

Topic: - Terrorism Concept & Definition

Before examining the meaning and associated concepts and principles of (international) criminal justice and international criminal law as they apply to terrorist crimes, it is first necessary to briefly examine some of the principal reasons for and implications of the absence of a universally agreed definition of terrorism, including how key institutional and state actors have approached criminal justice solutions in the absence of one.

As was discussed in Module 1, the concept of "terror" is not a new one having existed in different forms for centuries. The reasons for this were many. There are a number of possible explanations for this, some of which will be explored below in relation to ongoing efforts to agree on a

comprehensive convention.

customary definition of terrorism

Although there is no current agreement regarding of universal legal definitions of the term, there has been some debate regarding the possible existence of one, at least partial, customary definition of terrorism. This followed the somewhat controversial judgment of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon in 2011, which found that since at least 2005, a definition of "transnational terrorism" has existed within customary international law.