Incoherent policies fed rise of fanatics

MEPs MEET in Westminster today to discuss the involvement of the UK in military action against the Islamic State (ISIL) regime, which is long being blamed for the murder of 30-year-old British aid worker, Yorkshire-born David Haines.

But now is the time for the right lesson: It is not a cause to reason in a conflict with a clear line. But we must not lose our sense of fear that we don’t do anything else.

The right lesson is that we should act — but differently. We should be: 
• **Comprehensive** — defeating the ideology of extremism that is the root cause of terrorism — so that we can prevent battles, not just the battles of the battlefields.
• **Intelligent** — supporting representative and accountable governments and working with them at their request, not going in alone.
• **Exquisite** — working with partners in the region who are prepared to be part of the solution, potentially including Iran.
• **Non-territorial** — using all the means at our disposal, including military force, to engage our very own frontline.

The root cause of this terrorist threat is a fundamental ideology of extremism. This threat is nothing to do with ISIS, which is a poisonous religious ideologue who invests into groups as instruments of everyday ISIS extremism in the region. It is about the brutal differences of forces to turn people to accept a misbegotten world and to live in aopianist-mediated states.

To defeat ISIS, there is one route translated as a U.S. move to invest. We must invest in the region, and support the region and the region is important to our survival.

But we have to make this right lesson. It is a careful policy to reason in a conflict without a clear line. But we must not lose the sense of fear that we don’t do anything else.

Isolation and withdrawal from a problem like ISIS will only move matters worse. We must not allow past mistakes to become an excuse for future.

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