

PROTECTIVE STRUCTURES IN URBAN PLACES – POLITICAL AND SOCIETAL DEBATE

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The recent attacks against soft targets (Nizza 2016, Berlin 2016, Stockholm 2017, London 2017, Barcelona 2017) lead to a controversy about the measures that need to be considered. Although security experts considered terroristic attacks using vehicles since more than 15 years, and reported about the investigations, politicians and decision makers in municipal administrations were not prepared. Each time after a vehicle attack, it was decided by authorities to place (awful) barriers almost everywhere without any (master)plan. Politicians in media showed that they are not able to distinguish between the probability of occurrence of a threat and the associated risk. They even did not know about the damage with substantial extent. The lecture analyses the political and societal debate in Germany in 2017 after the first terroristic attacks in Germany. In addition, new protection measures used in urban places are presented.