

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY



IN OBSCURA LLC
THREAT INTELLIGENCE – SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES-INVESTIGATIONS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
<https://inobscura.org/>

Judges 6:12 ESV And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, “The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valor.”

THREAT SNAPSHOT - US HOUSE UPDATED TERROR THREAT SNAPSHOT - ANNUAL WORDLWIDE TERROR HEARING

CAVEAT: THIS INTELLIGENCE PRODUCT RELIES ON OPEN-SOURCE MEDIA OR GOVERNMENT RELEASED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS ARE INCLUDED FOR CLIENTS FOR INFORMATION AND ACTIONS DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

WARNING: THE THREAT LEVEL FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS URGENT AND REQUIRES HIGH VIGILANCE INCREASED SURVEILLANCE BY CHURCH SECURITY FORCES. REMEMBER IN OBSCURA HAS WARNED ON THE TARGET SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION AGAINST CHURCHES.

CHURCH THREAT LEVEL – URGENT

IN OBSCURA COMMENT

The relevance to the protection of Christians in the U.S. is rooted in Scripture and in our mission and vision. Innovative and proactive, knowledge and understanding of myriad threats then detect and train against it proactively. Then to deter, detect, defend and destroy, and deny access to the target.

THREAT SNAPSHOT: House Homeland Unveils Updated “Terror Threat Snapshot” Assessment After Annual Worldwide Threats Hearing

<https://homeland.house.gov/2025/12/19/threat-snapshot-house-homeland-unveils-updated-terror-threat-snapshot-assessment-after-annual-worldwide-threats-hearing/>

December 19, 2025

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, the House Committee on Homeland Security released an updated “**Terror Threat Snapshot**” assessment, detailing the persistent, complex, and shifting threats facing America, its allies, and the global community.

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The assessment highlights the resurgence of foreign jihadist networks, rising antisemitic violence, and the growing threats fueled by online radicalization. Read more in the [Center Square via Bethany Blankley](#).

The update follows the Committee’s [annual Worldwide Threats hearing](#), which featured witness testimony from Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem, National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) Director Joe Kent, and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Security Branch Operations Director Michael Glasheen.

“Twenty-four years after 9/11, what we heard from Director Kent in our annual Worldwide Threats hearing last week should disturb every American. The Biden-Harris administration’s vetting failures and open-borders policies will have long-lasting impacts on our homeland security. Although the Trump administration has achieved historic milestones in securing the border and identifying potential national security threats on U.S. soil, the terror threat landscape globally and in the homeland continues to shift,” **Committee Chairman Andrew R. Garbarino (R-NY) said.**

“With homegrown and domestic radicalization on the rise, the holidays beginning, and preparations for the 2026 World Cup and 2028 Olympics underway, we must be prepared to meet this moment with a coordinated, whole-of-government approach that safeguards communities and ensures people can gather safely. Moving forward, Homeland Republicans will continue to conduct rigorous oversight in response to the dangerous decisions of the previous administration—which still affect us today—and will work with our colleagues to ensure America is never again caught off guard.”

“The terror landscape in the United States is evolving fast and becoming more dangerous every single day. Online radicalization has supercharged the reach of foreign terrorist organizations, emboldening them to inspire violence on our soil without stepping foot on it. And we’ve seen the consequences,” **Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence Chairman August Pfluger (R-TX) said.**

“Just last month in Washington, D.C., a radicalized Afghan national opened fire on two U.S. National Guardsmen in broad daylight, killing one and critically injuring the other. We cannot allow this to continue. Congress must act with urgency to protect our country from all enemies, foreign and domestic. As a former fighter pilot with more than two decades of experience combatting ISIS, I know what it takes to confront terrorism head on and the importance of continually improving our strategy to outpace our adversaries at every turn.”

This updated snapshot includes several major developments in the domestic and global threat landscape. [In November](#), an Afghan national was arrested after ambushing two members of the National Guard near the White House. The FBI is probing the potential terror motives of the shooter, Rahmanullah Lakanwal. Additionally, two Afghan nationals [have been charged this year](#) in connection with a plot to conduct an ISIS-

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inspired attack on Election Day 2024, underscoring the continued threat posed by the resurgence in foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs).

In **May 2024**, the DHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) released a report indicating that DHS has a fragmented process for vetting and identifying derogatory information on Afghan parolees arriving through Operation Allies Welcome, which followed [a September 2022 DHS OIG report](#) that found DHS “encountered obstacles to screen, vet, and inspect all Afghan evacuees” arriving in the United States following the withdrawal.

[NCTC Director Kent testified](#) before the Committee last week in our annual Worldwide Threats hearing and said an estimated two to 2.7 million individuals from countries lacking reliable documentation entered the U.S. after minimal vetting by the previous administration.

The global landscape also shows a resurgence in FTOs. **Last weekend**, two Iowa National Guard soldiers were killed along with a U.S. civilian, and three others were injured, in Syria by a gunman, allegedly affiliated with ISIS, underscoring the resurgent threat the group poses to U.S. security. **Last month**, the House passed the “[Syria Terrorism Threat Assessment Act](#),” legislation introduced by Rep. Morgan Luttrell (R-TX) requiring DHS to assess the threat posed by individuals in Syria with ties to terror groups.

FTOs like ISIS and al-Qaeda are increasingly exploiting digital platforms to radicalize, train, and fundraise. **In June**, Ammaad Akhtar was arrested for attempting to provide material support to a terrorist organization. Akhtar had been unknowingly communicating online with a member of law enforcement, whom he believed was a member of ISIS, and voiced his support for ISIS and jihad.

[FBI National Security Branch Operations Director Glasheen testified last week](#) that this extends to domestic violent extremists as well, saying, “*Radicalization of domestic terrorists most often occurs online. Social media and encryption have increased the speed and accessibility of the violent extremist content.*” To counter the risks stemming from the exploitation of emerging technologies, the House of Representatives passed Chairman Pfluger’s “Generative AI Terrorism Risk Assessment Act” **last month**, which requires DHS, in coordination with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, to conduct annual assessments on the threats posed by terrorists’ use of generative artificial intelligence.

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Antisemitic violence and threats targeting religious communities in the United States and across the globe have sharply increased since the 2023 Hamas attacks on Israel. On the first night of Hanukkah in Sydney, Australia, two gunmen, allegedly inspired by ISIS, carried out a deadly attack on Jewish celebrations, killing at least 15 people and injuring many others. In October, Mahmoud Amin Ya'qub Al-Muhtadi, a Gaza native residing in Louisiana, was arrested for his alleged involvement in the Hamas-led terrorist attack against Israel on October 7, 2023. NCTC Director Kent warned that the attack represented the “*new terrorist playbook. They're not looking necessarily for a spectacular attack like we have on 9/11, but rather targets of opportunity, as we tragically witnessed with the terrorist attack in Washington, D.C.*”

FBI National Security Branch Operations Director Glasheen told the Committee that the U.S. currently has over 1,700 domestic terrorist investigations underway, with arrests of Antifa members up 171 percent this year alone. This week, Subcommittee Chairman Pfluger and Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability Chairman Josh Brecheen (R-OK) held a bipartisan closed-door roundtable to examine definitional inconsistencies for domestic terrorism across federal and state authorities, implementation and coordination gaps in existing strategies, and resource and capability constraints in combating this threat.

Today's snapshot also outlines attacks against federal law enforcement agents and officers, reflecting the heightened dangers faced by frontline personnel. A deadly shooting at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility in Dallas in September resulted in the deaths of two detainees and injured two others. The gunman left behind ammunition with the phrase “ANTI-ICE” written on it. Earlier this month, the Committee convened a hearing to examine how increasingly hostile anti-law enforcement rhetoric is contributing to the rise in threats.

On September 11, 2025, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence announced the establishment of a bipartisan review of the 9/11 Commission Report recommendations, which were released in July 2004. The House Committee on Homeland Security is partnering with its Intelligence Committee colleagues in this review and conducting oversight of DHS to help identify progress made and areas that require continued improvement since the 9/11 attacks.

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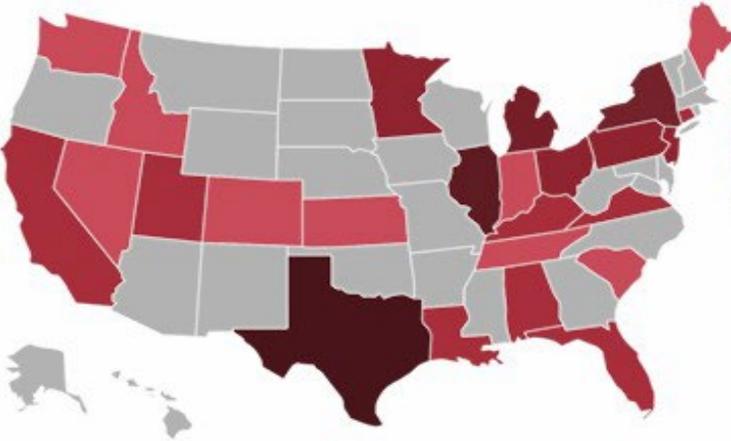
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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

TERROR THREAT SNAPSHOT

FOREIGN, DOMESTIC, AND HOMEGROWN VIOLENT EXTREMISM: PERSISTENT TERROR THREATS TO AMERICA AND THE WORLD



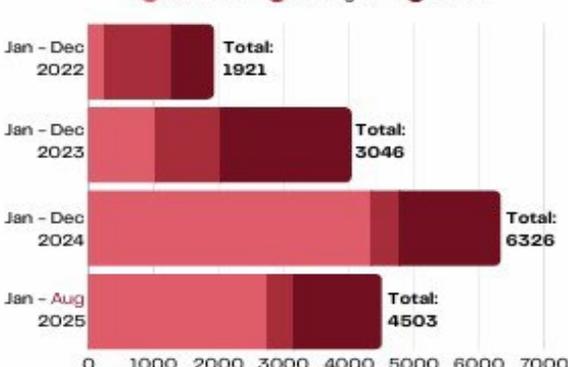
BETWEEN APRIL 2021 AND DECEMBER 2025, MORE THAN 60+ CASES OF INDIVIDUALS LINKED TO OR INSPIRED BY FOREIGN TERROR ORGANIZATIONS WERE RECORDED IN THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING:

- ✘ PROVIDING MATERIAL SUPPORT TO ISIS, HEZBOLLAH, AND AL QAEDA
- ✘ RECEIVING MILITARY-LEVEL TRAINING FROM HEZBOLLAH AND AL QAEDA
- ✘ ATTACKS INSPIRED BY FOREIGN TERROR ORGANIZATIONS

GLOBAL ANTISEMITISM ON THE RISE

FROM JANUARY TO AUGUST OF 2025, FAR-LEFT IDEOLOGY ACCOUNTED FOR 61% OF TOTAL INCIDENTS RECORDED

● Far Left
● Far Right
● Other



Period	Total Incidents
Jan - Dec 2022	1921
Jan - Dec 2023	3046
Jan - Dec 2024	6326
Jan - Aug 2025	4503

*INCIDENTS INCLUDE ANTISEMITIC REMARKS, VANDALISM, THREATS, AND VIOLENCE. GRAPH REPRESENTS WORLDWIDE DATA COLLECTED BY THE ANTISEMITISM RESEARCH CENTER (ARC)

RECENT TERROR ACTIVITY

- DEC 14, 2025** FIFTEEN PEOPLE WERE KILLED WHEN TWO GUNMEN TARGETED HANUKKAH CELEBRATIONS AT BONDI BEACH IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA. POLICE FOUND HOMEMADE ISIS FLAGS IN THE GUNMEN'S VEHICLE.
- DEC 13, 2025** TWO IOWA NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS AND A U.S. CIVILIAN INTERPRETER WERE KILLED IN AN AMBUSH-STYLE ATTACK BY AN ISLAMIC STATE GUNMAN IN SYRIA.
- NOV 26, 2025** AN AFGHAN NATIONAL WAS ARRESTED AFTER OPENING FIRE ON TWO NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS NEAR THE WHITE HOUSE. THE SUSPECT HAS SEVERAL CHARGES INCLUDING FIRST DEGREE MURDER, AND THE FBI IS INVESTIGATING AS A POTENTIAL ACT OF TERRORISM.
- NOV 19, 2025** AFGHAN NATIONAL SENTENCED TO STATUTORY MAXIMUM OF 15 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR KNOWINGLY RECEIVING WEAPONS IN CONNECTION TO A PLANNED TERRORIST ATTACK ON ELECTION DAY IN 2024, ON BEHALF OF ISIS.
- OCT 17, 2025** A GAZAN NATIVE LIVING IN LOUISIANA WAS ARRESTED FOR HIS ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE HAMAS-LED TERRORIST ATTACK AGAINST ISRAEL ON OCTOBER 7TH, 2023.
- SEPT 23, 2025** A NATURALIZED U.S. CITIZEN WAS SENTENCED TO 9 YEARS IN PRISON FOR PLOTTING A TERRORIST ATTACK WITH A KNIFE IN NEW YORK CITY. HE HAD BEEN CONSUMING ISIS PROPAGANDA AND PLEDGED HIS ALLEGIANCE TO THE FORMER LEADER OF ISIS.
- JULY 4, 2025** ELEVEN PEOPLE SHOT OFF FIREWORKS TO DRAW ICE PERSONNEL OUTSIDE THE ICE DETENTION FACILITY IN ALVARADO, TEXAS, FIRING ROUNDS AND WOUNDING ONE OFFICER. SEARCH WARRANTS LATER YIELDED BODY ARMOR, FIREARMS, AND ANTI-GOVERNMENT/ICE BANNERS AND PAPERS.
- JUNE 27, 2025** ASHRAF AL SAFOO, LEADER OF THE KHATTAB MEDIA FOUNDATION, AN ONLINE ORGANIZATION THAT SWORE ALLEGIANCE TO ISIS, WAS CONVICTED OF CONSPIRING TO PROVIDE MATERIAL SUPPORT TO A FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.
- JUNE 13, 2025** AN AFGHAN NATIONAL PLEADED GUILTY TO TWO TERRORISM-RELATED OFFENSES AFTER CONSPIRING WITH ISIS AND PLANNING AN ATTACK AGAINST AMERICANS ON ELECTION DAY.

HOMELAND.HOUSE.GOV

Chairman Andrew R. Garbarino | Subcommittee Chairman August Pfluger

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Key Recent U.S. Developments

Download the previous "Terror Threat Snapshot," covering April 2021-June 2025, [here](#).

December 2025

- [December 15, 2025](#): Members of the group Turtle Island Liberation Front, (TILF) Audrey Illeene Carroll, Zachary Aaron Page, Dante Gaffield, and Tina Lai, were charged with allegedly plotting a terror attack targeting business in Los Angeles on New Year's Eve. The group describes itself as pro-decolonization and promotes anti-capitalist and anti-government beliefs.

November 2025

- [November 26, 2025](#): Rahmanullah Lakanwal, a 29-year-old Afghan national, was arrested after opening fire on two members of the National Guard near the White House in the 1800 block of 17th Street. The suspect faces several charges, including first degree murder.
- [November 21, 2025](#): Lawrence Reed, 26, was arrested and charged with terrorism after carrying out a violent, unprovoked attack aboard a Chicago Blue Line train, in which he doused a 26-year-old woman with gasoline and set her on fire.
- [November 19, 2025](#): Abdullah Haji Zada, 19, a native and citizen of Afghanistan and U.S. lawful permanent resident, has been sentenced to the statutory maximum of 15 years in federal prison. The suspect knowingly received two AK-47-style rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition to be used in connection with a terrorist attack on Election Day in November 2024 on behalf of ISIS.
- [November 5, 2025](#): Ayob Nasser, 19, of Dearborn, Michigan, was charged with "conspiring to provide material support to ISIS after joining Mohamed Ali and Majed Mahmoud in plotting an alleged terrorist attack inspired by ISIS on Halloween. Two [New Jersey residents](#), Tomas Kaan Guzel and Milo Sedan, have also been arrested in connection with the alleged plot.

October 2025

- [October 17, 2025](#): Mahmoud Amin Ya'qub Al-Muhtadi, 33, a Gazan native currently residing in Lafayette, Louisiana, was arrested for his alleged involvement in the Hamas-led terrorist attack against Israel on Oct. 7, 2023. Al-Muhtadi previously served as an operative for a Gaza-based paramilitary group that participated in the attack.

September 2025

- [September 24, 2025](#): Joshua Jahn opened fire on an ICE facility in Dallas, Texas, killing one detainee and critically wounding two others. The gunman left behind ammunition with the phrase "ANTI-ICE" written on it with blue ink.
- [September 23, 2025](#): Awais Chudhary, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Pakistan, was sentenced to nine years in prison for plotting a terrorist attack with a knife in New York City. Chudhary had been consuming ISIS propaganda for months and pledged his allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, former leader of ISIS.
- [September 12, 2025](#): Adeeb Nasir and Adil Justice Ahmed Nasir were arrested after they placed an incendiary device underneath a Fox 13 vehicle in Salt Lake City, Utah. They are currently facing nine charges, including two counts of weapon of mass destruction and two counts of threat of terrorism.

August 2025

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- [August 30, 2025](#): John Kevin Lapinski, 41, was sentenced to 300 months in prison after pleading guilty to a series of firearm offenses and for amassing weapons, tactical gear, and attack plans targeting Jewish and Black Americans.
- [August 28, 2025](#): Two children were shot and killed at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis, Minnesota, by Robin Westman, 23. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director Kash Patel referred to the shooting as an act of “[domestic terrorism](#).”

July 2025

- [July 26, 2025](#): Bradford Gille, U.S. citizen from Michigan, entered a Traverse City Walmart and stabbed 11 people. The motives for the attack remain unclear, though he faces multiple charges, including terrorism and assault with intent to murder.
- [July 4, 2025](#): A group of 10 to 12 people shot off fireworks to lure ICE personnel outside the ICE Detention Facility in Alvarado, Texas. When employees exited the facility, they observed the suspects vandalizing the facility and vehicles with spray paint. Between 20 and 30 rounds of ammunition were fired at unarmed corrections officers, and an Alvarado police officer responding to the scene was also shot. Search uncovered body armor, firearms, and anti-government banners and papers that included phrases such as “Fight ICE terror with class war.”

June 2025

- [June 27, 2025](#): Ashraf Al Safoo, leader of the Khattab Media Foundation, a sophisticated online organization that swore allegiance to ISIS, was convicted of conspiring to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization. Al Safoo and his organization coordinated with ISIS to post pro-ISIS videos, articles, essays, and infographics.
- [June 24, 2025](#): Ammaad Akhtar, 33, of Stockton, California, was arrested for attempting to provide material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization. Since February 2025, Akhtar had communicated with a law enforcement-controlled individual online, whom he believed to be a member of ISIS, and expressed support for the group and jihad broadly.
- [June 13, 2025](#): In Oklahoma City, Nasir Ahmad Tawhedi, citizen of Afghanistan, pleaded guilty to two terrorism-related offenses: conspiring and attempting to provide material support and resources to ISIS, and receiving, attempting to receive, and conspiring to receive firearms and ammunition in furtherance of a federal crime of terrorism. Tawhedi had pledged his allegiance to ISIS and plotted an attack against Americans on Election Day.
- [June 10, 2025](#): Muhammad Shahzeb Kahn, a Pakistani national residing in Canada, was extradited to the United States in connection with an indictment filed in New York. Khan allegedly attempted to enter the U.S. to carry out an ISIS-inspired attack on the Jewish community in New York City. He was charged with attempting to provide material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization and attempting to commit acts of terrorism transcending national boundaries.

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Key Recent Global Developments

December 2025

- [December 16, 2025](#): Polish authorities announced they have thwarted a potential ISIS-inspired terrorist attack at a Christmas market. The alleged suspect, Mateusz W., a student at the Catholic University of Lublin, was planning to use explosives to carry out a mass-casualty event and working to contact the terrorist organization.
- [December 14, 2025](#): Multiple people were wounded and 15 were killed in a mass shooting at Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia. The attack, described as antisemitic, was carried out by two suspects, a father and son. One suspect was killed and the other was wounded by law enforcement.
- [December 13, 2025](#): Two U.S. Army soldiers and one U.S. civilian interpreter were killed, and three service members were wounded in an ambush attack in Palmyra, Syria. The lone ISIS gunman was engaged and killed by U.S. forces.
- [December 9, 2025](#): Francis Chenyi, Sr., 52, of Saint Paul, Minnesota, and Lah Nestor Langmi, 49, of Buffalo, New York, were convicted by a federal jury in Kansas City their roles in a conspiracy to provide material support and resources to kill, kidnap, and maim individuals, as well as to use weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) in Cameroon.
- [December 8, 2025](#): Repeated strikes on a kindergarten and hospital in El Fasher, Sudan killed 114 people, including 63 children, and targeted responders attempting to evacuate the wounded. The attack has been attributed to the Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

November 2025

- [November 10, 2025](#): Near the Red Fort in Delhi, India, a vehicle exploded, killing at least 15 people and injuring more than 20 others. The Indian Government has classified the incident as a deliberate terror attack.
- [November 11, 2025](#): In Islamabad, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated outside the District Judicial Complex after attempting to enter the building, killing 12 people and injuring 36. Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, a faction of the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), claimed responsibility for the attack.

October 2025

- [October 16, 2025](#): in the Eastern District of Virginia, Pakistani national Muhammad Pahlawan was sentenced to 40 years in prison for charges related to transporting Iranian-made advanced conventional weaponry in the Arabian Sea off the coast of Somalia.

July 2025

- [July 28, 2025](#): Forty-three Christians, including nine children, were killed by Islamist militants at a vigil service in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The attack was carried out by a group affiliated with the Islamic State's Central African Province.

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[Traffic Light Protocol (TLP) Definitions

Color	When should it be used?	How may it be shared?
 <p>TLP:RED For the eyes and ears of individual recipients only, no further disclosure.</p>	Sources may use TLP:RED when information cannot be effectively acted upon without significant risk for the privacy, reputation, or operations of the organizations involved.	Recipients may therefore not share TLP:RED information with anyone else. In the context of a meeting, for example, TLP:RED information is limited to those present at the meeting.
 <p>TLP:AMBER Limited disclosure, recipients can only spread this on a need-to-know basis within their organization and its clients. Note that TLP:AMBER+STRICT restricts sharing to the organization only.</p>	Sources may use TLP:AMBER when information requires support to be effectively acted upon, yet carries risk to privacy, reputation, or operations if shared outside of the organizations involved.	Recipients may share TLP:AMBER information with members of their own organization and its clients, but only on a need-to-know basis to protect their organization and its clients and prevent further harm. Note: if the source wants to restrict sharing to the organization only, they must specify TLP:AMBER+STRICT.
 <p>TLP:GREEN Limited disclosure, recipients can spread this within their community.</p>	Sources may use TLP:GREEN when information is useful to increase awareness within their wider community.	Recipients may share TLP:GREEN information with peers and partner organizations within their community, but not via publicly accessible channels. TLP:GREEN information may not be shared outside of the community. Note: when "community" is not defined, assume the cybersecurity/defense community.
 <p>TLP: CLEAR Recipients can spread this to the world, there is no limit on disclosure.</p>	Sources may use TLP:CLEAR when information carries minimal or no foreseeable risk of misuse, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures for public release.	Subject to standard copyright rules, TLP:CLEAR information may be shared without restriction.

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