Terrorist Black Holes: The Case of Northern Ireland

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Terrorist Black Holes: The Northern Ireland Case

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Overview

1. Define the term ‘Terrorist Black Hole’
2. My Argument
3. Rem Korteweg and David Erhardt’s Study
4. Why Northern Ireland?
5. Conclusion
6. Questions?
Terrorist Black Hole

“a geographic entity where, due to the absent or ineffective exercise of state governance, criminal or terrorist elements can deploy activities in support of, or otherwise directly relating to criminal or terrorist acts including the act itself”.

(Korteweg and Erhardt, 2005)

Two Types of Black Holes:

I. ‘Battlefield’ black hole

II. ‘Support’ black hole
Argument

Terrorist black holes are prominent, along with the capability of their presence in the West.

When observing Terrorist Black Holes, the Western world should not be overlooked. Western territories are capable of possessing Terrorist Black Holes.
Rem Korteweg and David Erhardt’s Framework

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Why Northern Ireland?

Conflict can be traced back as far as the 12th century

The partition of Ireland

Known terrorist activity in the region

The Troubles

Under sovereign authority of Great Britain

NATO and EU member

World power

Biggest ally to the United States

Strong currency
My Research

- Social Tension
- Legacy from Civil Conflict
- Geography
- Corruption and Policy Failure
- External Interference
Conclusion

- Substantial evidence of a Terrorist Black Hole can be seen in one of the world’s leading powers, the United Kingdom.

- Although the United Kingdom is not a fragile state, all five factors of state fragility are present in Northern Ireland.

- When examining Terrorist Black Holes in the Western world, it is important to look at the legislative realm of the region.
Thank You
Any Questions?

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