Note from the Editor-in-Chief

By any measure the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001 brought an immediate laser focus to the phenomenon of international terrorism. Though hardly new to the United States and the world in 2001, the 9/11 attacks instantaneously elevated countering international terrorism to the dominant national security imperative at home and abroad. Questions were legion: Should we have known the attacks were coming? What could we have done to prevent them? What lessons learned will help forestall the next attack? What are the best options for countering international terrorism?

Twenty years later many lessons have been learned, even as we continue to struggle with the ever changing dynamics of global terrorism. JNSLP is honored to publish this Special Edition, Lessons Learned for the Next Twenty Years: What We’ve Learned in the Two Decades Since 9/11. Special recognition and thanks are due to Guest Editor Matt Kronisch and Director of the Syracuse University Institute for Security Policy and Law, Jamie Baker. Matt and Jamie approached us with the idea for a Special Edition, and then Matt worked miracles in securing commitments from an extraordinary assemblage of distinguished veterans of the larger national security and counterterrorism field to prepare short essays commemorating through various lenses what the two decades since 9/11 have shown.

Spend a moment glancing at the Table of Contents for the Special Edition and you will recognize many of the names and you will correctly anticipate that a deep dive into this marvelous collection of essays is a must.

William Banks
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