

SINGAPORE TERRORISM THREAT LANDSCAPE – AT A GLANCE



Singapore Faces a High Terrorism Threat

- Singapore and our interests remain an attractive target for terrorist elements.
- Terror groups like Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) continue to actively recruit supporters online and inspire attacks worldwide.
- Ongoing conflicts in the Middle East have also heightened the threat of attacks beyond the conflict zones and served as triggers for radicalisation.
- Potential return of foreign terrorist fighters to Southeast Asia heightens the terrorism threat to the region.
- In Southeast Asia, Islamist extremism persists, while far-right and nihilistic violent extremist narratives are also gaining traction and have featured in several recent attacks.

Self-Radicalisation: A Persistent, Evolving Threat

8 Singaporeans detained or issued Restriction Orders under the Internal Security Act (ISA) since July 2025.

1 Singaporean politically-motivated to take up arms for Türkiye against Greece.¹

5 were ISIS supporters.

3 individuals' radicalisation was triggered / accelerated by Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

7 Singaporeans self-radicalised by a diverse range of extremist influences.

First 3 cases of **Composite Violent Extremism (CoVE)**; all were youths under 21.

Subscribed to multiple extremist ideologies, including far-right extremism, far-left extremism, anti-Semitism, incel ideologies, accelerationism and racial supremacy.



¹ The case involves 30-year-old Muhammad Jihadul Mustaqim bin Mahmud, who was issued a Restriction Order for his intention to engage in politically-motivated violence overseas. He was not assessed to be radicalised at the point of investigation, as he did not exhibit a deep ideological commitment towards an extremist ideology or belief.

Youth Radicalisation: A Pressing Concern

- Number of youth ISA cases has almost quadrupled in the past five years:
 - 4 between 2017 and 2021
 - 15 since 2022
- 6 out of 8 new ISA cases (since July 2025) involved youths below 21.

(i) Role of Online & Gaming Platforms in Radicalisation

- Online platforms, including social media and games, have accelerated radicalisation especially among youths through exposure to violent extremist content.
- Online games may also allow for simulation of terrorist attacks and mass shootings. Repeated exposure can normalise attitudes towards violence.
- Violent fantasies may develop into a desire to enact real-world violence over time.

(ii) Youth Threat is No Less Severe

3 youths aged between 14 and 19 had planned to conduct local attacks, and were close to executing them:



All 3 had identified easily available weapons for their intended attacks.

A 14-year-old was only a few weeks away from carrying out his planned attack in school.



1 youth had attempted to conduct cyberattacks.

While ISD was able to detect the radicalised youths and intervene in time, this may not always be the case. Family members, friends and the community are key in reporting early signs of radicalisation.

What can **YOU** do to keep Singapore safe?

- Know the common signs of radicalisation and stay vigilant to them, including among people close to you.
- Report any suspicious terrorism activities or signs of radicalisation early to **ISD at 1800-2626-473**. Your identity will be kept confidential.
- No action will be taken if the person reported is not found to be radicalised nor to pose a security threat.
- If the person is in the early stage of radicalisation, they may be referred for counselling or other interventions, without the need to be dealt with under the ISA.