The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly established the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism (CCT) in July 2017 to strengthen the contribution of OSCE parliamentarians in addressing violent extremism and radicalization.

**Composition**

**Chair**
Reinhold Lopatka (Austria)

**Vice-Chair**
Aude Bono-Vandorme (France)

**Vice-Chair**
Richard Hudson (United States)

**Member**
Kamil Aydin (Turkey)

**Member**
Paolo Grimoldi (Italy)

**Member**
Teresa Jiménez-Becerril (Spain)

**Member**
Branimir Jovanović (Serbia)

**Member**
Pia Kauma (Finland)

**Member**
Nikolai Ryzhak (Russian Federation)

**Member**
Georgios Stylios (Greece)

**Member**
Guy Teissier (France)

**Parliamentarians in Counterterrorism**

- **Act as enablers**, whereby they shape the national policy & legislative counter-terrorism frameworks and establish the mandate of security-related bodies.

- **Serve as controllers**, whereby they ensure that all counter-terrorism measures fully respect fundamental freedoms, including through the oversight of national counter-terrorism bodies.

- **Bridge diverging views** at all levels, whereby they promote constructive exchanges between civil society and state authorities, as well as inter-parliamentary dialogue and co-operation.

**Goals of the Committee**

- **Advocate** for inclusive, effective and human rights-compliant counter-terrorism responses.

- **Contribute** to the timely implementation of the international counter-terrorism framework.

- **Develop** forward-looking policy guidance based on identified loopholes and new approaches.
THE COMMITTEE AT WORK

Implemented Activities

▷ Conducted official visits and met with local stakeholders in Morocco, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, United States of America, France and Norway to determine the key challenges on the ground and identify promising practices.

▷ Organized and contributed to international high-level and expert events - including Parliamentary Web Dialogues and Conferences in Lisbon, Madrid and St. Petersburg, OSCE-wide conferences in Vienna, Rome and Bratislava and regional events in Rabat, La Valletta, Tirana, Washington DC and Rome - to share lessons learned and bridge the policy-practice gap.

▷ Held official sessions of the Committee in Andorra, Vienna (3), Berlin, Luxembourg, Marrakech and on-line (2) to discuss trends and coordinate future actions.

▷ Coordinated national Parliaments in the OSCE region in assessing the level of implementation of relevant international commitments on Border Security & Information Sharing.

Key Achievements

▷ Strengthened parliamentary engagement on counter-terrorism and identified several thematic areas where parliaments add value.

▷ Developed innovative policy guidance on preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism (2018 Berlin Resolution) and on addressing the threats stemming from the return & relocation of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (2019 Luxembourg Resolution).

▷ Promoted the implementation of key international obligations on border security and information sharing (e.g. API/PNR/Biometrics) stemming from UNSCR 2396 through parliamentary oversight.

▷ Improved co-ordination with the OSCE and built a network of partnerships with other international stakeholders, including the United Nations (e.g. 2020 MoU with UNOCT) and relevant Interparliamentary Assemblies.

COVID-19

While the pandemic is keeping authorities all over the world busy, it has also provided a fertile ground for terrorists to boost their online propaganda and stigmatize minorities. Through a series of timely on-line events, the Committee urged Governments to retain counter-terrorism efforts & co-operation high on their agendas by:

I. Addressing cyber and internet security issues
II. Countering the negative narratives and disinformation directed towards certain social groups
III. Focusing their attention/resources towards the most vulnerable layers of society

Upcoming

▷ Expert Consultations with UNOCT on its draft Parliamentary Manual on Facilitating the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
▷ Expert Consultations with OSCE/Action against Terrorism Unit (ATU) on its Project on Assistance to parliamentarians working on terrorism-related matters
▷ Expert Consultations with UNOCT on a new Model Law on Victims of Terrorism

For more information: www.oscepa.org