

Chapter 4 Theory of Terrorist Outbidding and Its Empirical Evidence

Abstract

The theoretical literature on terrorist outbidding has long argued that domestic competition among terrorist organizations leads to an increase in political violence as a result of each organization's effort to distinguish itself and stand out from the crowd. However, there is very little supporting evidence for this theory in recent empirical literature. Why does such a discrepancy between theory and empirical findings exist? Unfortunately, existing studies neglect to reconcile the gap between the two research activities. Chapter 4 seeks to resolve this failure by reanalyzing an empirical model of terrorist outbidding.