

**ESC 2015 - Communication Proposal****Title**

Survivalism preparation within right-wing oppositional movements: Assessing the risk of homegrown violent extremism.

**Abstract**

Studies of right-wing extremist groups suggest that survivalism is on the rise within active and former members of oppositional right-wing groups. Survivalism is a movement based on the idea that a crisis or a catastrophe is forthcoming and that one has to get prepared to confront its potential consequence. Survivalists are mainly involved in two types of activity, stockpile for being self-sufficient and self-defense/military training in order to protect themselves and their provisions against any social or political disorders. Our preliminary field observation has suggested that part of this training is done within civilian communities of military simulation. This presentation aims to examine how this tendency for survivalism, including military simulation trainings, within right-wing oppositional groups can increase the potentiality of such threat. It is based on multiple data sources, including ethnographic observation, surveys, open sources documentation and interviews, and explored both environment of military simulation communities and right-wing oppositional groups. Based on these data, we argue that environmental mechanisms we found in Quebec's right-wing oppositional groups constitute exactly what was absent from military simulation communities and was explaining why we did not find any ideological radicalization within this context. On the one hand, in the military simulation context, we have observed some forms of informal social control in compliance with Canadian norms and laws, as well as unfavorable definitions for the adoption of delinquent behavior. On the other hand, right-wing oppositional movements' environments rather suggests positive influences to the adoption of delinquent behavior and provides a marginal framework of informal social control. Thus, this presentation is analyzing the detrimental learnings and dynamics of interactions we observed, as well as examining the risk posed by the practice of military simulation within right-wing oppositional movements.