

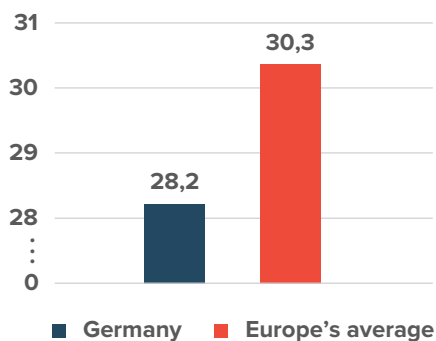
FROM CRIMINALS TO TERRORISTS AND BACK

Quarterly Report Vol. 2: Germany



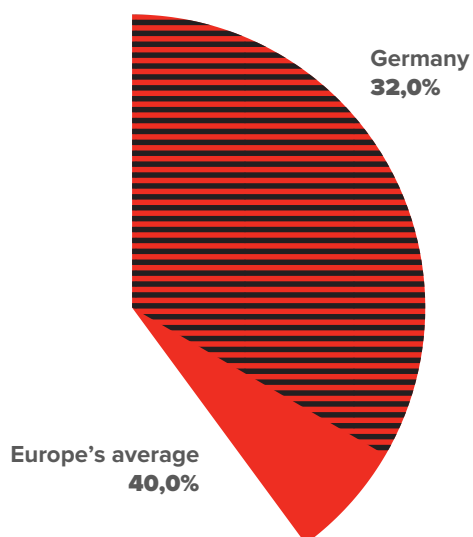
Germany declared 40 terrorist arrests to Europol in 2015. Of these, 21 had been of individuals suspected of jihadist terrorist activity, the rest for left-wing, right-wing or separatist terrorism. This project focused on the first, jihadist, subset. Our Germany based research team found 21 individuals arrested for suspected jihadist terrorist deeds in 2015 and one terrorist fugitive. The 21 had all been convicted by December 2018.

Average Age comparison

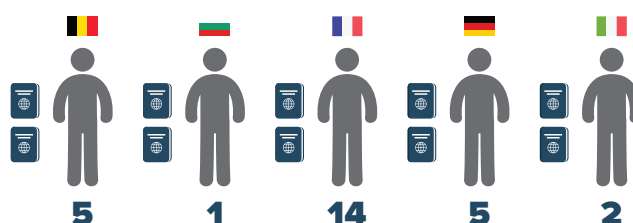


Reflecting trends in counterterrorism in Europe, 60% of the 22 (or 13 out of 22) were arrested and later convicted for “membership in terrorist organisations,” mainly ISIS. All are male, their average is 28.2 which is two year younger than the 2015 European average of 30.3 years old. The youngest individual was 19 and the oldest was 43 years old. Education wise, the 23 do not stray from the average of European jihadist – only 12 of them “had some high school experience,” and just 4 managed to finish high school. 5 had been unemployed in 2015, upon their arrest which is lower than the European average of 40% unemployment among jihadists reported in 2015.

Unemployment among the Jihadis

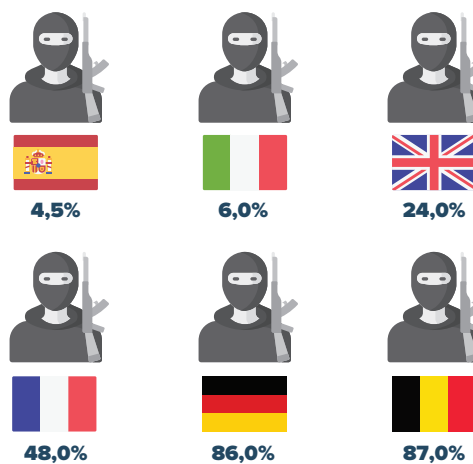


Dual citizens among jihadis in 2015



12 of the 23 had been born in Germany and had only German citizenship. Further five had dual or triple, i.e. German-Turkish, German-Tunisian, German-Moroccan, German-Polish-Lebanese or Dutch-Turkish; another two had been Turkish citizens. The dataset includes 5 such Belgians, 1 Bulgarian, 14 French or 2 Italians. Nineteen or 86% of the Germans included in the dataset had previous experience of foreign fighting – this figure

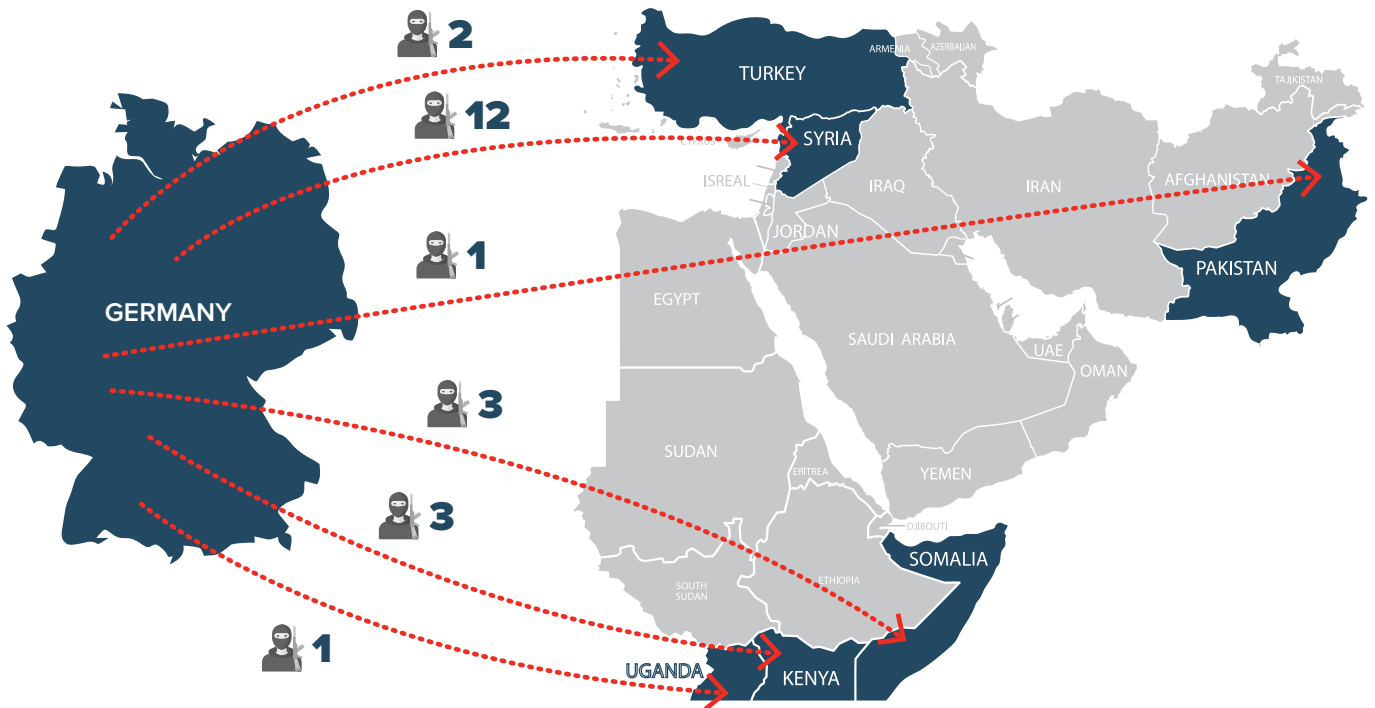
Percentage of FTFs among 2015 jihadis



looks different in other countries studied in the project, e.g. Spain: 4.5%, Italy 6%, UK 24%, France 48%, Belgium 87%.

Of the 19, 12 travelled to Syria, further 2 only reached Turkey, 3 to Somalia and Kenya, 1 to Waziristan, and 1 to Uganda.

Destinations of German FTFs in 2015



2015 Crime-terror nexus per country

Finally, just five of the 21 (24%) (contrast with similar numbers for Spain at 7%, Italy at 16% but higher for UK: 27%, France: 40%, Belgium: 40% in this area) had had previous “ordinary” criminal careers, signified by an earlier arrest. These had been for petty crime: burglaries, theft or drugs related crimes.

