

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

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The Greek government has made significant strides in curtailing the group's terrorist activity. In 2010, Greek police arrested six suspected RS members, including purported leader Nikos Maziotis, who later escaped. In 2013, five RS members were convicted by an Athens appeals court, three of them receiving maximum prison sentences. Maziotis and another accused RS conspirator, Paula Roupa, were convicted in absentia. Before Maziotis's recapture, RS conducted a bomb attack outside a Bank of Greece office in Athens in 2014; the blast caused extensive damage to surrounding structures but no casualties.

In 2016 a Greek court sentenced Maziotis to life in prison plus 129 years. In 2017, Roupa was arrested by Greek police in Athens and later sentenced to life and 25 years' imprisonment. RS did not claim responsibility for any attacks in 2020.

Strength: Precise numbers are unknown.

Location/Area of Operation: Greece

Funding and External Aid: RS's sources of funding are unknown, but the group most likely supports itself by means of criminal activities, including bank robbery.

al-Shabaab

Aka Harakat Shabaab al-Mujahidin; al-Shabab; Shabaab; Youth Wing; Mujahidin al-Shabaab Movement; Mujahideen Youth Movement; Mujahidin Youth Movement; al-Hijra, al Hijra, Muslim Youth Center, the Youth, MYC MYM, Pumwani Muslim Youth, Pumwani Islamist Muslim Youth Center; Hizbul Shabaab; Hisb'ul Shabaab; al-Shabaab al-Islamiya; al-Shabaab al-Islaam; al-Shabaab al-Jihaad; The Unity of Islamic Youth; Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujaahidiin; Harakatul-Shabaab al Mujaahidiin; Mujaahidiin Youth Movement

Description: Al-Shabaab was designated as an FTO on March 18, 2008. Al-Shabaab was the militant wing of the former Somali Islamic Courts Council that took over parts of southern Somalia during the second half of 2006. Since the end of 2006, al-Shabaab and associated militias have engaged in violent insurgency using guerrilla warfare and terrorist tactics against the transitional governments of Somalia.

Al-Shabaab is an official al-Qa'ida (AQ) affiliate and has ties to other AQ affiliates, including al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula and al-Qa'ida in the Islamic Maghreb. The group's leader is Ahmed Diriye, aka Ahmed Umar, aka Abu Ubaidah.

Al-Shabaab is composed of Somali recruits and foreign terrorist fighters. Since 2011, al-Shabaab has seen its military capacity reduced owing to the efforts of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and Somali forces, and clashes within the group itself. Despite al-Shabaab's loss of urban centers since 2012, the group has maintained its hold on large sections of rural areas throughout Somalia and has conducted attacks in Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, and Djibouti.

Activities: Al-Shabaab has used intimidation and violence to exploit divisions in Somalia and undermine the Somali government, recruit new fighters, extort funding from local populations, and kill activists working to bring about peace through political dialogue. The group has claimed responsibility for several high-profile bombings and shootings throughout Somalia targeting AMISOM troops and Somali officials. Al-Shabaab has assassinated numerous civil society figures, government officials, journalists, international aid workers, and members of non-governmental organizations.

Al-Shabaab was responsible for the 2010 suicide bombings in Kampala, Uganda — its first attack outside of Somalia. The attack, which took place during the World Cup, killed 76 people, including a U.S. citizen. In 2013, al-Shabaab staged a significant attack against the Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya. The multi-day siege resulted in the deaths of at least 65 civilians, including foreign nationals from 13 countries as well as 6 soldiers and police officers; hundreds of others were injured. In 2015, al-Shabaab carried out a raid with small arms and grenades on Kenya's Garissa University College that killed 148 people.

Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for one of the deadliest attacks against AMISOM troops in Somalia in 2016. Using a VBIED and small arms fire, al-Shabaab assembled against a Kenyan AMISOM base and killed more than 100 soldiers. Also that year, al-Shabaab attempted to down Daallo Airlines Flight 159 with 74 passengers on board, but only the suicide bomber was killed in the explosion.

Al-Shabaab continued a steady pace of attacks in 2017 and 2018. The deadliest of these was a 2017 attack in which al-Shabaab is believed to have conducted a double truck bombing in a Mogadishu intersection with heavy vehicle and pedestrian traffic that killed more than 500 people and injured 300 others.

In 2019, al-Shabaab was involved in more than 1,000 violent events in Somalia and eastern Kenya. Attacks included a hotel attack in Kenya that killed 21 people; an attack on the government ministries in Mogadishu, killing 15 people including a deputy minister; a suicide bombing at the office of Mogadishu Mayor Abdirahman Omar Osman, killing 8 persons including Osman; an attack on the UN and AMISOM compound in Mogadishu, killing 7 persons; and a bomb blast in Mogadishu that killed more than 90 people.

Al-Shabaab continued to carry out attacks in Somalia and Kenya throughout 2020. In January, al-Shabaab fighters attacked the United States Armed Forces' Camp Simba in Manda Bay, killing the three U.S. citizens. Later in January, suspected al-Shabaab operatives killed three teachers and destroyed a communications mast and police post in Garissa County, Kenya. In July, 20 al-Shabaab gunmen attacked and destroyed a communication mast in Garissa County, Kenya. In September, al-Shabaab operatives attacked a Kenya Defense Forces (KDF) convoy with small arms and grenades in Mandera County, Kenya. One KDF soldier was killed. In August al-Shabaab detonated a car bomb at the gates of the Elite Hotel in Mogadishu, starting a four-hour gun battle with security official that killed at least 16 people. In October, al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for killing 24 Somali troops in the Afgooye District, northwest of Mogadishu.

Strength: Al-Shabaab is estimated to have between 7,000 and 9,000 members.

Location/Area of Operation: Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda

Funding and External Aid: Al-Shabaab receives enough income to launch attacks throughout Somalia, including against AMISOM bases and other civilian targets. Al-Shabaab obtains funds through illegal charcoal production and exports, taxation of local populations and businesses, and by means of remittances and other money transfers from the Somali diaspora (although these funds are not always intended to support al-Shabaab members).

Shining Path

Aka SL; *Sendero Luminoso*; *Ejército Guerrillero Popular*; EGP; *Ejército Popular de Liberación*; EPL; Partido Comunista del Perú (Communist Party of Peru); PCP; *Partido Comunista del Perú en el Sendero Luminoso de José Carlos Mariategui* (Communist Party of Peru on the Shining Path of José Carlos Mariategui); *Socorro Popular del Perú*; SPP, Communist Party of Peru on the Shining Path of José Carlos Mariategui, Communist Party of Peru, People's Aid of Peru, People's Guerrilla Army; People's Liberation Army

Description: The Shining Path (*Sendero Luminoso* or SL) was designated as an FTO on October 8, 1997. The Peru-based terrorist organization was formed in the late 1960s by former university professor Abimael Guzmán, whose teachings created the foundation of SL's militant Maoist doctrine. In the 1980s, SL was one of the most ruthless terrorist groups in the Western Hemisphere. In 1992 the Peruvian government captured Guzmán who, along with key accomplices, is serving a life sentence in prison. SL is now led by brothers Victor and Jorge Quispe Palomino and Tarcela Loya Vilchez. Under their direction, the group aims to overthrow the Peruvian government and names the United States as a principal enemy.

Activities: In 2016 the group attacked a six-vehicle military caravan transporting election materials ahead of the country's election; eight soldiers and two civilian contractors were killed by SL members armed with long-range rifles and grenades. In separate incidents in 2017, SL killed several policemen in an area where the group controls territory and facilitates drug trafficking.

In 2018, six soldiers were wounded by SL sharpshooters at the Nueva Libertad army base in the region of Junín. That same month, a group of SL members killed five soldiers and wounded another in an attack on the Nueva Libertad army base, and attacked a police vehicle using a roadside bomb, killing four policemen.

In 2019, suspected SL members conducted an attack on the Peruvian Army, killing three soldiers.

In August, Peruvian troops and SL members fought in the Valley of the Apurímac, Ene and Mantaro Rivers. In December, Peruvian authorities captured 71 suspected members of SL.