

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	1990
Land:	Syrien
Kilde:	US Department of State
Titel:	Country Report Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 5 - Islamic Jihad Union.
Udgivet:	30. november 2023
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	20. december 2023



Document #2101646

USDOS – US Department of State (Author)

Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 5 - Islamic Jihad Union

Aka Islamic Jihad Group; Islomiy Jihod Ittihodi; al-Djihad al-Islami; Dzhamaat Modzhakhedov; Islamic Jihad Group of Uzbekistan; Jamiat al-Jihad al-Islami; Jamiyat; the Jamaat Mojahedin; the Kazakh Jama'at; the Libyan Society.

Description: Islamic Jihad Union (IJU) was designated as an FTO on June 17, 2005. The group splintered from the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan in the early 2000s. Najmiddin Jalolov founded the organization as the Islamic Jihad Group in 2002, but the group was renamed Islamic Jihad Union in 2005. Although IJU was formed to overthrow the Government of Uzbekistan, today it is active primarily in Afghanistan and, more recently, in Syria, where many of its members relocated from Afghanistan.

Activities: IJU remains a threat to Central Asia. IJU claimed responsibility for attacks in 2004 in Uzbekistan, which targeted police at several roadway checkpoints and at a popular bazaar, killing approximately 47 people, including 33 IJU members, some of whom were suicide bombers. In 2004 the group carried out near-simultaneous suicide bombings of the Uzbekistani prosecutor general's office and the U.S. and Israeli Embassies in Tashkent.

In 2007, German authorities detained three IJU operatives, including two German converts, disrupting the group's plans to attack targets in Germany — including Ramstein Airbase, where the primary targets would have been U.S. diplomats, soldiers, and civilians. In 2013, two IJU videos showed attacks against a U.S. military base in Afghanistan and an IJU sniper shooting an Afghan soldier. In 2015, IJU participated in the five-month-long Taliban siege of Kunduz city. At least 13 police officers and hundreds of civilians were killed in the attacks.

In 2017, IJU released a video showing its militants using assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades to fight Afghan troops in late 2016. IJU released a second video in 2018 showing a joint raid with the Taliban in northern Afghanistan. In 2019 the UN confirmed that IJU was operating inside Syria under control of al-Nusra Front. IJU did not claim responsibility for any attacks in 2022.

Strength: IJU consists of 100 to 200 members.

Location/Area of Operation: Afghanistan, Syria, Türkiye, Uzbekistan, and Europe.

Funding and External Aid: Sources of funding are unknown.

Associated documents

Document ID 2101646 Chapter

30 November 2023 | [USDOS – US Department of State](#) (Author)

Afghanistan

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

[Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 1 - Afghanistan](#)
(Periodical Report, English)

en

ID 2101528

Document ID 2101646 Chapter

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Syrian Arab Republic

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

[Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 2 - Syria](#) (Periodical Report, English)

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ID 2101532

Document ID 2101646 Chapter

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Türkiye

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

[Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 1 - Türkiye](#) (Periodical Report, English)

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ID 2101613

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Uzbekistan

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

[Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 1 - Uzbekistan](#) (Periodical Report, English)

en

ID 2101618

ecoi.net description:

Brief description of the IslamicJihad Union (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2022)

Countries:

Afghanistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye, Uzbekistan

Source:

[USDOS – US Department of State](#) (Author)

Original link:

https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2022/#report-toc__section-9

Document type:

Periodical Report

Language:

English

Published:

30 November 2023

Available on ecoi.net since:

4 December 2023

Document ID:

2101646

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