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Trends. Globalization and the 21st Century: The Multiplicity of Enemies

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The Turkish capture in Kenya of Kurdish leader Abdullah Ocalan precipitated political demonstrations and violence in many venues worldwide. The time, place, type, severity, and frequency of some political acts were expected by some political risk managers. Those of others were not.

A series of bombings in Uzbekistan have shaken a common political view that the Uzbek government was controlling a stable nation-state in a part of the world that often presents political instabilities. The possible suspects behind the bombings are many and include variants of Islamic fundamentalists, pro-democracy reformers, agents of Russia attempting to coerce a more pro-Russian politico-military policy, opponents of the Uzbek President who don't pretend to be after anything more than power, and various political actors throughout the world who for the most statistically deviant of rationales may have viewed Uzbekistan as an appropriate stage for violent political theater.

All these recent events underline a trend of security and globalization--the multiplicity of enemies that are real and notional, actual and potential. This multiplicity--largely due to the increasing ease of transport, communication, avenging real and imagined slights, acting out intrapsychic conflict, and instilling a political Issue with salience and impetus--is creating nightmares for those individuals and agencies entrusted with the security of political entities. In effect, Shakespearean musings on life--viz., all the world's a stage--are becoming ever more efficiently exemplified. And following Shakespeare's creation of villains such as Othello's Iago and King Lear's Edmund, it is becoming ever more difficult to validly label security leaders as paranoid. (See Cohen, R. (February 18, 1999). 3 Kurds shot dead by Israeli guards at Berlin protest. *The New York Times*, p. A1; A8; Goble, P.A. (February 18, 1999). 8 deadly warnings. *The New York Times*, p. A27; Godwin, R. (1994). On the function of enemies: The articulation and containment of the unthought self. *Journal of Psychohistory*, 22, 79-102; Middents, G.J. (1990). Psychological perspectives on enemy-making. *Organization Development Journal*, 8, 44-48; Rice, W.R., & Holland, B. (1997). The enemies within: Intergenomic conflict, interlocus contest evolution (ICE), and the intraspecific Queen. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology*, 41, 1-10.) (Keywords: Bombings, Fundamentalism, Globalization, Islam, Kenya, Kurds, Security, Terrorism, Turkey, Uzbekistan.)