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Getting used to terrorist threats? Evidence from French terrorist attacks between 2015 and 2016

Séminaire du 08/04/2021

12h30

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## Agenda

15/04/2021, Diego RINALLO (Kedge Business School), The tourist valorization of cheese heritage: a comparative analysis of French, Swiss and Italian attractions based on Tripadvisor reviews

## Calendrier des séminaires

<https://urlz.fr/dSB9>

This paper evaluates the effect on mental health of consecutive terrorist attacks in France in 2015 and 2016. We compile information about the three bloodiest terrorist attacks in France over this period— *i.e.* the Charlie Hebdo attack on January 7, 2015, the Paris attacks on November 13, 2015, and the Nice attack on July 14, 2016— and assess whether the potential effect on mental health (*i.e.* depression) of a terrorist attack is smoothed once people consider terrorist attacks as «the new normality». We exploit data from the French Constances epidemiological survey and combine an event study strategy with a difference-in-difference (DiD) approach to compare before-after changes in mental health the year of the attack with the same changes the year before. We show that the negative effect of a terrorist attack on mental health decreases over time from one attack to another, and disappears completely for the last attack. Neither geographical or socio-demographic proximity to the victims nor media exposure seem the factors responsible for this changing effect of terrorist attacks on mental health. Moreover, using counterfactual weights, we show that even if the socio-demographic composition of the sample had remained identical across the three attacks we would have observed the same evolution of the mental health impact.

Keywords— Mental Health, Terrorism, Event Study, Difference-in-Difference

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