



International Center for
9/11 JUSTICE

IC911 Research Agenda

The purpose of this research agenda is to guide submissions to the *Journal of 9/11 Studies* as well as research projects the International Center for 9/11 Justice undertakes in collaboration with other researchers and organizations.

Our goal is to continue to publish rigorous empirical research into the events of 9/11. In addition to that, we aim to foster 9/11-related research that both draws upon and informs wider theoretical and conceptual debates in the academic community.

The Center welcomes research that is multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary in nature, i.e., where knowledge and methods from a range of relevant fields are brought to bear on research questions. Indeed, research that combines the insights of the hard sciences with those of the social sciences is critical for developing a comprehensive understanding of 9/11.

The Center has identified four broad areas of research that it aims to advance:

1) Understanding the Events of 9/11

Continue to conduct and publish empirical analysis of the events of 9/11 in order to establish an accurate, evidence-based account of those events.

Specific sub-areas include:

- World Trade Center destruction
- Alleged hijacking and piloting of the aircraft, with emphasis on the possible use of remote guidance
- Air defense failures
- Recruitment, training, and organization of the alleged hijackers
- US government, intelligence, and military activities that impacted the 9/11 events
- Individuals, groups, and government agencies (US and foreign) that may have been involved in planning and implementing the 9/11 operation and cover-up
- Historical context of terrorism and black ops entities (e.g., Safari Club, BCCI)
- Political context relating to the Project for a New American Century (PNAC) and the military industrial complex
- Financial crimes that may have taken place on 9/11 as well as apparent pre-9/11 insider trading



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2) Geopolitical and Domestic Consequences of 9/11

Understand and explain the role of the 9/11 event in relation to US/Western foreign policy, i.e., the global “war on terror,” and its impact on domestic politics, especially within democracies.

A particular goal of this research area is to develop a broader theoretical/conceptual approach informed by concepts such as structural deep event (SDE) (coined by Peter Dale Scott) and State Crimes Against Democracy (SCAD) (coined by Lance deHaven-Smith). This approach can help locate 9/11 within a broader category of events (such as the 1960s/1970s assassinations and the COVID-19 pandemic). In turn, this kind of research could lead to the development of SDE/SCAD prediction and early-warning frameworks. Another broad-based goal is to integrate knowledge of the 9/11 event with existing debates and literatures regarding political deception and propaganda.

Specific sub-areas include:

- Wars and conflict in the Middle East, Eurasia and Africa — including Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Israel/Palestine, and Iran — and their relationship to 9/11
- The global “war on terror,” with particular attention to the boundaries of “legitimate” academic debate
- Propaganda and deception, i.e., narrative creation and promotion through mainstream media, think tanks and academia, and popular culture
- Managed and manufactured war triggers (i.e., false flags), including wider historical examination of such events and analysis of contemporary examples
- Detailed case study examination of deception/false flag incidents, including Iraqi WMDs (2003) and the Syria chemical weapons deceptions (2012-2018)
- Costs of war, including costs abroad and at home, such as deaths, casualties, psychological harms, and degraded quality of life
- Impact on civil liberties and erosion of democracy across Western nations
- Emergence of surveillance regimes (Patriot Act, bulk data collection, etc.)
- Torture and rendition programs initiated during the global “war on terror”
- Theoretical/conceptual development of SDE/SCAD concepts
- Comparative analysis with other SDEs/SCADs, including the 1960s/1970s assassinations and COVID-19
- Development of predictive models that can serve as early warnings with respect to emerging SDE/SCAD



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3) Legal Analysis and Tracking

Develop and evaluate strategies for pursuing justice in relation to the crimes of 9/11.

This research area entails examining the full breadth of crimes committed in relation to 9/11 and identifying potential avenues of recourse in various jurisdictions. It also involves tracking ongoing legal and quasi-legal developments (e.g., ethics cases within professional associations), evaluation of outcomes, and review of any new information disclosed during proceedings.

Specific sub-areas and recent or ongoing cases include:

- Effort to obtain a new inquest for British 9/11 victim Geoff Campbell
- Grand jury petition submitted by the Lawyers' Committee for 9/11 Inquiry
- Lawsuit brought by 9/11 victims' family members against Saudi Arabia
- Guantanamo military commissions
- Ethics proceedings at relevant professional associations

4) Imagining Different Futures

Develop ideas for a better society in which crimes such as 9/11 are less likely.

What kind of organizational structures facilitate higher levels of accountability and checks and balances, and how can social movements and citizens exercise greater power?

Specific sub-areas include:

- Critical evaluation of the role of key institutions in relation to the 9/11 events — including governmental entities, international organizations, corporations, news media, academia, professional associations, and civil society organizations — and formulation of steps needed to prevent future failures
- Critical analysis of the role of extreme concentration of wealth in allowing networks of political and economic elites to control media and many aspects of government, often using deception to manipulate people's consciousness
- Post-SDE/SCAD truth and reconciliation strategies, including forms of legal accountability
- Strategies for coping with psychological trauma and societal disruption created by wider awareness of SDEs and SCADs
- Analysis of the ways in which widespread exposure of SDEs and SCADs can lead to a more peaceful world in which conflicts are resolved non-violently and structures are put in place to enable a life of liberty and dignity for all