



AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COUNTERING TERRORISM
OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NOTE-TO-THE-FILE



Washington D.C. and New York City

18-22 May 2025

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1. Executive Summary

From 18 to 22 May 2025, the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism (CCT) conducted an official visit to the United States. The visit provided an opportunity for parliamentarians to engage with U.S. counterparts, international partners, and experts on evolving counterterrorism threats and policy responses.

In Washington D.C., the delegation met with the National Counterterrorism Center, the State Department's Counterterrorism Bureau, and the Treasury Department's Office of Terrorist Financing & Financial Crimes. Members also held exchanges in the U.S. Congress, including with the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Helsinki Commission, participated in a Council on Foreign Relations roundtable, and paid tribute at the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial.

In New York, meetings were held with the New York Police Department, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED). The visit concluded with a commemoration at the World Trade Center Memorial & Museum.



Discussions highlighted key trends: the distinction between international and domestic terrorism in U.S. law and practice; shifting U.S. priorities toward border security, combating transnational criminal organizations, and addressing instability linked to the Middle East; and the growing impact of emerging technologies, notably artificial intelligence. Members also discussed new patterns of youth radicalization, including nihilistic violent extremism, stressing the need for proactive, rights-based responses.

The visit reaffirmed the critical role of parliaments in shaping and overseeing counterterrorism strategies that balance security with the rule of law and human rights. Insights gathered informed the drafting of the new [OSCE PA Resolution on Preventing Youth Radicalization to Violent Extremism and Terrorism through Education, and Media and Information Literacy](#). The visit also strengthened the Assembly's partnership with the United Nations, marked by the renewal of the Co-operation Agreement for 2025–2030.

In conclusion, the U.S. visit underscored the OSCE PA's commitment to advancing dialogue, reinforcing parliamentary co-operation, and developing comprehensive, forward-looking counterterrorism policies across the OSCE region, and beyond.

2. Threats and Trends

2.1 *Terrorism Threats*

While both **international and domestic terrorism** are defined under U.S. law (18 U.S.C. § 2331), it was stressed that the latter is not a standalone federal crime, meaning prosecutions rely on other criminal statutes, and domestic extremist groups cannot be formally designated as terrorist organizations. This distinction shapes investigative, prosecutorial, and policy approaches, with international threats often addressed through military, diplomatic, and intelligence tools, while domestic violent extremism (DVE) relies primarily on law enforcement-led prevention, disruption, and prosecution within constitutional safeguards¹.



Pending the official counterterrorism strategy of the new administration, all interlocutors concurred that a primary focus is addressing threats posed by ISIS and Al-Qaeda, particularly in Africa, as well as by the Houthis and Iran-backed actors such as Hamas and Hezbollah. These groups continue to destabilise the regions in which they are present, reinforcing the necessity for robust international co-operation and intelligence-sharing, given the transnational nature of their activities.

With respect to ISIS, interlocutors expressed concerns over the possibility that it could regain momentum in Syria given the fall of Bashar Al-Assad’s government. Particular attention was paid to the issue of **Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs)**, thousands of whom remain detained in camps across Syria and Iraq. The rehabilitation and repatriation of these individuals was flagged as one of the most pressing challenges, with the next generation of terrorists likely growing up in these facilities.

Concerns were also raised about **ISIS-K in Afghanistan**, which was identified as the operational base for a series of attempted attacks across France, Germany, and other Western

¹ Within domestic terrorism, a further distinction is made between Domestic Violent Extremists (DVEs) and Homegrown Violent Extremists (HVEs). DVEs are defined as individuals “based and operating primarily within the United States or its territories without direction or inspiration from a foreign terrorist group or other foreign power who (seek) to further political or social goals, wholly or in part, through unlawful acts of force or violence dangerous to human life”. HVEs are defined as individuals who further political or social objectives promoted by a foreign terrorist organisation while acting independently of direction by such an organisation. While being U.S.-based individuals, their radicalization is inspired by foreign terrorist ideologies, even if they lack direct contact with such organizations.

countries. How ISIS-K has increasingly leveraged AI, especially in linguistic applications, to enhance propaganda and recruitment in Central Asia was also highlighted.

Regarding Al-Qaeda, U.S. officials noted that while the group is currently less capable of mobilizing large-scale resources compared to ISIS, it remains dangerous due to its reliance on regional networks. The Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) branch remains highly active in the online sphere and is responsible for the continued publication of propaganda materials such as “Inspire Magazine”, which aims to radicalize and mobilize a global following.



Regarding the so-called "Axis of Resistance", U.S. interlocutors highlighted the evolving threats posed by **Iran-backed groups**, notably Iraqi Shia militants, Hezbollah and Hamas. Officials emphasized that Iran's use of proxy groups enables it to engage in destabilizing activities abroad, combining conventional tactics with asymmetrical and hybrid warfare, without taking direct responsibility for these actions. They noted that Iran's operations are not confined to the Middle East; the country has been linked to criminal plots in the United States, Europe, and South America. Crucially, officials underscored that Iran has expanded its efforts to conduct direct lethal operations on Western soil, particularly following the 2020 killing of General Qassem Soleimani². Particular

concern was expressed over the influence of Iran-backed narratives on individuals living abroad, including in the United States³.

The **Houthis** were also identified as a major destabilizing actor in the region. While they retain ties and receive varying degrees of support from Iran, U.S. interlocutors emphasized that the Houthis are increasingly pursuing their own strategic objectives, acting with plenty of autonomy. Since the escalation of regional tensions in October 2023, the group has intensified attacks on commercial maritime traffic, particularly in the Red Sea and adjacent waterways, raising serious concerns about the security of vital shipping lanes and the broader implications for international trade and regional stability. Given their growing operational

² Cases such as [Asif Raza Merchant](#) and [Khalid Mehdiev](#) were cited as examples of Iran's sustained attempts to target dissidents and critics abroad, often through local operatives and complex transnational networks.

³ For example, the public gathering in the U.S. for a Hamas leader killed in February 2025 was viewed by officials as a disturbing signal of ideological resonance of extremist rhetoric, particularly among youth, leading to legitimization of terrorism. The tragic shooting at Capital Jewish Museum in Washington D.C. on 21 May 2025 is another clear example.



sophistication and potential to provoke broader escalation, the Houthis have been designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) by the United States. Ample reference was made to a recent large-scale military operation in which approximately 2,000 munitions were deployed against Houthi positions.

Finally, CCT members had the opportunity to delve deeper into the threats posed by **Domestic Violent Extremism (DVE)**, learning about multiple cases of propaganda glorifying attacks on government institutions and law enforcement. These cases often aimed at disrupting societal cohesion through targeted violence in public spaces and were frequently linked to individuals radicalized through online content. In this context, the following inter-related trends were flagged as particularly

alarming: 1) the growing sophistication of terrorist and extremist material online, including AI-generated content; 2) the radicalization of increasingly younger individuals, and; 3) the blurring of ideological boundaries. Allegedly, these trends are creating an increasingly complex radicalization landscape to prevent and counter. Extreme far-right and far-left movements were also identified as threats, with violent extremists exploiting ideological polarization through media manipulation.

2.2 Emerging Trends

The role of emerging technologies and artificial intelligence: a growing area of concern highlighted throughout the visit was the rapidly evolving and multifaceted threat posed by the misuse of emerging technologies for terrorist purposes. Interlocutors underscored how terrorist groups and extremists are increasingly exploiting digital platforms, particularly social media algorithms and encrypted communication apps such as Telegram, to spread radical content, facilitate recruitment, and build online echo chambers. These platforms not only enable real-time peer-to-peer sharing of propaganda, but also leverage algorithmic recommendations to push users toward more extreme content, accelerating radicalization, especially among youth. Artificial intelligence was reported to play a dual role in this context.



On the one hand, it is expanding terrorists' reach by enhancing their ability to produce linguistically and culturally fluent propaganda content, particularly in English, thereby resonating with broader audiences across borders. On the other hand, AI presents opportunities for prevention and rehabilitation when responsibly harnessed, for instance in the context of FTFs.

Interlocutors also noted that terrorist groups are actively seeking IT specialists to bolster their technological capabilities, and are increasingly making use of cryptocurrencies to finance their operations, further complicating investigators' ability to trace illicit financial flows. The proliferation of emerging technologies such as drones and 3D printing were also flagged as significant threats, for instance through the creation of homemade weapons.



All experts acknowledged the urgent need for partnerships with the private sector to counter the spreading of extremist content and hate speech online, particularly on platforms holding growing influence over youth. While recognizing that technological development requires democratic oversight, several interlocutors cautioned against a

strictly regulatory approach, which remains politically and legally complex in the U.S. due to constitutional constraints. They underscored the importance of striking the right balance between regulation and freedom of expression, safeguarding core constitutional rights, especially the First Amendment⁴.

Teenagers self-radicalization online: another growing area of global concern was the radicalization of younger and younger individuals, with terrorism-related investigations in Western countries (as also reported by the [Global Terrorism Index 2025](#)) increasingly involving children as young as 13 or 14. US experts presented several examples of minors being exposed to violent livestreams, extremist propaganda, and hate content across social media platforms, often without adult awareness or intervention⁵. In this environment, interlocutors warned of a toxic combination of trends: 1) increasing emotional numbness of minors when constantly exposed to online violence, 2) lack of adult supervision, and 3) heightened psychological vulnerability of adolescents. Particular attention was drawn to

⁴ The First Amendment protects freedoms of religion, speech, press, assembly, and the right to petition the government, ensuring individuals can express ideas and beliefs without government interference.

⁵ A particularly [alarming incident](#) occurred in the United States on 26 February 2025, when Instagram's algorithm exposed thousands of minors to harmful content, including suicides and livestreamed murders, over a 24-hour period. Allegedly, hardly any of the affected students reported the experience to parents or teachers.

extremist ecosystems such as the “764” movement, which merges neo-Nazi symbols, satanism, and online child exploitation while also promoting suicide and mass violence.

Nihilistic Violent Extremism: in this connection, a particularly troubling trend underscored by multiple interlocutors, was the emergence of so-called nihilistic violent extremism. Unlike traditional forms of radicalization, which typically stems from a specific ideological, political, or religious motivation, this phenomenon lacks a clear ideological framework and stems from a volatile mix of hate, anger, distrust in democratic institutions and profound rejection of societal norms, with boundaries between ideologies increasingly blurred. What makes this trend especially alarming is that violence becomes the objective in itself, not a means to achieve any defined political or ideological end. This shift was reported to challenge the very foundations of existing counter-radicalization strategies. Such actors are, in fact, more unpredictable, harder to detect, and not susceptible to the same intervention models designed for ideologically motivated extremists. Experts expressed serious concern over the convergence of this trend with the radicalization of increasingly younger individuals, underscoring a critical need to strengthen inter-generational communication and understanding, foster media literacy initiatives for students, parents, and professors, and enhance both digital oversight and early prevention strategies at both legislative and societal level. Against these developments, some interlocutors regretted that domestic violent extremism received comparatively less strategic attention by the new administration.

2.3 Combating Financing of Terrorism

Combating the financing of terrorism remains a core pillar of U.S. counterterrorism efforts, with particular attention focused on disrupting the financial networks of Iran-backed groups, notably Hezbollah. U.S. officials highlighted recent sanctions imposed on Hezbollah operatives involved in funding terrorist activities, emphasizing that these actions are part of a broader strategy to cut off access to both the U.S. and global financial systems. A major concern remains the financial resilience and adaptability of ISIS, especially in Africa, where the group increasingly profits from **criminal activities**. Officials warned about ISIS’s ability to sustain operations through diversified revenue streams and exploit technological tools for fundraising.



The use of **cryptocurrencies** by terrorist organizations was identified as a growing trend. Groups like ISIS and Hezbollah are beginning to recognize both the advantages and limitations of digital currencies, using them in increasingly sophisticated ways, including integrating donation links into propaganda materials. The charitable sector remains another key vulnerability: terrorist-linked entities have been



known to create, or co-opt, seemingly legitimate non-profit organizations to solicit funds under the guise of humanitarian work. The U.S. Treasury, working through international mechanisms such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), has intensified efforts to ensure global compliance with anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing standards. While sanction regimes remain a key tool to curb terrorism financing, officials acknowledged their limitations in addressing individuals operating from jurisdictions with weak enforcement mechanisms. As such, international co-operation and intelligence sharing with allies, as well as engagement with the private sector, were described as essential to maximize counter-terrorism financing efforts.

2.4 International Co-operation



Resonating across all meetings, interlocutors consistently emphasized the vital importance of timely international co-operation in effectively addressing evolving terrorist threats.

Several experts outlined ongoing coordination across U.S. agencies and with international partners to promote well-informed decision-making in this field.

They noted that while the strategic focus of counterterrorism may evolve under the new administration, the partnerships themselves, especially with long-standing allies, remain indispensable.

Against this backdrop, the work carried out by the OSCE through its programmatic activities and continued implementation of a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, was

highly praised. Intelligence sharing and coordinated actions, such as joint designations of terrorist groups, were also highlighted as essential tools in disrupting operational and financial support to terrorist actors. Given the centrality of the U.S. financial system in the global economy, officials underscored the need for sustained collaboration with international partners, particularly in Europe, to ensure the integrity of global counterterrorism financing efforts. Finally, following the post-9/11 shift towards more strategic, international coalitions in countering terrorism, many interlocutors stressed the need for greater adaptability in response to the evolving threats, including through new partnerships for combating criminal cartels whose operational capabilities and funding have considerably improved over time.

2.5 Commemorating the Victims of Terrorism

The OSCE PA delegation visited the 9/11 Memorials in both Washington, D.C (Pentagon Memorial) and New York City (World Trade Center Memorial and Museum) to pay tribute to the thousands of victims of these horrific attacks. These on-site engagements allowed our members to reflect on the profound human cost of terrorism and the enduring impact of the attacks on individuals, families, and societies. By commemorating the



victims of terrorism, the Committee underscored its continued commitment to placing victims at the heart of counter-terrorism efforts, as also underscored by the [2022 OSCE PA Resolution on the Victims of Terrorism](#). The act of remembrance not only honoured those lost but also highlighted the importance of international solidarity and of supporting victims as a key element in building effective, human rights-compliant responses and counter-narratives to terrorism.



3. Engagement at the United Nations Headquarters

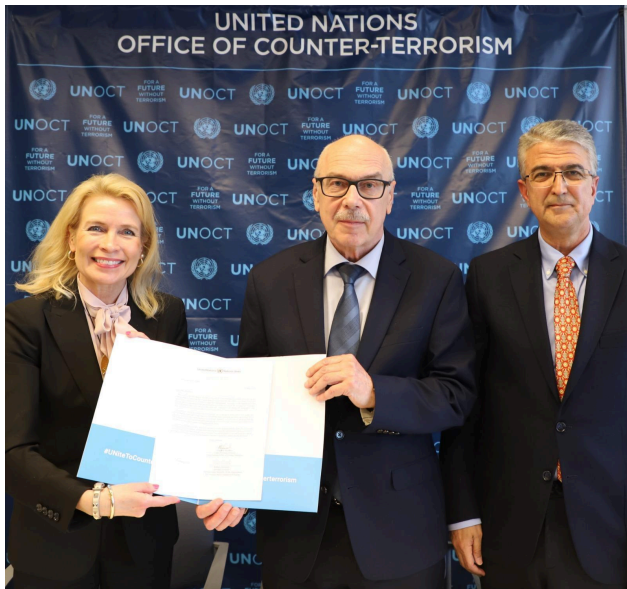
At UN Headquarters in New York, the CCT held strategic discussions with the **United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)** and the **Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED)**, reaffirming the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly’s commitment to multilateral cooperation in global counter-terrorism.



UNOCT Under Secretary General Vladimir Voronkov

welcomed the delegation, stressing the importance of including parliamentary assemblies in UN counter-terrorism activities. He praised the OSCE PA’s pioneering role and active engagement in the Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies, noting in particular its leadership from 2022–2024 when the platform expanded from nine to seventeen assemblies and advanced dialogue on topics such as artificial intelligence, border security,

protection of vulnerable targets, human rights, and youth radicalization. Voronkov highlighted ongoing challenges, including the threat posed by returning foreign terrorist fighters—especially in Central Asia—border security along the Afghan frontier, and the growing misuse of emerging technologies and terrorism financing.



The meeting culminated in the **renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between the OSCE PA and UNOCT, underscoring their mutual commitment to strengthening inter-parliamentary dialogue and

enhancing joint efforts against terrorism. The renewed MoU reflects the added value of parliamentary diplomacy and the OSCE PA’s unique contribution as a cross-regional forum that promotes democratic oversight and rights-based approaches.

In the ensuing open debate, UNOCT and CTED officials emphasized that lawmakers are essential actors in counter-terrorism, commending the OSCE PA’s leadership as a model for

other parliamentary bodies. UN experts outlined priority areas, including cyber threats, the misuse of AI-driven technologies, and the nexus between organized crime and terrorism. They also presented ongoing initiatives, such as customs training, protection of sports venues, victim support, and countering online radicalization, particularly among youth on gaming platforms.



Officials further underlined the urgency of developing legal frameworks for responsible data governance and AI, as many states still lack adequate legislation. They stressed the need for long-term, integrated responses with active engagement of civil society and academia, as well as parliamentary oversight to ensure alignment with human rights standards and transparent use of counter-terrorism budgets.

The exchange concluded with a shared commitment to deepen cooperation and ensure that parliaments are fully equipped to shape effective, rights-compliant counter-terrorism strategies. The OSCE PA's current work on youth radicalization in digital environments and on AI ⁶misuse was praised as a forward-looking model for legislative action.



⁶ [OSCE PA 2024 Resolution on Artificial Intelligence and the Fight against Terrorism.](#)

ANNEX 1: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

OSCE PA Member of Delegation

Title	First name	Surname	Country	Job title
Ms.	Pia	Kauma	Finland	President of the OSCE PA
Mr.	Kamil	Aydin	Türkiye	Chair of the CCT
Mr.	Emanuele	Loperfido	Italy	Vice-Chair of the CCT
Mr.	Marc	Veasey	United States	Vice-Chair of the CCT
Ms.	Jevrosima	Pejović	Montenegro	Member of the CCT
Mr.	Ricardo	Tarno	Spain	Member of the CCT
Ms.	Madeleine	Van Toorenburg	The Netherlands	Member of the CCT

Staff of Delegation

Title	First name	Surname	Country	Job title
Ms.	Ecem	Danik Gökçe	Türkiye	Staff of Delegation
Ms.	Emmi	Kupiainen	Finland	Staff of Delegation
Ms.	Jennifer	McCuiston	United States	Staff of Delegation
Ms.	Dijana	Mitrović	Montenegro	Staff of Delegation
Mr.	Everett	Price	United States	Staff of Delegation

OSCE PA Secretariat

Title	First name	Surname	Job title
Mr.	Michael Andreas	Baker	Chief of Staff
Mr.	Marco	Bonabello	Senior Advisor
Ms.	Lorenza	Vezzoni	Research Fellow

ANNEX 2: PRESS RELEASES



WASHINGTON, 21 May 2025 – OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Pia Kauma (Finland) and Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism (CCT) Chair Kamil Aydin (Türkiye) led a delegation of several CCT members this week to Washington, DC, for a series of meetings with members of Congress, government officials, the intelligence and law enforcement community, and experts to discuss the latest terrorism trends and expand international co-operation in the fight against violent extremism.



Discussions focused on the various manifestations of terrorism and violent extremism, how they have evolved, and the priority areas of engagement today. Key topics discussed included the misuse of emerging technologies – such as artificial intelligence, drones and 3-D printing – for terrorist purposes, youth online radicalization to violent extremism, the emergence of so-called nihilistic violent extremist movements, the multifaceted nexus between terrorism and organized crime, and the need to vigorously counter terrorism financing, facilitated by the growing diffusion of crypto currencies.

The OSCE PA delegation met with representatives of the National Counterterrorism Center, the Council on Foreign Relations, the US State Department's Counterterrorism Bureau, and the Treasury Department's Office of Terrorist Financing and Financial Crimes. Extensive meetings were held also with members of both the Senate and the House, representing both parties, including members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Finally, the delegation paid tribute to the 184 people who died in the attack on Washington, DC, on 11 September 2001 at the National Pentagon Memorial.

CCT Vice-Chair Marc Veasey (United States) welcomed the delegation to Washington and noted that these official visits are instrumental to building greater understanding of the threats and challenges faced at the ground level. "I welcome the opportunity to share with my European colleagues the American experience in counter-terrorism and build international co-operation to combat our shared cross-border security threats," Vice-Chair Veasey said. "While none of us has all of the answers, together we can learn and develop the strongest approach possible."



President Kauma stressed the importance of national parliaments enabling a critical exchange of information and knowledge among lawmakers, as well as the centrality of safeguarding fundamental freedoms and the rule of law while countering terrorism and violent extremism. “For more than two decades, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has placed counter-terrorism at the top of its agenda,” she said. “We must always remain vigilant in defending our societies against this scourge while ensuring that our common values are

upheld. The experience of the United States in this field is critical and I am grateful to the US authorities for their commitment and hospitality.”

CCT Chair Aydin expressed the committee’s deep concern over the growing exposure of teenagers to violent extremist content, especially online, across the OSCE region. “This appalling trend is directly impacting on the cohesion of our societies and requires urgent responses at political and legislative levels – OSCE participating States should update their strategies to duly protect our youth, and therefore our future, from violence and terrorism by endorsing a whole-of-society approach, forging strong public-private partnerships with social media platforms, and placing education, media and information literacy and digital literacy at the very core of our joint efforts. This is precisely what our Assembly advocates for through a new resolution that I will table at our upcoming Annual Session in Porto,” he said.

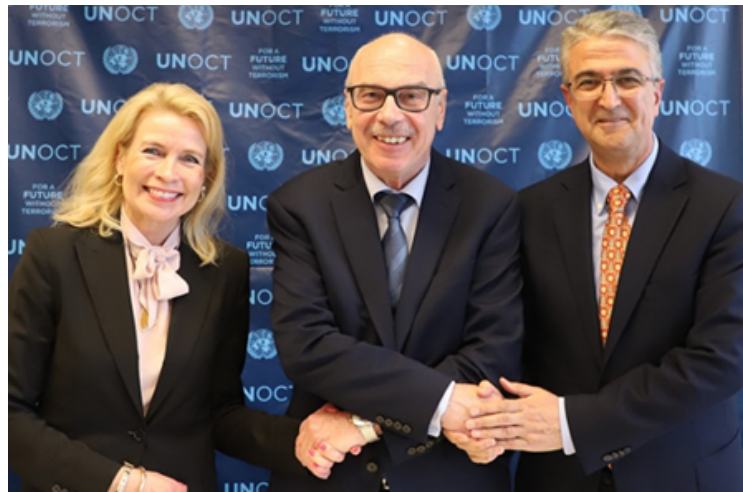
The discussions over the past days of meetings served to strengthen parliamentary awareness and engagement in counter-terrorism by sharing key lessons learned and identifying top challenges that affect OSCE countries on both sides of the Atlantic. The findings of this week’s visit will be shared at the OSCE PA’s upcoming Annual Session in Porto, Portugal.

The CCT’s visit continues in New York with meetings at the United Nations Headquarters, the New York Police Department Counterterrorism Bureau, and the 9/11 World Trade Center Memorial.

*Photos of the CCT’s visit to the United States are [available for public use on Flickr](#).
For more on the work of the CCT, [please click here](#).*



NEW YORK CITY, 22 May 2025 – Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly’s Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism (CCT), led by President Pia Kauma (Finland) and Committee Chair Kamil Aydın (Türkiye), visited the United Nations Headquarters in New York this week for discussions with senior officials from the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) on latest trends and global counter-terrorism efforts.



The visit was crowned by the renewal of the 2020 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the OSCE PA and UNOCT. Against the backdrop of a fast-evolving global security landscape, this co-operation agreement underscores the continued commitment of both organizations to strengthen parliamentary engagement in international counter-terrorism efforts. The new agreement highlights the special contribution of the OSCE PA to international, regional and national counter-terrorism efforts as a unique forum for inter-parliamentary dialogue across the OSCE region.

“Parliamentarians are uniquely positioned to shape policies and legislation that address the root causes of terrorism while protecting fundamental rights,” said OSCE PA President Pia Kauma. “This agreement reinforces our joint commitment to effective human rights-based counter-terrorism and gives new momentum to our strategic partnership with the United Nations during these challenging times.”

Underscoring the unique contribution of the CCT in addressing terrorism and violent extremism, UNOCT Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Voronkov commended the Assembly in successfully presiding over the Global Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies on Counter-Terrorism between 2022-2024. “Collaboration with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly plays a crucial role in the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,” he noted. “Through our dedicated Parliamentary Programme, UNOCT will continue to support OSCE lawmakers in their counter-terrorism efforts.”

Under the leadership of the OSCE PA, the Coordination Mechanism expanded from nine to 17 Assemblies and fostered cross-regional dialogue on pressing issues such as artificial intelligence, protection of vulnerable targets, border security, human rights, and youth radicalization to violent extremism. These discussions fostered a more coherent parliamentary understanding of complex

counter-terrorism challenges, thus promoting co-operation and co-ordination among lawmakers across the world.

Reflecting on this legacy, OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella emphasized the importance of maintaining momentum: “The Mechanism remains a privileged space for lawmakers to explore trends, exchange experiences and launch joint initiatives. A forum where parliamentarians from across the world can collaborate on key issues and engage with renowned experts. A Mechanism owned by parliamentarians and working for parliamentarians.” He assured the OSCE PA’s continued devotion to inter-parliamentary co-operation and readiness to further enhance bilateral co-operation with UNOCT through the renewed MoU.

On this occasion, CCT Chair Kamil Aydın reflected on the four-day visit to the United States, which



kicked off on Monday and included a series of high-level meetings in Washington, DC, and New York City. He underscored the Assembly’s determination to continue monitoring new trends and developing cohesive counter-terrorism policies. “As Chair, I remain fully committed to steering the committee’s work to address fast-evolving terrorist threats, including the alarming trend of teenagers being increasingly targeted by online radicalization to violent extremism,” Aydın said.

In closing the visit, the CCT paid tribute to the victims of terrorism at the 9/11 World Trade Center Memorial, recalling the profound human cost of terrorism and offering heartfelt condolences to the families of all those who have lost their lives or been affected by such acts. By remembering them, the committee reaffirmed its commitment to fostering international solidarity and resilience in the fight against violent extremism. It stressed that supporting victims and remembering their suffering is not only a moral duty, but also a powerful counter-narrative to the hatred and fear sown by terrorism.

“Our societies owe a debt of gratitude to the victims of terrorism, and we should do everything in our power to render them justice and dignity,” concluded Chair Aydın.

To download the joint OSCE PA-UNOCT press release on the signing of the MoU, [please click here](#).

Photos of the CCT’s visit to the United States are [available for public use here](#).

For more on the work of the CCT, [please click here](#).