

**Breen-Smyth M (2012). The Ashgate Research Companion to Political Violence.** 622 pp. Ashgate Publishing, London Dec 2012. ISBN: 9780754677529. <http://www.ashgate.com/isbn/9780754677529>

### **Abstract**

Aimed at scholars, students and lay persons interested in peace and conflict studies, The Ashgate Research Companion to Political Violence is a comprehensive resource to understand the principal debates on political violence, a field which is becoming an increasingly important part of courses on peace and conflict.

Organized into seven main sections, this volume deals with a wide range of issues covering the following important research areas:

- Issues of definition and nomenclature and how contests over these relate to political violence.
- Theoretical frameworks and methods for understanding and researching political violence.
- Motivations and goals of those who use political violence.
- The various forms of political violence.
- Perspectives on countering political violence, by state and non-state actors.
- Why and how political violence ends.
- The aftermath of political violence.

Contributions by leading scholars in the field provide an authoritative guide and source book on political violence for the scholar, the researcher and the informed general reader.

### **Table of Contents**

Preface;

Introduction;

#### **Part I: Defining Political Violence:**

Political violence: an overview, John Darby;

Orthodox accounts of terrorism, Jason Franks;

Critical accounts of terrorism, Richard Jackson;

State violence as state terrorism, Ruth Blakeley;

The 'war on terror' as political violence, Richard Seymour;

The concept of security in political violence, Jessica Wolfendale.

#### **Part II: Motivations and Goals of Political Violence:**

From dissent to revolution: politics and violence, Harmonie Toros;

Why do individuals resort to political violence? Approaches to the psychology of terrorism, Jeff

Victoroff and Janice Adelman;

The motivation of the Irish Rebel and resistance to the label 'terrorist', Anthony McIntyre;

Martyrs without borders: the puzzle of transnational suicide bombers, Mohammed M. Hafez;

The origins and inhibiting influences in genocide, mass killing and other collective violence, Ervin Staub;

Religion as a motivation for political violence, Jeroen Gunning.

### **Part III: Theorising, Understanding and Researching Political Violence:**

Social movement studies and political violence, Donatella della Porta;

Feminist reflections on political violence, Laura Sjoberg;

National identity, conflict and political violence: experiences in Latin America, Peter Lambert;

Staying alive while conducting primary research: fieldwork on political violence, Jeffrey A. Sluka.

### **Part IV: Manifestations of Political Violence:**

Genocide as political violence, Adam Jones;

War as political violence, R. Gerald Hughes.

### **Part V: Countering Political Violence:**

Intelligence and political violence: the case of counter-terrorism, Frank Gregory;

Counter-terrorism and its effectiveness in the UK since 1969: does it pay to be tough on terrorism?, Robert Lambert;

Counter-terrorism and human rights since 9/11, Michael McClintock;

Counter-terrorism and human rights in the UK, Clive Walker.

### **Part VI: Ending Political Violence:**

The state's role in the management and resolution of conflict: learning from Northern Ireland?, Bill Rolston;

Political violence and peace processes, Roger MacGinty;

Civil society actors and the end of violence, Avila Kilmurray.

### **Part VII: Dealing with the Aftermath:**

Defining and building the rule of law in the aftermath of political violence: the processes of transitional justice, Richard J. Goldstone and Adam M. Smith;

Political, economic and social reconstruction after political violence: the case of Afghanistan, William Maley.

Conclusions;

Index.