprehension of the term and subsequently the phenomenon of terrorism, if not re-define the whole concept by describing it according to the term’s original meaning. Under this logic, terrorism would refer to a form of government and a political system. A hypothesis that my thesis introduces into the philosophical dialogues on terrorism, since it has never before been discussed within these terms. State-terrorism is a forbidden term according to legal experts, however, cannot and should not be treated as a sterile term by political theorists and critical thinkers.

This thesis is a product of a philosopho-legal human rights based research, and is ultimately intended to become a contribution to the understanding of the phenomenon of globalized terrorism and the United Nations definitional struggles.

Keywords: State-terrorism, critical terrorism studies, philosophy, law, human rights.