

New Zealand Terrorism Update: March – May 2019

Report Number: DMS6-15-786

Report Date: 26 June 2019

Terrorism Threat Level	
MEDIUM	The Combined Threat Assessment Group (CTAG) assesses a terrorist attack in New Zealand is feasible, and could well occur.

Summary

- During the March-May 2019 reporting period one person mobilised to terrorist violence in New Zealand, resulting in the deaths of 51 people in Christchurch. The attacker almost certainly planned and carried out the attack alone, and in support of his extreme white nationalist beliefs.
- Investigative activity since the attack has identified numerous New Zealand-based individuals who appear to support violent white nationalist or identitarian ideologies. This has increased the number of known New Zealand-based individuals credibly at risk of mobilising to terrorist violence.
- Some New Zealanders remain in Syria after travelling there to associate with terrorist groups active in the Syrian conflict.
- The overall domestic terrorism threat environment has deteriorated since the previous reporting period. As a consequence of the attacks in Christchurch, further acts of terrorist violence are now more likely in New Zealand, and New Zealand has a higher profile with foreign terrorist groups.