

Avi Jorisch
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Biography

Avi Jorisch is a Senior Fellow for Counter-terrorism at the American Foreign Policy Council and Fellow at the Air Force Special Operations University. He also serves on the Advisory Board of United Against a Nuclear Iran (UANI).

Previously, Mr. Jorisch served as a Policy Advisor at the Treasury Department's office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, a liaison to the Department of Homeland Security and an Arab media and terrorism consultant for the Department of Defense. Mr. Jorisch also served as the Executive Director of the Coalition Against Terrorist Media, an organization comprised of Muslim, Christian, Jewish and secular organizations concerned about the role terrorist organizations play in funding various media outlets. The Coalition's advocacy campaign resulted in the removal of al-Manar programming from several major satellite providers, among other important policy changes.

Mr. Jorisch is the author of *Iran's Dirty Banking: How the Islamic Republic Skirts International Financial Sanctions* (2010). He is also the author of *On the Trail of Terror Finance: What Law Enforcement and Intelligence Officials Need to Know* (2010) and *Tainted Money: Are We Losing the War on Money Laundering and Terrorism Finance?* (2009) Both are primers on how illicit actors raise and move their money and intended to shed light on the scope of the problem and potential solutions. Mr. Jorisch has also published a Washington Institute monograph entitled, *Beacon of Hatred: Inside Hizballah's al-Manar Television* (2004). This monograph is based on interviews in Lebanon and Qatar with Hizballah and other Arab media experts, a CD with al-Manar propaganda, and a history of the station and the organization. As the Institute's Soref fellow from 2001 to 2003, he specialized in Arab and Islamic politics.

Mr. Jorisch holds a bachelor's degree in history from Binghamton University and a master's degree in Islamic history from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In 2000 and 2001, he studied Arabic and Islamic Philosophy at the American University in Cairo and al-Azhar University, the preeminent institution of Sunni Islamic learning.

Mr. Jorisch has traveled extensively in the Middle East and is a frequent media commentator on threat finance and radical Islam, publishing in influential media outlets including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes* and *Al-Arabiya.net*.