

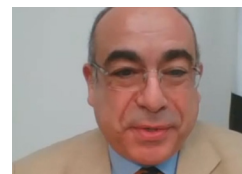
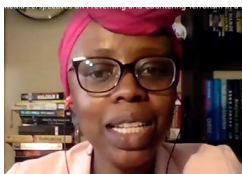
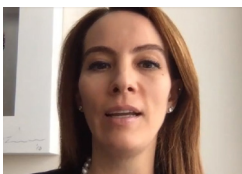
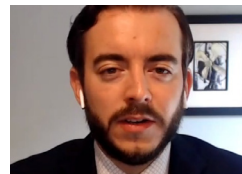
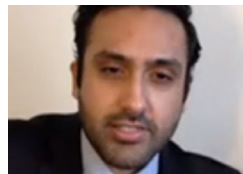
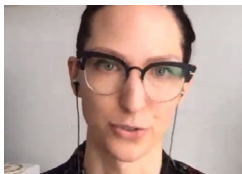
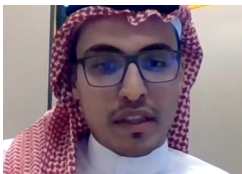
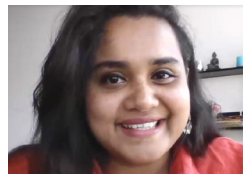
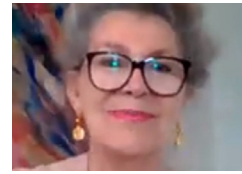
“

Terrorism does not respect national borders. It affects all nations and can only be defeated collectively. So we must harness the power of multilateralism to find practical solutions.

”

Mr. António Guterres

United Nations Secretary-General



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Foreword

By Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism



The United Nations Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week took place from 6 to 10 July 2020 under the theme of **“Strategic and Practical Challenges of Countering Terrorism in a Global Pandemic Environment”**. Being one of the first major events marking the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations, it helped contribute both to making “the future we want [and] the United Nations we need” as well as to “build back better”.

The international community is facing a human crisis unlike any other since the founding of the United Nations. COVID-19 continues to devastate lives and livelihoods, hitting the most vulnerable and marginalized the hardest. It has unleashed a tsunami of misinformation, hate speech, xenophobia and conspiracy theories. It also has the potential to act as a catalyst in the spread of terrorism and violent extremism by exacerbating grievances and inequalities, undermining social cohesion and fuelling local conflicts. Terrorists are already exploiting the significant disruption and economic hardships caused by COVID-19 to spread fear, hate and division and radicalize and recruit new followers. The pandemic has also highlighted vulnerabilities to new and emerging forms of terrorism, such as cyber-attacks against critical national infrastructure and the weaponization of deadly diseases.

The Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week provided a timely opportunity to exchange expert analysis and innovative ideas on what the COVID-19 pandemic means for the counter-terrorism community and how we need to adjust our responses. Over 1,000 people participated in ten webinars, interactive discussions and a virtual expo, including 530 delegates from 134 Member States, 200 representatives from 40 United Nations entities, 160 representatives from 47 international and regional organizations, and more than 100 representatives from 88 civil society organizations and the private sector. I would like to thank all the moderators, speakers and participants who made the week a success with their insightful contributions and concrete recommendations. I would also like to express my gratitude to all 31 donors,

especially the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Qatar, that are contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism and making the work of my Office possible.

The successful delivery of the Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week was a major achievement as the United Nations' first global conversation on the evolving terrorism threat and counter-terrorism responses in a pandemic environment. It improved our collective understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on the counter-terrorism priorities of Member States. It underscored the importance of international cooperation, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and a whole-of-society approach to effectively prevent and counter terrorism. It also raised awareness of the transformation in the way that the United Nations provides capacity-building support to Member States and regional organizations, in line with the all-of-UN approach embodied by the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact.

You can read below about each of the week's interactive sessions, with the exception of the session on high-risk threats and trends which was only open to Member States. You can also watch the opening and closing sessions and the launch of the Virtual Expo on the impactful capacity-building work of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) at <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/2020-counter-terrorism-week>.

As the United Nations marks its 75th anniversary, deadly global threats such as terrorism and COVID-19 only underline the importance of multilateralism and working together across national borders and bureaucratic silos with a renewed sense of common purpose, unity and determination. In these unprecedented and unpredictable times, it is probably too early to fully assess the implications of COVID-19 on the terrorism landscape. However, as you will see below, some broad contours have begun to emerge. The next few years are likely to bring new challenges in the fight against terrorism that will test the resilience and cohesion of our societies. We must remain vigilant, responsive and adaptable. We must maintain the momentum we have built over the last year through seven Regional High-level Conferences on critical counter-terrorism issues covering all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. We must also redouble our collective efforts to break the cycles of violence and protracted conflict in which terrorism thrive.

I look forward to seeing you in person for the Second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in 2021, including the Second High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies and the first Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism.



Vladimir Voronkov

Under-Secretary-General, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism

Executive Summary

The Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week brought together Member States, United Nations entities, civil society representatives, international and regional organizations, thought leaders, the private sector and other key stakeholders to improve our collective understanding of the impact and potential consequences of the COVID-19 crisis on the terrorism landscape, as well as Member States' counter-terrorism needs, priorities and expectations.

The key conclusions and outcomes from the ten webinars and interactive discussions were:

- 1. Need to strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation:** there was a clear consensus that there needs to be a reinvigorated commitment to multilateralism guided by the United Nations Charter and international law to prevent terrorists from exploiting the disruptive political, social and economic impacts of COVID-19. This would enable Member States to share information and resources and work together to “build back better” after the pandemic, including tackling the deep-rooted inequalities and grievances that undermine social cohesion and fuel conflict and terrorism. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions provide the basis for strong collective action against the transnational scourge of terrorism.
- 2. The United Nations at the centre of global counter-terrorism efforts:** several Member States highlighted the crucial role of the United Nations in further strengthening international counter-terrorism cooperation and working with regional organizations and other partners to help build the capacities of terrorism-affected countries with limited resources. Other speakers noted that the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact had been operationalized as a dynamic platform

to ensure comprehensive and well-coordinated support and technical assistance to Member States. Some 40 United Nations entities, as well as INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, have joined the Global Compact, enabling it to play a key role in strengthening international counter-terrorism coordination efforts. And with the launch of the Global Compact online platform, 112 Member States are now able to collaborate with those same entities.

- 3. Raised awareness of new terrorism threats:** speakers assessed that the COVID-19 pandemic would likely lead to more diverse terrorist threats with the possibility of attacks involving bioterrorism and cyber disruption of critical infrastructure. However, the misuse of digital technology and social media to spread terrorist narratives and hate speech was judged to be the most pressing issue, which required urgent joint action from governments, technology companies and civil society while protecting freedom of expression. Several participants suggested that the implications of technological innovation and digital transformation needed to be addressed more strategically at national and international levels, to prevent criminal exploitation of technology and to ensure that the potential of technology to assist counter-terrorism efforts was fully realized.

- 4. Call to action against right-wing and racially or ethnically-motivated terrorism:** several speakers highlighted the growing transnational threat from Neo-Nazi and white supremacist groups, which are exploiting the fears, anxieties and frustrations created and exacerbated by the pandemic. These groups had become emboldened by the attacks in Christchurch, El Paso and elsewhere last year and were seeking to stir up racial and social divisions in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and recent racial equality protests around the world. Further discussions on the nature, scope and terminology of this evolving threat are needed in the context of the seventh biennial review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2021.

- 5. Tackling the foreign terrorist fighter phenomenon:** participants stressed the importance of sharing information and evidence so that Member States can prevent, detect, disrupt and prosecute foreign terrorist fighters and other terrorist activity, in accordance with international law and Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017). There were calls throughout the week for Member States to repatriate suspected foreign terrorist fighters and associated women and children from camps in the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq as a matter of urgency.

- 6. Urgent focus on promoting human rights:** many speakers argued that it was more critical than ever that counter-terrorism responses fully protect and promote human rights and the rule of law, as there was a greater risk of these fundamental rights being abused during the COVID-19 crisis. Other participants expressed concern over the use of repressive counter-terrorism measures to shrink civic space, constrain the freedom of the press and silence peaceful pro-democracy activism. Some speakers called for the fourth pillar of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to be

strengthened. Under-Secretary-General Voronkov announced that the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) would hold a regional high-level conference on human rights and counter-terrorism as soon as the current COVID-19 context allows.

- 7. **Civil society organizations as essential counter-terrorism partners:** many participants highlighted the crucial contributions of civil society organizations to the kind of bottom-up prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts that are most relevant to and trusted by local communities. Speakers emphasized the need for diverse civil society actors to have a seat at the table, as was the case during the UNOCT-led regional conferences, to help shape counter-terrorism policies and programmes at global, regional and national levels. Nine out of the ten sessions during the week were open to civil society.

8. **Consensus on the need for strategic investment in prevention and preparedness:** there was agreement that the huge stresses and strains caused by COVID-19 will continue to test the resilience of societies over the coming years. This underlined the importance of evidence-based preventive measures and large-scale investment to build resilient communities capable of meeting unpredictable global challenges, including terrorism.

9. **Proven benefits of a whole-of-society approach:** many speakers reiterated the need for a whole-of-society approach to counter the enduring appeal of terrorism and violent extremism, which is being fuelled by hate speech and xenophobia unleashed by the pandemic. They called for innovative partnerships between governments, technology companies, academia and civil society to counter terrorist narratives, as well as meaningful engagement with women and young people in developing inclusive counter-terrorism policies and programmes.

10. **Support for gender-sensitive approaches:** some participants called for a gender-sensitive approach to counter-terrorism efforts which would increase their effectiveness. There was agreement that there needs to be a better understanding of the many different roles that women play in preventing, promoting and undertaking terrorist violence, how terrorists prey on women and men differently, and the differentiated impact of terrorism on women and men, including through sexual and gender-based violence.

11. **Victims remain at the heart of counter-terrorism efforts:** participants heard how COVID-19 had placed additional burdens on victims and survivors by triggering or adding to their trauma and isolating them from support networks. Speakers emphasized that the response to the pandemic should not stop the hard-fought progress made to uphold the rights and address the needs of victims of terrorism. The commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism and the first Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism next year would help to highlight and address these issues.

12. **Showcasing the work of UNCCT:** the 'Virtual Expo' raised the visibility of UNCCT's capacity-building activities and programmes and confirmed its reputation as a global centre of excellence serving Member States and the international community.



1,000+
participants



134
Member States
represented



1,000+
followed the opening
session live



64,000
views of 21 thematic
videos for the Week



47 million
social media
impressions during
the Week



210
articles on the Virtual
Counter-Terrorism
Week in 8 languages in
41 countries



75%
of participants agreed or strongly
agreed that the Week helped
sustain dialogue and momentum
for international counter-terrorism
cooperation in the face of current
disruptions caused by COVID-19



73%
of participants agreed or strongly
agreed that the Week offered an
opportunity to hold the first com-
prehensive international discussion
on the implications of COVID-19 for
terrorism and counter-terrorism

“ The crisis deepens existing conflicts and generates new geopolitical tensions. It is therefore vital that we stand together, and uphold the rules-based international order, with the United Nations at its very centre, 75 years after its creation. ”

Mr. Josep Borrell

High Representative of the European Union
for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Webinar I

Post COVID-19 World: Contours, Pivot Points and Benefits of Multilateral Collaboration

The opening webinar was co-moderated by **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism** and **Ms. Sarah Franck, UNOCT Junior Professional Officer**. It focused on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on international efforts to tackle the evolving and transnational threat of terrorism.

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov

In his opening remarks, Mr. Voronkov highlighted that terrorism remains a major threat to international peace and security. To address this scourge, the United Nations Security Council had adopted a number of resolutions over the last three years, which included measures that Member States could use to prevent and counter terrorism. UNOCT and other entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact are implementing more than 300 capacity-building projects worldwide to support Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions. Nevertheless, urgent action is needed to address unresolved issues such as the situation of foreign terrorist fighters and their dependents who remained detained or stranded in camps in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Mr. António Guterres

In his keynote address, **United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres** noted that with the COVID-19 pandemic the international community is facing a crisis like no other since the founding of the United Nations. While it is too early to fully assess the implications of the pandemic on the terrorism landscape, terrorist and violent extremist groups are seeking

to exploit divisions and governance failures, and the crisis has highlighted vulnerabilities to the misuse of digital technology, cyber-attacks and bioterrorism. As the United Nations commemorates its 75th Anniversary, the Secretary-General underscored the need to maintain strong momentum in collective efforts to counter terrorism.

There was broad agreement amongst the speakers that reinvigorated multilateralism and enhanced multi-stakeholderism were needed to realize the objectives of the United Nations Charter.

- **H.E. Mr Josep Borrell**, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, underlined that the pandemic required collective action and strategic partnerships with the United Nations at the centre, while
- **Mr. Richard Haass**, President of the Council on Foreign Relations, noted that the current pandemic would further complicate efforts to prevent and counter terrorism.
- **H.E. Mr. Kais Kabtani**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee, suggested that reaffirmed and strengthened multilateral ties and partnerships were crucial in responding to transnational challenges such as terrorism.
- **Ms. Ghada Fathi Waly**, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), warned that the current crisis would exacerbate inequalities and that terrorists would capitalize on the frustrations of young people and marginalized groups facing limited employment prospects.
- **Mr. Fabrizio Hochschild-Drummond**, Special Adviser on the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations, said the pandemic had led to the increased use of social media for disseminating violent extremist content and the planning of terrorist attacks, while
- **Mr. John Frank**, Vice-President for United Nations Affairs at Microsoft, stressed the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships to enhance cooperation.
- **Ms. Āsa Regnér**, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, suggested the crisis was an opportunity to recognize and value the crucial role that women play in emergency responses.

Member States and other participants highlighted the need to remain vigilant as terrorist and violent extremist groups had managed to regroup or remain active despite the lockdowns imposed by governments in response to COVID-19. Some speakers warned that the socio-economic consequences of the pandemic would create opportunities for terrorist groups to

further spread hateful narratives and boost their recruitment efforts, as rising unemployment and economic hardships would make young men and women more susceptible to online and offline radicalization. Participants also noted the linkages between terrorism and organized crime and the need to keep up the momentum in ongoing efforts to address the financing of terrorism. One Member State called for enhancing the collection, analysis and sharing of information and stepping up international cooperation between law enforcement agencies.

Member States recommended building capacities on addressing the misuse of information and communications technologies through broad multi-stakeholder partnerships that include the private sector and civil society. They also commended the Christchurch Call for Action to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist content online. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization similarly encouraged further multilateral efforts to address cyber-attacks on public institutions and to strengthen the protection of critical infrastructure.

The important role of civil society organizations was stressed throughout the session. The Executive Director of Women Without Borders recommended investing in women-led civil society organizations with unique access to local communities. Other speakers highlighted the issue of repatriation, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of foreign terrorist fighters and their dependents, alongside humanitarian and security concerns about camps and detention facilities in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. Some Member States also condemned what they perceived as state-sponsored terrorism.

“ Fighting a pandemic and fighting terrorism have much in common. Both require policies that promote prevention, protection, and resilience - and, to succeed, collective effort. ”

Mr. Richard Haass

President of the Council on Foreign Relations

“ Understanding the interaction between the pandemic and the threats of global terrorism will provide insights into how to better combat terrorism in the post-pandemic environment and prepare ourselves for future threats. ”

H.E. Mr. Dang Dinh Quy

Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the United Nations and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Chair

“ The COVID-19 response is an opportunity to reset counter terrorism and prevention of violent extremism interventions by recognizing and valuing the role women play at the local level during crisis and emergencies and improving inclusivity of women in emergency plans decision-making processes. ”

Ms. Āsa Regnér

Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women

Interactive Discussion I

Emerging Threats: Responding to the Threat of Bio and Cyber Terrorism

This session was moderated by **Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs**. It addressed the threat of biological and cyber terrorism, the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes and the responses implemented by Member States and international organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In her opening statement, Ms. Nakamitsu highlighted how the pandemic had heightened concerns over the risk that biological agents, such as bacteria, viruses or toxins, could be acquired for terrorist purposes. She also noted the recent significant increase in cyber-attacks against healthcare and medical research facilities, which had impacted the delivery of care during the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis.

The speakers acknowledged the need to prevent and establish the necessary response mechanisms against the threat of weaponization of biological materials and cyberspace by non-state actors. They emphasized the importance of strengthening and implementing legal and policy frameworks at the international and national levels to ensure that prevention, mitigation and response measures are in place. They also stressed the need to build and enhance the capacities of countries that lacked the resources or expertise to tackle these threats. International cooperation and information sharing were identified as key elements to achieve these objectives.

The work of the United Nations and INTERPOL in supporting Member States in preventing, countering, mitigating and responding to biological and cyber threats was noted by several participants. In particular, speakers welcomed the work undertaken by UNOCT, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA), the United Nations Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), the Food and Agriculture Organization

(FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The importance of effective approaches to address the health and security interface and 'One Health' (human, animal and plant health) was also highlighted.

Speakers discussed the nexus between the pandemic and terrorism, raising concerns about the possible disruption of cyber infrastructures, and the increased likelihood of a bioterrorism incident. They also highlighted examples of other potential threats, including attacks by terrorist groups, mobs and violent individuals against critical health infrastructure and healthcare professionals, as well as cases of fake vaccines and samples of contaminated bodily fluids being offered on the darknet.

Some speakers underlined the critical relationship and interdependency between health systems and health security and the need to be fully prepared to respond to disease outbreaks. From the law enforcement perspective, it was noted that responses should be guided by enhanced awareness and vigilance, strengthened partnerships, the development of intelligence and traditional counter-terrorism efforts.

Member States discussed the risks and impact of a devastating bioterrorism attack. In agreement with the speakers, Member States stressed the importance of legal frameworks and the need for more partnerships to build capacities to prevent, detect and respond to a wide range of infectious disease threats, whether natural, accidental or deliberate in origin. The use of the Internet by terrorists and violent extremists for propaganda purposes, fundraising and to incite, radicalize and recruit new followers was also highlighted. Member States reiterated the vital importance of strengthening global cooperation between governments, international and regional organizations, industry, civil society and academia, to share information and build effective capacities to prepare and respond to evolving threats.

Participants also raised the support available to the least developed countries to secure their cyberspace against terrorist attacks; the specific measures that can be taken to encourage Member States to collaborate; and how to reinforce a multilateral approach at a time when there are voices speaking out against international organizations.

Launch of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre

Virtual Exposition

The launch of the UNCCT Virtual Exposition (Expo), was hosted by:

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and Executive Director of UNCCT

H.E. Mr. Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations and Chair of the UNCCT Advisory Board

Dr. Jehangir Khan, Director of UNCCT

Ms. Amani Alkhiami, UNCCT Junior Professional Officer, moderated the session.

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov

In his opening statement, Mr. Voronkov thanked Ambassador Al-Mouallimi for the generous support provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to UNCCT. He highlighted the value of UNCCT's work as a global capacity-building centre of excellence to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism and emphasized that the Virtual Expo was a great opportunity to engage a much wider audience around the world to learn about the work of UNCCT. He encouraged people to explore the Virtual Expo at <https://www.un.org/counter-terrorism-expo/> and engage online by using interactive digital elements such as videos, quizzes, and immersive digital simulations.

The Virtual Expo is an innovative platform that takes visitors on an interactive digital journey showcasing the impactful work of UNCCT, as well as highlighting the Centre's partnerships with Member States, regional and international organizations, civil society, academia and other key stakeholders, while underlining the importance of UNOCT's all-of-UN and all-of-society approach to countering terrorism.

Ms. Amani Alkhiami

Ms. Alkhiami explained that the Virtual Expo aimed to provide insights into the way UNCCT operates, spark conversations, and promote further engagement and cooperation between stakeholders. It consists of 12 videos and interactive elements that cover some of the key thematic areas of UNCCT's work in supporting Member States implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The Virtual Expo covers UNCCT's world-class capacity-building work across all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. It demonstrates how UNCCT is addressing cutting edge issues such as biological and cyber terrorism, crisis communications and border security.

H.E. Mr. Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi

In his statement, Ambassador Al-Mouallimi highlighted the significant role of the Advisory Board in guiding UNCCT's programme of work, including budgets, programmes and projects. He commended the Virtual Expo, noting that the immersive experience provided a compelling and comprehensive overview of UNCCT's work and some insight into the ever-evolving environment and issues it encounters.

Dr. Jehangir Khan

Dr. Khan outlined the history and evolution of UNCCT and some of the key milestones for the Centre. He provided several examples of how UNCCT was delivering real impact, such as the global programme on the Prosecution, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration of Foreign Terrorist Fighters and their dependents. The Centre was putting a human face on the fight against terrorism by addressing the rights and needs of victims of terrorist attacks through its global programme for Victims of Terrorism. In the context of the pandemic, Dr. Khan mentioned

that UNCCT has developed a global programme on Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear weapons. The programme has the potential to contribute to preventing terrorist exploitation of biological agents.

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov

In his closing remarks, Mr. Voronkov noted the importance of practical engagement with young people by utilizing modern communication tools and platforms, both online and offline. This would assist the efforts of the United Nations in countering terrorism and violent extremism.

“ As UNCCT continues to flourish, we have seen substantial progress in the work of the organization, intently taking on more than 100 endeavours in approximately 150 countries. ”

H.E. Mr. Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations and Chair of the UNCCT Advisory Board

Webinar III

Addressing the Plight of Victims of Terrorism in a Challenging Environment

This session was co-chaired by **H.E. Mr. Agustín Santos Maraver, Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations**, and **H.E. Ms. Adela Raz, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United Nations**, the two co-chairs of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism.

In their opening statements, Mr. Maraver and Ms. Raz both focused on the importance of confronting the challenges created by COVID-19, all of which have deepened the need for multilateral cooperation and enhanced global governance. They noted that the pandemic brought new layers of complexity to the way that the international community must work together to support victims. They also emphasized the need to continue fighting for the rights of victims of terrorism to ensure that their physical, medical, and psychological needs are met, that their human rights are recognized and protected and that their access to justice and compensation is guaranteed. They welcomed progress made in the United Nations system to create tangible tools to expand international support for victims, particularly two recent General Assembly resolutions on the establishment of an International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism (A/RES/72/165) and on enhancing international cooperation to assist victims of terrorism (A/RES/73/305). These resolutions created a clear mandate for the expansion of advocacy and support for victims of terrorism. Mr. Santos Maraver also announced Spain's decision to continue funding UNCCT's Victims of Terrorism Support Programme in the coming year, a commitment echoed by other Member States in their interventions.

The speakers similarly focused on the threat that COVID-19 posed for victims of terrorism, both at individual and organizational levels. Civil society advocates emphasized the risk for victims of experiencing re-activated trauma related to new aspects of life during the

pandemic, particularly the social isolation and hyper-vigilance in public spaces. Speakers repeatedly emphasized the serious mental health concerns that victims of terrorism face, including depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder, and called on Member States to immediately ensure adequate access to psychosocial support.

Participants also discussed the broader systemic threats to organizations advocating for the protection of victims' rights as Member States focus their attention and resources on dealing with the immediate needs resulting from the pandemic. They agreed that only by establishing long-term sustainable assistance at the national level will victims gain the recognition, support, protection, access to justice, and compensation that they deserve. They also recognized the important role of UNOCT in assisting Member States to build their capacities to do this. Both in their statements and later in the discussion, speakers highlighted the issue of postponed trials during the pandemic, noting that access to justice is a fundamental right of victims of terrorism. Given the international nature of terrorism, it was critical for Member States to work together to ensure international judicial cooperation and seize on the opportunity for expanded access to trial proceedings as court activities move online.

In their interventions, Member States shared lessons learned about how best to protect and support victims of terrorism during the COVID-19 pandemic, and outlined their plans to expand on national programming for victims in collaboration with UNOCT. They emphasized the need to ensure that victim support services are classified as essential by national governments in order to continue providing access to them during lockdown. They also spoke about the unique challenges of remembrance in recent months, as many memorials and commemorations had been cancelled or taken online, denying many victims the opportunity of communal support which can be so valuable for their wellbeing.

During the question and answer session with the speakers, the discussion covered ways that the United Nations could work with Member States to develop model legislation in support of victims of terrorism, including mutual assistance agreements for cross-border victims. It also covered the types of compensation that can be provided to victims; ways to enhance international cooperation to support victims; how the lack of a definition of victims of terrorism impacts who receives support; and an acknowledgement of first responders as victims of terrorism. One speaker noted that victims of terrorism often remain faceless, but perpetrators go on to achieve great infamy. This resonated with members of the audience, who commented that victims often do not attain public recognition and public officials rarely engage with victims in creating response plans.

“ Supporting victims and their families is a moral imperative, based on promoting, protecting and respecting their human rights. The more we fail to provide for their needs leads to the erosion of their resilience, which undermines the sustainability and inclusivity of our countries and communities. ”

Mr. Imrana Buba

Co-founder, Youth Coalition Against Terrorism, Nigeria

Interactive Discussion III

Global programmes on Countering Terrorist Travel, Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs), including their Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration

This session was moderated by **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism**, and focused on how the international community can collectively address the threat of returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs), including through the detection of terrorist travel and prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts.

Following the territorial collapse of the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Daesh), between half and two-thirds of the more than 40,000 individuals, including FTFs, who joined ISIL are on the move. FTFs and their ability to travel undetected are a significant concern for Member States. In response, the Security Council adopted resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017), which address, inter alia, the cross-border movements of FTFs, and call for information-sharing as well as comprehensive and tailored prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies for suspected terrorists and their family members in accordance with international law.

Several speakers expressed concern that global terrorism was becoming more fragmented, less detectable and less predictable, especially due to the COVID-19 crisis. There was a wide consensus that the international community needs to coordinate its efforts and work together with regional and local authorities, communities and civil society, to collectively address this evolving threat. Terrorists and their transnational networks depend heavily on their ability to travel to join combat, be trained or plot new attacks. It is during these brief moments of mobility that terrorists become most visible to authorities and could be exposed if effective interagency cooperation and capabilities were in place.

Speakers highlighted that global actionable information-sharing and an enhanced use of international databases were essential to anticipate, detect and disrupt movement of terrorists. Adopting a whole-of-UN approach, UNOCT's flagship Countering Terrorist Travel Programme (CTTP), uses modern technology to help authorities detect FTFs, by mapping Advanced Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) data from air and maritime carriers to identify terrorists travelling to their intended targets and track links to previously unknown accomplices.

Participants raised the grave humanitarian and security situation of tens of thousands of individuals, mostly women and children, who are stranded in detention or displacement camps in northeastern Syria and Iraq. Member States are faced with complex political and operational challenges in the prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of FTFs and their accompanying family members, including trying to balance the need to protect human rights, child rights, security and accountability. The absence of a durable solution has resulted in minimal progress in the repatriation of individuals in humanitarian distress. Speakers emphasized the urgent need for Member States to repatriate their nationals in line with international law and UNOCT/UNCCT underlined its readiness to support countries through its Global Flagship Programme, the Global Framework on UN Support to Member States on Individuals Returned from Syria and Iraq. The Global Framework is a joint, whole-of-UN response involving 15 United Nations entities that leverage their respective mandates to address both the needs and varying capacities of governments, as well as the diverse situations of returning individuals in need of protection, rehabilitation and reintegration.

Several Member States shared their experiences of repatriation and took the opportunity to highlight the importance of recognizing the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and children during repatriation, rehabilitation and reintegration. Through age- and gender-specific efforts, Member States were able to put an end to recurring cycles of violence, further stigmatization and victimization, thereby offering a life of dignity to affected individuals. As the affected women and children have often endured severe physical and psychological trauma, speakers recommended that prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration approaches should be differentiated and include psychosocial services, access to education and skills development, socialization support, and community-based approaches that strengthen social cohesion.

The session provided valuable insights into practices to reduce the recidivism rate of returning offenders, which not only assist rehabilitation and reintegration efforts, but also help to ensure domestic security. Among the major challenges faced by Member States is a tendency to rely too heavily on prosecution without also considering alternatives for accountability and a comprehensive rehabilitation and reintegration approach.

Speakers emphasized that reintegration is a long-term process that should begin during incarceration and continue after release. It requires a multisectoral approach, including skills development, psychosocial care and economic reintegration. The discussion also covered how community-level support mechanisms that foster social cohesion within and between identity groups can diminish stigmatization and ensure long-term reintegration of returning offenders.

“ Assistance must further address prevention of radicalization to violence in prison settings, which are acutely vulnerable to the spread of COVID-19 and which represent a potential breeding ground for terrorists. ”

Ms. Ghada Fathi Waly

Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Webinar IV

Protecting and promoting Human Rights as a cornerstone of building resilience against terrorism

This session was moderated by **Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in New York**. It focused on how to ensure counter-terrorism measures were consistent with international human rights law.

Speakers observed that the affirmation by Member States and the United Nations system of the centrality of human rights to counter-terrorism efforts, as underscored in United Nations Security Council resolutions, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and the United Nations Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights, had not been matched by appropriate practical implementation of human rights-compliant measures to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism.

Participants highlighted that some Member States had adopted heavily securitized and repressive measures in their response to COVID-19, which risked deepening the crisis, stoking discontent, and providing fertile ground for terrorism and violent extremism. Communities where human rights are respected and where grievances have proper channels for expression and remedial actions were better able to reject and survive acts of terrorism. Concerns were raised about the negative impact of counter-terrorism measures on the civic and humanitarian spaces, including on human rights defenders, whether from unintended consequences or intentional misuse to target social and political dissent. One speaker noted that some 300 human rights defenders were killed in 2019 and that torture and degrading treatment remains widespread and institutionally tolerated in many countries.

During the discussion, some speakers called for the fourth pillar of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to be strengthened, arguing that it was the weakest in terms of spending, research, programming and specialized human rights expertise. They recommend-

ed the adoption of integrated and systematic monitoring and evaluation in the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture, including specific impact assessments of human rights compliant counter-terrorism measures. They also suggested establishing a stand-alone and adequately funded human rights oversight entity within the global counter-terrorism architecture.

There were calls for greater efforts to ensure the sustained, meaningful and direct participation of civil society in the decisions and activities of United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, including the seventh biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2021. This would lead to better calibrated policies that build trust and avoid unintended harms. Other speakers welcomed UNOCT's strategy to engage civil society and the African Regional High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism held in Kenya in July 2019, where UN Women's deep grassroots connections enabled deliberation with grassroots activists.

Some speakers urged Member States, United Nations entities and others to comply more fully with United Nations Security Council resolution 2462 (2019), which has some international law safeguards for humanitarian activities with regard to sanctions regimes and counter-terrorism frameworks.

“ Moving forward, the international community must work together to develop responses to counter-terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism that are based on a comprehensive and integrated whole-of-society approach, place human rights and gender responsiveness at the forefront, and promote equality, human dignity, and pluralism. ”

H.E. Mr. Kais Kabtani

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations and Chair of the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee

Interactive Discussion IV

Prevention of Violent Extremism and Strengthening Social Cohesion: Investing in Youth-led and Youth-driven Initiatives to build Resilient Societies

The session, moderated by **Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth**, focused on the crucial role of young women and men in preventing and countering violent extremism (PCVE).

Inspiring examples of youth initiatives supporting and illustrating youth agency and their innovative power to contribute to PCVE were presented during the session. Speakers highlighted a number of challenges related to shrinking civic space, highly securitized government responses, the need to adapt youth activities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the lack of sustained investment in ensuring youth participation. Most speakers underlined the importance of promoting a collaborative approach between decision-makers and young people, to ensure their full engagement and buy-in for PCVE efforts.

Many participants highlighted the critical importance of engaging young people as partners, in particular at the local level, as the best hope to prevent violent extremism. They emphasized the commitment and readiness of young people to contribute to inclusion and peace in their communities. They also noted the importance of addressing assumptions about youth and of ensuring enabling environments, safe spaces, more direct initiatives led by youth organisations, platforms and networks, and human rights-based and youth-responsive PCVE programming. Some speakers underscored the importance of empowering youth in nurturing and harnessing the 'soft power' of sports, education, culture, sciences and communication and information to prevent and counter violent extremism and build resilient societies. They encouraged Member States to facilitate an enabling environment in which young people are fully recognized and included.

Participants commented that the COVID-19 pandemic had fundamentally challenged the world. Young people were at the forefront of helping people in their communities, but they had also experienced greater exposure to online threats, such as hate speech, xenophobia and conspiracy theories. This highlighted the need to ensure that young people were empowered with digital literacy and other important skills to adapt to the post COVID-19 world.

During the interactive debate, comments and questions focused on human rights and inclusion and trust in governance in the context of PCVE. Member States underlined the vulnerability of some young people to violent extremist propaganda online and emphasized the importance of investing in preventing the misuse of information and communications technologies (ICTs) by terrorists in strong partnership with the private sector, especially social media platforms.

Key normative frameworks related to youth were highlighted, including United Nations Security Council resolutions on Youth, Peace and Security 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018), as well as policy and programming references produced in the United Nations system, such as the UNDP Frontlines Report on Youth and PVE, the Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security, and the Inter-Agency Statement on Youth and COVID-19. The UNOCT initiative to launch a comprehensive global programme on Youth and PCVE, working closely with United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact partners, was also commended as a positive development.

“ We must understand that terrorism thrives when there is a lack of equal opportunities, when young people are robbed of their future, when the only option is to despair. ”

H.E. Ms. Gabriela Cuevas Barron
President, Inter-Parliamentary Union

Webinar V

Civil Society and Media Perspectives on Preventing and Countering Terrorism in a Pandemic

The session was moderated by **Mr. Raffi Gregorian, Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and Director of UNOCT**. It examined the challenges and opportunities to build more effective partnerships between governments, civil society, the media and technology companies to prevent and counter terrorism while upholding human rights in a pandemic environment. The discussion also explored how Member States can better utilize civil society and private sector perspectives, knowledge, expertise and experience in their counter-terrorism efforts.

Many speakers noted the crucial role of civil society organizations in addressing the conditions conducive to terrorism by preventing violence, advancing access to justice, safeguarding human rights and supporting women, young people and vulnerable groups in their communities. They observed that local actors are uniquely placed to identify risks and are usually better at coming up with more innovative and effective solutions that fully reflect human rights and the rule of law. It was critical to recognize that civil society is diverse, and so are their perspectives, roles, and expertise in the field of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. Speakers stressed that civil society organizations were core partners in the fight against terrorism rather than merely instruments of service delivery. They needed to be proactively and meaningfully engaged and should always have a seat at the table to help shape counter-terrorism policies, programmes and priorities at global, regional and national levels.

There was a strong consensus on the importance of innovative and collaborative partnerships between civil society, governments, the private sector, media organizations, academia and intergovernmental institutions to tackle terrorism. Partnerships helped to mobilize limited

resources, share valuable information, and overcome technological challenges. The wide-ranging impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic only underlined the need for cross-sector and cross-industry collaboration to build inclusive and resilient societies. Speakers highlighted the important work of the Global Internet Forum to Counter-Terrorism, which was transforming into an independent non-government organization, the Tech Against Terrorism initiative and the Christchurch Call for Action to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist content online.

Participants highlighted how some governments were repressively using counter-terrorism measures to shrink civic space, attack freedom of the press and silence non-violent and pro-democracy activism. This often did not result in a reduction of terrorist recruitment or attacks, but rather further exacerbated conditions conducive to the spread of violent extremism. Civil society actors and journalists needed to be able to rely on the necessary political and legal conditions to properly conduct their work, including a sound regulatory framework.

Some speakers assessed that the COVID-19 crisis was seen as an opportunity by ISIL, Al-Qaida and other terrorist groups to disseminate propaganda, exploit state failure, incite disorder and recruit new followers while governments were focused on tackling the virus. Al-Shabaab had published more frequent newsletters which included religious and socio-economic narratives of the pandemic as a 'soldier of Allah'. One participant noted that the camps in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic containing suspected foreign terrorist fighters and associated women and children were a rhetorical touchstone for ISIL and were frequently mentioned in its propaganda and messaging. Another speaker highlighted the growing threat from right-wing and white supremacist terrorist and violent extremist movements, which had become emboldened by attacks in Christchurch, El Paso, Halle and elsewhere in 2019 and were seeking to stir up racial, xenophobic and social divisions in the wake of the virus and recent racial equality protests around the world. They were helped by the global 'infodemic' caused by COVID-19, including the rapid spread of inaccurate information, anti-government messaging and conspiracy theories.

There was a discussion about the extent to which the pandemic had increased susceptibility to radicalization due to people spending more time online while under lockdown and the socio-economic uncertainties and frustrations that had been exacerbated by COVID-19. One speaker argued that radicalization takes place in a social ecology within which terrorist groups' messaging only plays a small role. He added that one-to-one persuasion was more important in changing beliefs and that altering perceptions of social norms, without changing personal beliefs, was often sufficient to lower propensity for violence and to increase cooperation and reconciliation.

Speakers highlighted the work of technology companies in preventing the spread of terrorist content on digital platforms, including strategic network disruptions, and tackling the tsunami of online disinformation, misinformation and hate speech unleashed by the pandemic. Partnerships between technology companies and the WHO had helped to remove

online content if it was likely to cause real world harm or further spread the virus. Speakers also noted the important role of the media in times of crisis in providing accurate and factual information from trusted sources. Journalists had a responsibility not to give terrorists the oxygen of publicity and to avoid sensationalizing terrorist threats in ways that could have damaging implications for minority groups and conflict-affected communities.

“ While it is important for governments to talk with other governments, and businesses to talk with other businesses, and civil society groups to talk with other civil society groups, we can all be more productive and effective if we cooperate together. ”

Mr. John Frank

Vice-President for UN Affairs of Microsoft

Interactive Closing Discussion

Member States' Counter-Terrorism Priorities in the Post COVID-19 Environment – Synergies and Complementarities between the COVID-19 and Counter-Terrorism Agendas

The interactive closing discussion was moderated by **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism**. It provided an opportunity to hear regional perspectives on how Member States were approaching the implications of the COVID-19 crisis for counter-terrorism efforts. It also explored ways to strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation to address the threat of terrorism in the post-COVID world.

The majority of speakers observed that terrorist groups have exploited the vulnerabilities and opportunities resulting from the pandemic to spread disinformation, hate speech and propaganda online and offline. Several speakers highlighted the pandemic's potential long-term impacts on exacerbating grievances and creating conditions conducive to radicalization and violent extremism leading to terrorism, while emphasizing the need to invest in prevention and all-of-society approaches. The threat posed by right-wing violent extremism, the use of new technologies, bioterrorism, cybersecurity, the nexus between terrorism and organized crime, the protection of soft targets and critical infrastructure, and countering terrorist financing were all highlighted as priority issues for Member States. Speakers underscored the need to ensure gender-informed and proportionate counter-terrorism responses that respect human rights, as well as strengthening multilateral cooperation in order to succeed in the fight against the virus and terrorism.

H.E. Mr. Nathan A. Sales

Ambassador-at-Large and Coordinator for Counterterrorism at the U.S. Department of State, highlighted the importance of a continued fight against ISIL outside the core to dismantle its global network of affiliates. He said there was a clear need to boost the counter-terrorism capacities of Member States on the frontline against terrorism, particularly in Africa and Southeast Asia. While mentioning that coordinated international law enforcement actions have helped to disrupt terror plots around the globe, he also stressed the importance of advancing human rights and the rule of law in the fight against terrorism.

H.E. Ms. Gabriela Cuevas Barron

President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, highlighted the importance of an inclusive approach to countering terrorism, including through the engagement of women and young people. She noted the key role of parliamentarians in tackling terrorism as they translated international commitments into national realities and local solutions.

“ We must prevent the current health and economic crisis from becoming a security crisis, and our response must be based on effective multilateral cooperation with the UN at its core. ”

Mr. Gilles de Kerchove

European Union Counter-Terrorism Coordinator

H.E. Mr. Thomas Greminger

Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), outlined ongoing programmatic work, including with United Nations partners, on the handling of electronic evidence, preventing the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, countering terrorist financing, protecting soft targets and critical infrastructure, and gender mainstreaming in law enforcement. He also highlighted the reinforced cooperation with UNOCT following the adoption of the UNOCT-OSCE Biennial Action Plan in September 2019.

H.E. Mr. Smaïl Chergui

Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union, expressed concern that “the battle against terrorism in Africa has taken one of its deadliest turns yet”, with increased lethal attacks by Boko Haram, ISIL and Al-Shabaab since January 2020. Suggestions regarding the ‘Silencing the Guns in Africa’ initiative included the need to engage terrorists and violent extremists in dialogue and encourage them to surrender, eradicate root causes, invest in innovation and partnerships, complement military action with softer approaches, and ensure stronger coordination among forces operating in the field.

H.E. Mr. Dang Dinh Quy

In recovering from the COVID-19 crisis and building back, Mr. Dang, **Permanent Representative of Viet Nam and the Chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations**, urged Member States not to reduce their commitment or resources to counter terrorism and to focus strongly on prevention. He noted that international cooperation and capacity-building is ever more critical to effectively detect, identify, investigate and prosecute terrorists, and that regional and sub-regional organizations have an important role to play in promoting intra- and inter-regional cooperation.

Ms. Alison August Treppel

Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) of the Organization of American States, highlighted the economic impact of COVID-19 on the Western Hemisphere. She stressed the need for effective biosafety and biosecurity measures, measures to ensure cybersecurity and the safety and security of crowded spaces, as well as the real-time sharing of operational information among counter-terrorism authorities.

Mr. Gilles de Kerchove

Highlighting the pandemic's impact on fragile states, refugees, and internally displaced persons, including by undermining social cohesion and the ability of Member States to protect their citizens, Mr. de Kerchove, **the Counter-Terrorism Coordinator of the European Union**, stressed the need to ensure that counter-terrorism efforts do not impede the provision of humanitarian assistance. He noted the European Union's support to improve camps and detention centres in north-east Syria.

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Fathi Ahmed Edrees

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations, and **co-facilitator of the seventh biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy**, mentioned that the pandemic highlighted the need to further develop the counter-terrorism agenda to respond to emerging challenges. It also provided a genuine opportunity to engage in substantive discussions for the meaningful update of the Strategy.

H.E. Mr. Zhang Jun

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, underscored the importance of further promoting multilateralism and cooperation among regional organizations in counter-terrorism efforts. He added that the evolving challenges of countering terrorism required new tools and technologies, enhanced unity and solidarity, and strengthened capacity-building.

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov

In closing, Mr. Voronkov summarized the key conclusions from the Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week, including the need to strategically invest in preparedness to help build resilient societies; strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation and information-sharing; respect human rights and the rule of law in countering terrorism through concrete actions; address bio and cyberterrorism by leveraging new technologies; and adopt whole-of-society approaches that harness public-private partnerships, civil society expertise, and gender-sensitive and youth-driven initiatives. He thanked the 31 donors to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism, and reiterated UNOCT's commitment to support Member States and other counter-terrorism partners in the lead-up to the Second Counter-Terrorism Week in 2021.

“ We must continue to move away from being a reactive society and focus greater attention on prevention efforts, namely by strengthening capacities to protect our region’s critical infrastructure, by increasing the exchange of operational information with our neighbours and partners, and by fostering greater preparedness and resiliency among our communities. ”

Ms. Alison August Treppel

Executive Secretary, Inter-American Committee against Terrorism,
Organization of American States

Annex I

Programme and speakers

6 July 2020

Webinar I:

Post COVID-19 World: Contours, Pivot Points and Benefits of Multilateral Collaboration

CO-MODERATORS

- **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov**, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)
- **Ms. Sarah Franck**, Junior Professional Officer, UNOCT

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

- **H.E. Mr. António Guterres**, Secretary-General, United Nations

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Mr. Josep Borrell**, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
- **Mr. Richard Haass**, President, The Council on Foreign Relations
- **H.E. Mr. Kais Kabtani**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee
- **Ms. Ghada Fathi Waly**, Executive Director, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and Director-General, United Nations Office at Vienna
- **Mr. Fabrizio Hochschild Drummond**, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Commemoration of the United Nations' 75th Anniversary

- **Ms. Āsa Regnér**, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director, UN Women

- **Mr. John Frank**, Vice President, United Nations Affairs, Microsoft

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **Dr. Paul Oquist Kelley**, Minister, Private Secretary for National Policies of the Presidency, Republic of Nicaragua
- **H.E. Mr. Syed Mohamad Hasrin Aidid**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations, New York
- **H.E. Mrs. Mirgul Moldoisaeva**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations, New York
- **H.E. Mr. Néstor Popolizio**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations, New York
- **H.E. Ms. Cherith Norman-Chalet**, Ambassador and Acting Deputy Representative of the United States Mission to the United Nations, New York
- **Mr. Pieter-Jaap Aalbersberg**, National Coordinator for Security and Counterterrorism, Ministry of Justice and Security, The Netherlands
- **Ms. Despo Michael**, Head of Counter-Terrorism Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK
- **H.E. Mr. Vladimir Norov**, Secretary-General, Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- **Mr. Olivier Caron**, Special Envoy for Counter-Terrorism International Strategy, France
- **Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor**, Director General of National Counter Terrorism Centre, Republic of Maldives
- **Mr. Chitaru Shimizu**, Director, International Safety and Security Cooperation Division, Foreign Policy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
- **Ambassador Ana Silvia Rodriguez Abascal**, Chargé d'Affaires, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations
- **Mr. Luis Carrilho**, Police Advisor, Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions
- **Dr. Edit Schlaffer**, Founder and Executive Director, Women Without Borders/CSO

6 July 2020

Interactive Discussion I:

Emerging Threats: Responding to the Threat of Bio and Cyber Terrorism

MODERATOR

- **Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu**, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations

SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Ms. Lana Nusseibeh**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations
- **Mr. Kevin Sheehan**, Assistant Director, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Explosives and Vulnerable Targets Sub-Directorate (CBRNE&VT SD), INTERPOL
- **Mr. Daniel Feakes**, Chief, Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
- **Dr. Maurizio Barbeschi**, Senior Adviser to the Executive Director, Health Emergencies, World Health Organization
- **Mr. Frederic Poudevigne**, Emergency Management Specialist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- **Ms. Kiersten Todt**, Managing Director, Cyber Readiness Institute
- **Mr. Jonathan Brewer**, Coordinator, Group of Experts supporting the 1540 Committee, United Nations

COMMENTARY

- **Ms. Cindy Termorshuizen**, Director General, International Security Policy, Global Affairs Canada
- **Mr. Florentino Manalastas**, Acting Chair, Program Management Center of the Anti-Terrorism Council, Republic of the Philippines

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **Mr. Ruslan Nimchynskyi**, Director General for International Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ukraine
- **Mr. KV Sreejesh**, Joint Director, Ministry of Home Affairs, India

- **Mr. Sushant Sareen**, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation/CSO, India

- **Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor**, Director General of National Counter Terrorism Centre, Ministry of Defence, Republic of Maldives

- **Mr. Pranab Kumar Das**, Director of the Compliance and Facilitation Directorate, World Customs Organization

7 July 2020

Webinar II:

The Global Scourge of Terrorism: Assessment of High-Risk Threats and Trends, including the rise of Violent Extremism and Hate Speech in a Pandemic Environment (Closed Session)

MODERATOR

- **H.E. Mr. Dian Triansyah Djani**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations, Chair of the Security Council's 1267 Sanctions Committee

SPEAKERS

- **Ms. Michèle Coninsx**, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, United Nations

- **Mr. Adama Dieng**, Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser of the United Nations Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

- **Ambassador Vladimir Tarabrin**, Director, Department on New Challenges and Threats, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

- **Mr. Edmund Fitton-Brown**, Coordinator of the ISIL (Da'esh)/Al-Qaida Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, United Nations

- **Ambassador Andreas Künne**, Director for the United Nations and Counterterrorism, German Foreign Office

- **Mr. Christopher Harnisch**, Deputy Coordinator for Countering Violent Extremism, Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State

COMMENTARY

- **H.E. Ms. Sima Bahous**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations
- **Ms. Julia Ebner**, Resident Research Fellow at the Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD)

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **H.E. Mr. Carlos Ron**, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
- **H.E. Mr. Jongin Bae**, Ambassador for International Security Affairs, Republic of Korea
- **H.E. Mr. António Gumende**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique to the United Nations, New York
- **H.E. Mr. Munir Akram**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, New York
- **Ambassador Stefano Stefanile**, Charge d'Affaires of Italy to the United Nations, New York
- **Dr Anna-Carin Svensson**, Director-General for International Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Sweden
- **Ms. Yolanda Gallego-Casilda**, Head of Unit on Prevention of radicalization, DG Home Affairs and Migration, European Commission
- **Mr. Mahaveer Singhvi**, Director General for Counter Terrorism, Ministry of External Affairs, India
- **Mr. Karl Dhaene**, Director of the CT Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belgium
- **Mr. Adrien Frier**, Head of the Counter-Terrorism Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France
- **Mr. Ruslan Baranetsky**, First Deputy Head of the Security Service and Chief of the Antiterrorist Center, Ukraine
- **Mr. Ricardo Evert Santamaria**, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Justice and Public Security, El Salvador
- **Ambassador Ana Silvia Rodriguez Abascal**, Chargé d'Affaires, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations
- **H.E. Ambassador Ihab Fahmy**, Deputy Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and Director of the International Counter Terrorism Department, Arab Republic of Egypt

7 July 2020

**Launch of United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre
Virtual Exposition**

MODERATOR

- **Ms. Amani Alkhiami**, Junior Professional Officer, UNCCT/UNOCT

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Mr. Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations and Chair of the UNCCT Advisory Board
- **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov**, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, UNOCT, and Executive Director of UNCCT

INTERVIEW

- **Dr. Jehangir Khan**, Director of UNCCT, UNOCT

8 July 2020

Webinar III:

Addressing the Plight of Victims of Terrorism in a Challenging Environment

CO-MODERATORS

- **H.E. Mr. Agustín Santos Maraver**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations
- **H.E. Ms. Adela Raz**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United Nations

SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Sheikha Alya bint Ahmed Al Thani**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations

- **Dr. (Ms.) April Naturale, MSW**, PhD, Traumatic Stress Specialist in Mass Violence and Terrorism
- **Mr. Guillaume Denoix de Saint Marc**, The French Association of Victims of Terrorism
- **Mr. Imrana Buba**, Co-founder, Youth Coalition Against Terrorism, Nigeria
- **Ms. Denise Lifton**, Head of Victims Unit, UNCCT/UNOCT

COMMENTARY

- **H.E. Mr. Lazarus Ombai Amayo**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **Ms. Idit Michael**, Senior Psychologist, Director, Intentional Programming, NATAL- Israel Trauma & Resiliency Center/CSO, Israel
- **Mr. Manasa Lesuma**, Permanent Secretary for Defence and National Security, Republic of Fiji
- **Ms. Fiona McCartney**, Victims of Terrorism Unit, Home Office, United Kingdom
- **Ms. Elisabeth Pelsez**, Inter-Ministerial Delegate for Victim Support, France
- **Ms. Seyda Emek**, Adviser to the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, European Union
- **Mr. Kabir Taneja**, Fellow (Observer Research Foundation (ORF)/CSO, India

8 July 2020

Interactive Discussion III:

Global programmes on Countering Terrorist Travel, Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs), including their Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration

MODERATOR

- **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov**, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, UNOCT

SPEAKERS

- **Mr. Jürgen Stock**, Secretary-General of INTERPOL

- **H.E. Ms. Anna Kuznetsova**, Children's Rights Commissioner for the President of the Russian Federation

- **H.E. Mr. Kairat Umarov**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations

- **Mr. Nikhil Seth**, Executive Director, United Nations Institute for Training and Research

- **Mr. Jelle Postma**, Chief of the CT Travel Programme and Aviation Security Section, UNOCT

- **Ms. Larissa Adameck**, Programme Management Officer, UNCCT/UNOCT

- **Ms. Brigid Kennedy Pfister**, Senior Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF

COMMENTARY

- **H.E. Ms. Katalin Annamaria Bogyay**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations

- **H.E. Mr. Huib Mijnders**, International Envoy for Counter-Terrorism of the Netherlands

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **H.E. Mr. Kacou Houadja Léon Adom**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations, New York

- **H.E. Mr. Bakhtiyor Ibragimov**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the United Nations, New York

- **Hon. Gennaro Migliore**, Chair, PAM Special Parliamentary Committee on Counterterrorism, Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM)

- **Mr. Irfan Saeed**, Director, Office of Countering Violent Extremism, United States Department of State

- **Mr. Michael Jones**, Executive Director, CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS)

- **Mr. Mesut Koc**, Deputy Director General for Security and Intelligence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Turkey

- **Mr. Vadim Barchuk**, Deputy Director, Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO-RATS)

- **Dr. Khalid Koser**, Executive Director, Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)/CSO

- **Dr. Hans-Jakob Schindler**, Senior Director, Counter Extremism Project (CEP)/CSO

9 July 2020

Webinar IV:

Protecting and promoting Human Rights as a cornerstone of building resilience against terrorism

MODERATOR

- **Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris**, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in New York

SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Ms. Pascale Baeriswyl**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations
- **Professor Fionnuala Ní Aoláin**, United Nations Special Rapporteur for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights while Countering Terrorism
- **Ms. Sanam Naraghi Anderlini**, Founder and Executive Director, International Civil Society Action Network
- **Mr. Zeeshan Amin**, Head of Unit on Countering the Financing of Terrorism, UNCCT/ UNOCT

COMMENTARY

- **H.E. Mr. Nicolas de Rivière**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations
- **H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **Ms. Fathimath Haleem**, Counsel General, Attorney General's Office, Maldives
- **H.E. Mr. Munir Akram**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, New York
- **Mr. Mahaveer Singhvi**, Director General for Counter Terrorism, Ministry of External Affairs, India
- **Ms. Mayra Lisseth Sorto Rosales**, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of El Salvador to the United Nations, New York

- **Mr. Md. Moniruzzaman**, Additional Deputy Inspector General, Anti-Terrorism Unit, Bangladesh Police, People's Republic of Bangladesh
- **Ms. Ruxandra Serdean-Verde**, Legal Officer, European Commission
- **Ms. Sangeeta Goswami**, Advocacy and Communications Officer, Human Security Collective/CSO

9 July 2020

Interactive Discussion IV:

Prevention of Violent Extremism and Strengthening Social Cohesion: Investing in Youth-led and Youth-driven Initiatives to build Resilient Societies

MODERATOR

- **Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake**, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth

SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Mr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi**, Chairman, Hedayah
- **Mr. Achim Steiner**, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme
- **Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
- **Ms. Stefania Giannini**, Assistant Director-General for Education, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- **Ms. Hilde Hardeman**, Head of Service of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, European Commission

YOUNG VOICES FROM THE FIELD

- **Ms. Fatima Ezzahra Benoughazi**, President, Youth Leaders Council (of Tangier), Morocco
- **Ms. Wevyn Muganda**, Founder, Beyond the Lines, Kenya

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **H.E. Ms. Cristina Gallach Figueres**, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Iberoamerica and the Caribbean, Spain

- **H.E. Ambassador Ihab Fahmy**, Deputy Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and Director of the International Counter Terrorism Department, Arab Republic of Egypt

- **H.E. Mr. Bakhtiyor Ibragimov**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the United Nations, New York

- **H.E. Mr. Milenko Skoknic**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations, New York

- **Mr. Andhika Chrisnayudhanto**, Deputy Head of National Counter Terrorism Agency, Republic of Indonesia

- **Ms. Warangkana Korkietpitak**, Plan and Policy Analyst, Office of the National Security Council, Thailand

- **Ms. Ligia Lorena Flores Soto**, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic to the United Nations, New York

10 July 2020

Webinar V:

Civil Society and Media Perspectives on Preventing and Countering Terrorism in a Pandemic

MODERATOR

- **Mr. Raffi Gregorian**, Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and Director, UNOCT

SPEAKERS

- **Mr. Eelco Kessels**, Executive Director, Global Center on Cooperative Security

- **Mr. Frank Gardner**, Security Correspondent, BBC

- **Ms. Grace Omondi**, Head of Strategic Communication, IGAD Centre of Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism

- **Mr. Nafees Hamid**, Cognitive Scientist of Violent Extremism, Associate Fellow at the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism – The Hague

- **Ms. Erin Saltman**, Head of Counterterrorism and Dangerous Organization Policy for Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Facebook
- **Ms. Azadeh Moaveni**, Gender Project Director, International Crisis Group
- **Dr. Sultan Alkhuzam**, Director of Global Collaboration, Global Centre for Combating Extremist Ideology, Etidal

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

- **Ms. Elena Chernenko**, Foreign Editor, Kommersant (recorded statement)
- **Ms. Vidhya Ramalingam**, Co-founder, Moonshot CVE

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **Ms. Michèle Coninx**, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)
- **Ms. Carol Bellamy**, Chair of the Board, Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)/CSO
- **H.E. Mr. Mitchell Fifield**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations, New York
- **Mr. Md. Moniruzzaman**, Additional Deputy Inspector General, Anti-Terrorism Unit, Bangladesh Police, People's Republic of Bangladesh
- **Mr. Hassan Farhan Mohamed**, President, Maldives National Youth Council Maldives/CSO
- **Mr. Mahamoud Ahmed**, Regional Coordinator, URI Horn Africa, Djibouti/CSO

10 July 2020

Interactive Closing Discussion:

Member States' Counter-Terrorism Priorities in the Post COVID-19 Environment - Synergies and Complementarities between the COVID- 19 and Counter-Terrorism Agendas

MODERATOR

- **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov**, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, UNOCT

SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Mr. Nathan Sales**, Ambassador-at-Large and Coordinator for Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State

- **H.E. Ms. Gabriela Cuevas Barron**, President, Inter-Parliamentary Union

- **H.E. Thomas Greminger**, Secretary-General, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

- **H.E. Mr. Smail Chergui**, Commissioner for Peace and Security, African Union

- **H.E. Mr. Dang Dinh Quy**, Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations (ASEAN Chair)

- **Ms. Alison August Treppel**, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, Organization of American States

- **Mr. Gilles de Kerchove**, European Union Counter-Terrorism Coordinator

COMMENTARY

- **H.E. Mr. Mohamed Fathi Ahmed Edrees**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations

- **H.E. Mr. Zhang Jun**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

- **Ambassador Vladimir Tarabrin**, Director, Department on New Challenges and Threats, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

- **Ms. Jennifer Loten**, Director General, International Crime and Terrorism Bureau, Global Affairs Canada

- **H.E. Mr. Majid Takht Ravanchi**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations, New York

- **Ms. Despo Michael**, Head of Counter-Terrorism Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom

- **Mr. Hermogenes Esperon**, Secretary and National Security Adviser, Republic of the Philippines

- **H.E. Mr. Sofiane Mimouni**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations, New York

- **Mr. John Brandolino**, Director, Division of Treaty Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Annex II

List of participants

This list only includes participants who officially registered to take part in the Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week.

Member States

- **Afghanistan**, Islamic Republic of
- **Algeria**, People's Democratic Republic of
- **Andorra**, Principality of
- **Angola**, Republic of
- **Antigua and Barbuda**
- **Argentina**, Republic of
- **Armenia**, Republic of
- **Australia**, Commonwealth of
- **Austria**, Republic of
- **Azerbaijan**, Republic of
- **Bahrain**, Kingdom of
- **Bangladesh**, People's Republic of
- **Barbados**
- **Belarus**, Republic of
- **Belgium**, Kingdom of
- **Bhutan**, Kingdom of
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- **Botswana**, Republic of
- **Brazil**, Federative Republic of
- **Cabo Verde**, Republic of
- **Cambodia**
- **Canada**
- **Chile**, Republic of
- **China**, People's Republic of
- **Colombia**, Republic of
- **Costa Rica**, Republic of
- **Cote d'Ivoire**, Republic of
- **Croatia**, Republic of
- **Cuba**, Republic of
- **Cyprus**, Republic of
- **Czech Republic**
- **Democratic People's Republic of the Congo**
- **Denmark**, Kingdom of
- **Djibouti**, Republic of
- **Dominica**, Commonwealth of
- **Ecuador**, Republic of
- **Egypt**, Arab Republic of
- **El Salvador**, Republic of
- **Estonia**, Republic of
- **Ethiopia**, Federal Democratic Republic of
- **Fiji**, Republic of
- **Finland**, Republic of
- **France**, Republic of
- **Georgia**
- **Germany**, Federal Republic
- **Ghana**, Republic of
- **Greece** (Hellenic Republic)
- **Guatemala**, Republic of

- **Honduras**, Republic of
- **Hungary**
- **Iceland**, Republic of
- **India**, Republic of
- **Indonesia**, Republic of
- **Iran**, Islamic Republic of
- **Iraq**, Republic of
- **Ireland**
- **Israel**, State of
- **Italy**, Republic of
- **Japan**
- **Jordan**, Hashemite Kingdom of
- **Kazakhstan**, Republic of
- **Kenya**, Republic of
- **Kiribati**, Republic of
- **Korea**, Republic of
- **Kuwait**, State of
- **Kyrgyz Republic**
- **Latvia**, Republic of
- **Lebanon**, Republic of
- **Liberia**, Republic of
- **Luxembourg**, Grand Duchy of
- **Madagascar**, Republic of
- **Malaysia**
- **Maldives**, Republic of
- **Malta**, Republic of
- **Mauritius**, Republic of
- **Mexico** (United Mexican States)
- **Moldova**
- **Monaco**, Principality of
- **Mongolia**
- **Morocco**, Kingdom of
- **Mozambique**, Republic of
- **Myanmar**, Republic of the Union of
- **Netherlands**, Kingdom of
- **Nicaragua**, Republic of
- **Niger**, Republic of
- **Nigeria**, Federal Republic of
- **Norway**, Kingdom of
- **Pakistan**, Islamic Republic of
- **Panama**, Republic of
- **Paraguay**, Republic of
- **Peru**, Republic of
- **Philippines**, Republic of the
- **Poland**, Republic of
- **Portugal**, Republic of
- **Qatar**, State of
- **Romania**
- **Russian Federation**
- **Saudi Arabia**, Kingdom of
- **Senegal**, Republic of
- **Serbia**, Republic of
- **Singapore**, Republic
- **Slovak Republic**
- **Slovenia**, Republic of
- **South Africa**, Republic of
- **Spain**, Kingdom of
- **Sri Lanka**, Democratic Socialist Republic of
- **Sudan**, Republic of
- **Suriname**, Republic of
- **Sweden**, Kingdom of
- **Swiss Confederation**
- **Tajikistan**, Republic of
- **Thailand**, Kingdom of
- **Togo**, Republic of
- **Trinidad and Tobago**, Republic of
- **Tunisia**, Republic of
- **Turkey**, Republic of
- **Tuvalu**
- **Uganda**, Republic of
- **Ukraine**
- **United Arab Emirates**
- **United States of America**
- **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**
- **Uruguay**, Oriental Republic
- **Uzbekistan**, Republic of
- **Venezuela**, Bolivarian Republic of
- **Vietnam**, Socialist Republic of
- **Zambia**, Republic of
- **Zimbabwe**, Republic of

United Nations Entities

- [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#)
- [International Atomic Energy Agency \(IAEA\)](#)
- [International Civil Aviation Organization \(ICAO\)](#)
- [Office of the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth](#)
- [Office of the Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on the Preparations for the Commemoration of the United Nations 75th Anniversary](#)
- [Office of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms while Countering Terrorism](#)
- [United Nations Alliance of Civilizations \(UNAOC\)](#)
- [United Nations Children's Fund \(UNICEF\)](#)
- [United Nations Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate \(CTED\)](#)
- [United Nations Department of Peace Operations \(DPO\)](#)
- [United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs \(DPPA\)](#)
- [United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#)
- [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation \(UNESCO\)](#)
- [United Nations Executive Office of the Secretary-General \(EOSG\)](#)
- [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees \(UNHCR\)](#)
- [United Nations Institute for Training and Research \(UNITAR\)](#)
- [United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute \(UNICRI\)](#)
- [United Nations ISIL/Al-Qaida/Taliban Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team](#)
- [United Nations Migration Agency \(IOM\)](#)
- [United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs \(ODA\)](#)
- [United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism \(UNOCT\)](#)
- [United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights \(OHCHR\)](#)
- [United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology \(OICT\)](#)
- [United Nations Office of the Resident Coordinator in Trinidad](#)
- [United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa \(OSAA\)](#)
- [United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide \(OSAPG\)](#)
- [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime \(UNODC\)](#)
- [United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict \(OSRSG-SVC\)](#)

- United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children (SRSG/VAC)
- United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV)
- United Nations Police Division/DPO
- United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in Bangladesh
- United Nations Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540
- UN Women
- United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Civil Society Organizations

- Air India Flight 182 Victims' Families Association
- Alliance for a Peaceful Indonesia
- Allied Muslim Youth Uganda
- Almaty Branch of National Center for Biotechnology
- AMIDEAST
- Asian Muslim Action Network
- Asociacion Mutual Israelita Argentina
- Association camerounaise des victimes du terrorisme
- Association Djazairouna des familles victimes du terrorisme islamiste
- Association of War Affected Women
- Associazione Leon Battista Alberti/University of Bergamo
- BARQAROR HAYOT international social educational center
- Beyond the Lines
- Canadian Coalition Against Terror
- CARE International
- Carefronting Nigeria
- Center for a New American Security
- Center for International Cooperation
- Center for Social Research Global Analitika
- Centro de Estudios Legales sobre el Terrorismo y sus Víctimas
- Charity and Security Network

- [Coast Education Centre](#)
- [Combating Terrorism Center at West Point](#)
- [Council on Foreign Relations](#)
- [Counter Extremism Project](#)
- [Cyber Readiness Institute](#)
- [EDMAAJ](#)
- [Faculty of Law Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta](#)
- [Fadiel Alsagr Mohamed Fadel, as VoT](#)
- [Finn Church Aid](#)
- [Food4Humanity](#)
- [Forum MNE](#)
- [Foundation of Islamic Relief, Support & Training \(FIRST\)](#)
- [French Association of Victims of Terrorism](#)
- [Gazi Project](#)
- [Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund \(GCERF\)](#)
- [Global Center on Cooperative Security](#)
- [Glocal Connection - Platform for Shared Security](#)
- [Human Security Collective](#)
- [IMAN Research](#)
- [Institute for Strategic Dialogue](#)
- [International Alert](#)
- [International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute](#)
- [International Centre for Counter-Terrorism – The Hague](#)
- [International Civil Society Action Network \(ICAN\)](#)
- [International Crisis Group Global Centre for Combating Extremist Ideology - Etidal](#)
- [International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law](#)
- [International Network Supporting Victims of Terrorism and Mass Violence \(INVICTM\)](#)
- [Lebanese Association of victims of Terrorism](#)
- [MADA Center for Human Studies and Research](#)
- [Maldives National Youth Council](#)
- [Mercy Corps](#)
- [Moonshot CVE](#)
- ['MPOWER Project](#)

- [National Organization of Deported Migrants](#)
- [NGO Javononi Peshsaf](#)
- [Norwegian Refugee Council](#)
- [Observer Research Foundation](#)
- [Odessa organization For Woman Development](#)
- [One World Strong Foundation](#)
- [Pakistan Terrorism Survivors Network](#)
- [Peace and Development Center](#)
- [Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy](#)
- [The Prevention Project](#)
- [Rights and Security International](#)
- [Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security](#)
- [Sabancı University](#)
- [Saferworld](#)
- [SHOURA for building national consensus](#)
- [Strength to Strength](#)
- [Survivors Against Terror](#)
- [Tuesday's Children](#)
- [Unidad de Análisis Financiero de Panamá](#)
- [Union de l'action Féministe](#)
- [United Religions Initiative \(URI\)](#)
- [University of Madras, Department of Criminology](#)
- [V-Europe](#)
- [Victim of terrorism, OVC consultant network, Amy C. O'Neill Consulting LLC](#)
- [Victim Support Europe](#)
- [Victim Support People of the Philippines, Inc.](#)
- [Voices of September 11](#)
- [Women and Peace Studies Organization - Afghanistan](#)
- [Women in International Security - Horn of Africa](#)
- [Women without Borders](#)
- [Women's Institute for Alternative Development \(WINAD\)](#)
- [World Society of Victimology](#)
- [Yayasan Empatiku](#)

- Yayasan penyintas Indonesia (Indonesia bombing survivor foundation)
- Youth Coalition Against Terrorism, Nigeria
- Youth Leaders Council
- Youth Leaders Council of Tangier
- Young Power in Social Action

Private Sector and Media

- BBC
- EMERJ
- Facebook
- Kommersant
- Microsoft

International and Regional Organizations

- African Union (AU)
- Arab Interior Ministers Council (AIMC)
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat
- ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)
- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)
- Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
- Council of Europe (CoE)
- European Union (EU)
- European Commission (EC)
- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- Hedayah - International Center of Excellence for CVE
- Inter-Governmental Authority on Development Center of Excellence in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (ICEPCVE)
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- International Olympic Committee (IOC)

- International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF)
- Interparliamentary Union (IPU)
- IPU High-Level Advisory Group Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism
- Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS)
- International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)
- Mediterranean Women Mediator Network
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- Organization of American States (OAS)
- Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
- Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)
- OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA) Counter Terrorism Committee
- Pan African Human Rights Defenders Network
- Pan African Parliament
- PARLATINO
- Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM)
- Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-Speaking Countries (TURKPA)
- League of Arab Sates
- Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO-RATS)
- Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)
- World Customs Organization (WCO)

Annex III

Keynote address in the opening session from
Mr. António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General



Welcome to this United Nations Counter-Terrorism week. Today's event kicks off a series of discussions over the coming days.

I want to recognize and thank all of you for taking part as well as Under-Secretary-General Voronkov for his efforts.

The international community is facing a crisis like no other since the founding of the UN 75 years ago.

COVID-19 has caused severe disruptions to health systems, economies and local communities around the world - and laid bare profound fragilities in our world today.

I trust that this week's discussions will provide a valuable platform to discuss the strategic and practical challenges of countering terrorism in a global pandemic environment.

It is too early to fully assess the implications of COVID-19 on the terrorism landscape.

But we know that ISIL, Al-Qaida, their regional affiliates - as well as neo-Nazis, white supremacists and other hate groups - seek to exploit divisions, local conflicts, governance failures and grievances to advance their objectives.

ISIL is continuing its efforts to reassert itself in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, while thousands of foreign terrorist fighters battle in the region, seek to engage in conflict elsewhere, or linger in temporary detention while their family members remain stranded.

The pandemic has also highlighted vulnerabilities to new and emerging forms of terrorism, such as misuse of digital technology, cyber-attacks and bioterrorism.

Like the virus, terrorism does not respect national borders. It affects all nations and can only be defeated collectively.

So we must harness the power of multilateralism to find practical solutions.

I would like to highlight five areas to guide our future actions in the field of counter-terrorism.

First, we need to keep up the momentum in the fight against terrorism.

This includes continuing to invest in national, regional and global counter-terrorism capabilities, especially for countries most in need of assistance.

Second, we need to closely monitor evolving terrorist threats and evolving trends and be innovative in our responses.

That means ensuring we have the right technology, tools and concepts to stay ahead of terrorists.

Third, counter-terrorism responses must always be gender sensitive - recognizing the violent misogyny at the heart of so many groups - and protect and promote human rights.

Counter-terrorism laws and security measures cannot be an excuse to shrink civic space, curtail freedom of association and deny other fundamental rights.

Full compliance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law is essential.

The fight against terrorism must uphold these values or without which we will never succeed.

We also have a collective responsibility to facilitate the repatriation of foreign nationals, particularly women and children, from camps in Syria and Iraq, where the risk of COVID-19 is worsening the already dire security and humanitarian conditions.

Fourth, we need to tackle the spread of terrorist narratives through pandemic-sensitive, holistic approaches.

Psycho-social, economic and political stresses associated with COVID-19 have risen dramatically. Terrorists must not be allowed to exploit those fissures and fragilities.

This week's webinars and interactive discussions include civil society representatives, the private sector, women and young people, all of whom are vital to preventing violent extremism and building inclusive and resilient societies.

These discussions will also be informed by the voices of victims of terrorism. It is crucial that we do all we can to address the plight of those who have suffered because of terrorism. We know that despite the passage of time, victims of terrorism continue to struggle with

its legacy. They need avenues for healing through justice and support. I commend them for all they are doing to form global alliances, counter false narratives spread by terrorists, and share their experiences with the world. The United Nations is committed to helping connect and raise those voices - including through events this week.

Fifth and finally, we need to strengthen information sharing to learn from the experiences and good practices of others in the COVID-19 security landscape.

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact framework has helped enhance coordination and coherence in the delivery of UN technical assistance and capacity-building to Member States.

Quality capacity building assistance to Member States will remain an important pillar of the United Nations counter-terrorism work.

We must commit to do more and better. As in every other area of our mission, our work will be assessed by the difference we make in people's lives.

As we commemorate the 75th Anniversary of our Organization, let us seize this opportunity to review and strengthen our counter-terrorism efforts.

The exchange of views and ideas this week will feed into next year's High-Level Counter-Terrorism Week, including the seventh biennial review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the second Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism agencies of Member States, and the inaugural Congress of Victims of Terrorism.

You can be sure that the United Nations remains fully committed to advancing our common struggle against terrorism and upholding our common values.

Thank you. ”

Annex IV

Concluding remarks in the closing session from Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism



Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is my great pleasure to conclude this Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week. The first of its kind in the United Nations. And the first of its kind in the framework of the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations.

I am grateful to the eminent persons who inspired our discussions, especially United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres and European Union High Representative Josep Borell.

My deepest thanks to all the moderators, distinguished speakers and over 1000 participants who made this week a success with their insightful contributions and recommendations.

I am pleased to note that representatives from 134 different Member States, over 150 representatives from international and regional organizations, over 200 representatives from United Nations entities, and over 80 representatives from civil society and the private sector, participated in this Week's events.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented the international community with one of the greatest challenges since the creation of the United Nations 75 years ago - testing national resilience, international solidarity and multilateral cooperation.

While our attention is rightly focused on fighting the virus, we cannot pause our efforts to prevent and counter the global threat of terrorism. As the Secretary-General underscored, we need to keep up the momentum.

This week was a unique opportunity to reflect together on the implications of the COVID-19 crisis on counter-terrorism, Member States' priorities in this context, and how the United Nations system and its partners can support them.

I would like to briefly set out the key conclusions from our discussions.

First, we heard in the high-level opening that a strategic investment in preparedness is needed to help build resilient societies able to cope with the unpredictable environment and global challenges of the 21st century, including terrorism.

COVID-19 has highlighted, and it could also exacerbate, old and new challenges and fault-lines that terrorists are keen to exploit, including socio-economic inequalities, weak governance, political disenfranchisement, human rights abuses, and the misuse of new technologies.

Second, we need to strengthen multilateralism and international cooperation at all levels in order to “build back better”. This requires a renewed, collective commitment guided by the United Nations Charter and international law.

To achieve this, we need to build on the Secretary-General’s call to harness “the power of multilateralism.”

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions provide the normative basis for strong, holistic and collective action against the transnational scourge of terrorism.

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact serves as a dynamic platform to further strengthen multilateral cooperation and enhance coordination and coherence in the delivery of United Nations technical assistance to Member States.

I would especially like to thank the State of Qatar in this regard for its financial contribution which made possible the development of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Platform.

Third, all events underscored the need to fully respect human rights and the rule of law in the fight against terrorism.

This is integral to the whole United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, not just its fourth pillar, and has been consistently reaffirmed by the Security Council.

But we also heard that much more is needed to translate this into practice – to move from words to concrete action, ensuring that measures to counter terrorism do not shrink civic space or hinder humanitarian activities.

I want to reaffirm the commitment of the United Nations System in this regard, guided by the Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights.

I intend, therefore, to hold a regional high-level conference on human rights and counter-terrorism as soon as the current COVID-19 context allows.

Fourth, our discussions emphasized the importance of exchanging information to stay on top of a terrorism threat. This threat is ever more complex.

A threat that is global but exploits local conflicts, grievances and frustrations.

A threat that comes from transnational networks like ISIL and Al-Qaida, their regional affiliates and seasoned fighters; but also, from individuals and groups acting alone; and from neo-Nazis, white supremacists and new forms of racially, ethnically, politically and ideologically motivated acts of terrorism.

Fifth, participants noted that the last few months should serve as a reminder that bio and cyber terrorism could pose serious threats to international peace and security, with consequences that span across borders.

Pandemics magnify these threats, putting additional pressure on emergency response and security structures, and increasing the risk of weaponization by non-state actors.

To address these risks, multi-stakeholder collaboration and harnessing the power of technology for the good of all humankind is critical.

This is what the Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation is about.

Sixth, throughout the week we heard that we need a whole-of-society approach to counter the enduring appeal of violent extremism, now fuelled by hate speech and xenophobia unleashed by the pandemic.

Participants particularly emphasized the need for decisive action to prevent terrorist misuse of social media and the Internet while protecting freedom of expression.

These efforts must be underpinned by strong partnerships between governments, tech companies and civil society, and a strategic communications' approach with credible voices and positive messages to counter terrorist narratives.

Civil society actors make crucial contributions to the kind of bottom-up prevention efforts that resonate with local communities.

We need a massive investment in young people, gender-sensitive and youth-driven initiatives if we want to build healthy and inclusive societies.

Seventh, we discussed ongoing challenges to address the threat posed by thousands of foreign terrorist fighters.

The international community must continue to prioritize international cooperation and technical assistance so that Member States can detect terrorists and interdict their movement; investigate, apprehend and bring them to justice, in accordance with international law.

I would like to echo the grave concerns expressed by several participants regarding women and children with suspected links to United Nations listed terrorist groups who remain stranded in Syria, Iraq and elsewhere.

COVID-19 is compounding their already dire humanitarian, human rights and security situation, and deterring repatriation efforts.

I urge Member States to take swift action regarding their nationals to meet their international obligations and prevent this issue being used to radicalize future generations. It's very important to be fast in this regard.

Eighth, I would like to pay tribute to the compelling stories we heard about the plight of victims of terrorism. They are our reason of being and we need to make sure others don't suffer the way they have.

We heard how the pandemic has placed additional burdens on victims and survivors by adding to their trauma.

The response to the pandemic should not stop the hard-fought progress made to uphold the rights and address the needs of victims.

These discussions will feed into the first Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism that we will hold next year.

Ninth, the need for a gender-sensitive approach was underlined throughout the week, not just as a matter of international human rights law, but of operational effectiveness.

We need to better understand how terrorists prey differently on women and men to incite and recruit, the range of roles women and men play in both terrorism and counter-terrorism, and the differentiated impact of terrorism and counter-terrorism on women and men, also in this pandemic environment.

Last but not least, I was proud to launch a virtual exhibition on the work of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre together with His Excellency Ambassador Al-Mouallimi, the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations and Chair of the Centre's Advisory Board.

The UNCCT Expo showcases the Centre's capacity-building activities, confirming its reputation as a global centre of excellence.

The Expo will remain open on our website for the next three weeks and I strongly encourage everyone to visit it.

I would also like to express my gratitude to all 31 donors among Member States and the European Union which are contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism and making the work of the Office possible.

Dear Colleagues,

Finally, I would like to express my words of gratitude to Microsoft for its technical support of our discussions and excellent cooperation. Let's stay connected!

We are yet to fully understand the impact and consequences of COVID-19 on global peace and security.

We need to remain vigilant and united; we need to anticipate the evolving threat posed by terrorists; and we need to adjust our responses to changes brought by the pandemic.

Over the coming months, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism will continue engaging closely with you in the lead up to the seventh biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

And I look forward to seeing you again in person for the Second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations Headquarters in New York next year, including the Second High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies and the first Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism.

I now declare this Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week closed.

Thank you very much for your attention. Please stay safe and sound.





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