

There are consequences to any event. The more drastic and traumatic the event, the more determined the reaction may be, especially if there remains the perception of an ongoing threat. A state's subsequent reaction will be felt within the state legislature, the nation's culture and media, and its foreign policy. Throughout World War II and the Cold War, the threat was visible, the opposing sides have been nation states and their respective allies. But how does a state react, how does the rhetoric change when the opponent eludes easy definition and cannot be dealt with on the political and/or diplomatic level?

Could the aim of terrorism be construed as providing terror, using the political framework as an incitement for catering to the disenfranchised, making them believe in a fight constructed as legitimate? The infrastructure of terror is elusive, so are its perpetrators, the threat is difficult to localize, its origin can be anywhere. As a consequence, a political reaction will be confronted with the task of dealing with already existing feelings of unease and paranoia. If the threat is believed to be real, there must ensue visible efforts to counter it, to prevent further acts of terrorism from happening.

We will take a look at the aftermath of the terrorist acts of September 11th, 2001, examining the strategies employed in internal and foreign policy, in the media and the general cultural discourse, on both the domestic and the international level. As a possible comparison, we will review the methods employed in dealing with RAF terrorism in Germany.

The symposium will be part of the growing cooperation between Bard College and Humboldt-Universität, fostering dialog and intellectual exchange between the students. The aim is to build a lasting connection, thus aiding cultural understanding.

We invite all interested students to come and join us. For a list of participants, more information on the symposium and background material, please consult the web site.

**This conference has been made possible  
by the generous support of**

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
Bard College  
American Studies Program of Humboldt-Universität  
Fachschaft of the Institute of English and American Studies

**Organizers**

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Philipp Kneis  
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**Information**

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For possible changes to the program, as well as for further information and background material, please consult the web site of the conference at

[www2.hu-berlin.de/amerika/projects/terrorism](http://www2.hu-berlin.de/amerika/projects/terrorism)

# Reactions to Terrorism

Amidst Political Answers and Cultural Questions. 1st Bard/Humboldt Students Symposium, April 4-5, 2003



## Friday, April 4, 2003

UL 6, Senatssaal

### 17:00 c.t. - 20:00: Opening of the Symposium

Chair: Janine Ludwig

Prof. Anne-Barbara Ischinger  
*Welcome Address*

Dr. Reinhard Isensee  
*Welcome Address*

Prof. Susan Bernofsky  
*Welcome Address*

Bert Bobock  
*Welcome Address*

Philipp Kneis  
*Introducing the Keynote Speaker*

Dr. Ulrich Schneckener  
*Networks of Terror.  
Character and Structures of Transnational Terrorism*

### Reception

## Saturday, April 5, 2003

UL 6, Senatssaal

### 10:00 - 12:00: Session I

Chair: Simon Strick

Jasper Nicolaisen  
*Let's talk about how we talk about Terrorism -  
Some suggestions on how to debate a controversial issue*

Steven Corcoran  
*The Subject of Terrorism*

Philipp Kneis  
*The Threat of Fundamentalism*

Henri Adler & Michael Goldman  
*What the Other Half Thinks*

### 12:00 - 13:30: Lunch Break

### 13:30 - 15:30: Session II

Chair: Hannes Schaser

Andy Ryder  
*Terrorism and the Nation-State:  
The Iraq War and Tactics to End It,  
Through the Historical Lens of the Baader-Meinhof Group*

Valon Xharra  
*Fighting State Terror - Analogy between Kosova and Iraq*

Bert Bobock  
*The National Security Strategy*

Mattie Bamman & Amy Ray  
*Losing Civil Rights in the Wake of Fear*

### 15:30 - 16:00: Coffee Break

### 16:00 - 18:00: Session III

Chair: Philipp Kneis

Urte Schmidtchen  
*Short Film on War, Terror and Media*

Emily Steinberg  
*Women and the War on Terrorism*

Vasilias Crecea  
*Trying to Become a Foreign Student  
in the Post-9/11 US... Being One*

Jiahua Erica Yao & Bethany Bowen  
*9-11, And The Reaction Of Artistic Minds*

### 18:00 - 18:15: Coffee Break

### 18:15 - 19:00: Concluding Discussion

### Closing of the Conference

(all times s.t.)