

J.M. Berger

With roots in newspaper journalism, Berger is an author and analyst studying extremism. Berger's first book *Jihad Joe: Americans Who Go to War in the Name of Islam* (Potomac Books, 2011) was the first definitive account of the American jihadist movement, tracing its history from the 1980s through the present. The book received strong reviews from *The New York Times*, *Publisher's Weekly* and many more.

Berger interviewed American al Shabab member Omar Hammami at length over social media and published a widely read account of their interactions after Hammami was killed by his former allies in 2013.

A regular contributor to *Foreign Policy*, Berger has written extensively on the evolution of al Qaeda and the rise of the so-called Islamic State (ISIS). His new book, *ISIS: The State of Terror* (Ecco, 2015), with Jessica Stern, will be released in early 2015.

Berger is especially known for his research into the tactics of extremists on social media. In addition to important articles on the subject for *The Atlantic* and *Foreign Policy*, he co-authored the 2012 study "Who Matters Online: Measuring influence, evaluating content and countering violent extremism in online social networks", which introduced new analytical techniques for understanding extremist social networks.

In 2004, Berger founded *Intelwire.com*, a web site publishing investigative journalism, analysis and primary source documents on terrorism and international security, including exclusive declassified documents on the September 11 attacks and the Oklahoma City bombing. He has also written for *The New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Daily Beast*, *Nature* and the *CTC Sentinel*, and previously worked as a producer for *National Public Radio* and *Public Radio International* in Boston.