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Dr. Forest has previously served as a Senior Fellow for the [U.S. Joint Special Operations University](#) (2010-2019) and as a faculty member of the United States Military Academy (2001-2010), six of those years as Director of Terrorism Studies (in the [Combating Terrorism Center at West Point](#)) and three years as Assistant Dean for Academic Assessment. He is also a Distinguished Fellow at the [International Center for Counterterrorism](#) (the Netherlands), and was (2023-2026) Editor-in-Chief of the journal [Perspectives on Terrorism](#). Over the past 20 years he has delivered invited lectures at Princeton, Dartmouth, Harvard, St. Andrews, the FBI Academy (Quantico), the JFK School for Special Warfare (Ft. Bragg, NC), the National Defense University, the National Defense Intelligence University, the Marshall Center (Germany), the NATO Center of Excellence on Counterterrorism (Turkey), the Asia Pacific Center for Strategic Studies, Joint Forces Staff College, and several other institutions and organizations. He has also testified as a subject matter expert for court trials and committee hearings of the U.S. Senate.

Dr. Forest has published over [20 books](#), including:

- *Digital Influence Mercenaries: Power and Profit and Power Through Information Warfare* (Naval Institute Press, 2022)
- *Digital Influence Warfare in the Age of Social Media* (Praeger/ABC-CLIO, 2021)
- *The Terrorism Lectures, 3rd Edition* (Nortia Press, 2019; 2nd Ed. 2015; 1st Ed. 2012)
- *Essentials of Counterterrorism* (Praeger, 2015)
- *Homeland Security & Terrorism* (McGraw-Hill, 2013, w/Russell Howard & Joanne Moore)
- *Intersections of Crime & Terror* (Routledge, 2013)
- *Weapons of Mass Destruction & Terrorism* (McGraw-Hill, 2012, w/Russell Howard)
- *Countering the Terrorist Threat of Boko Haram in Nigeria* (JSOU Press, 2012)
- *Influence Warfare* (Praeger, 2009)
- *Handbook of Defence Politics* (Routledge, 2008, w/Isaiah Wilson, III)
- *Countering Terrorism & Insurgency in the 21st Century* (Praeger, 2007)
- *Teaching Terror: Strategic & Tactical Learning* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006)
- *The Making of a Terrorist: Recruitment, Training & Root Causes* (Praeger, 2005)

Dr. Forest has also published dozens of articles in scholarly journals, is a member of the editorial board for several journals, and served for several years as Editor-in-Chief of [Perspectives on Terrorism](#). He has been interviewed by many newspaper, radio and television journalists, and is regularly invited to give speeches and lectures in the U.S. and other countries. He received his graduate degrees from Stanford University and Boston College, and undergraduate degrees from Georgetown University and De Anza College.

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