

RESOLUTION ON

PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TERRORISM AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND RADICALIZATION THAT LEAD TO TERRORISM¹

1. Condemning terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, in the strongest possible terms, and offering heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and to the people and governments that have been targeted,
2. Reiterating that terrorism constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, that any act of terrorism is criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of its motivation, and that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any race, religion, nationality or civilization,
3. Noting with concern the increasing number of terrorist attacks and victims in the OSCE area, including attacks by terrorists acting alone or in small cells, as well as the proliferation of the terrorist and violent extremist ideology and narratives that motivate all these acts,
4. Reaffirming our determination to remain united in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT), and stressing that terrorism can only be defeated through increased international co-operation and by a sustained and comprehensive approach with the active contribution of all participating States and relevant international and regional organizations, as well as local communities and civil society,
5. Noting with appreciation the international counter-terrorism efforts and emphasizing in this context that security in the OSCE area is intricately linked to security in adjacent areas,
6. Underscoring the central role of the United Nations (UN) in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism, and reaffirming our commitment to taking the measures needed to protect all people within our jurisdictions against terrorist acts and the need for all actions to be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, and all other applicable obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, as well as relevant UN Security Council resolutions,
7. Underscoring the importance of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the need to continue to implement all of its aspects in an integrated manner in close co-operation with the newly created UN Office of Counter-Terrorism,
8. Recognizing that OSCE participating States bear the primary responsibility in preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT, while respecting their obligations under international law, in particular human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reiterating that all participating States should refrain from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts,

¹ Annex to the Berlin Declaration and Resolutions Adopted by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly at the 27th Annual Session, Berlin, 7-11 July 2018, available at: <http://www.oscepa.org/meetings/annual-sessions/2018-berlin-annualsession>.

9. Reaffirming that those who participate in the financing, planning, facilitating, preparing or perpetrating terrorist acts must be held accountable and brought to justice, on the basis of the principle “extradite or prosecute” in compliance with relevant obligations under international law, as well as applicable domestic legislation,
10. Reaffirming our determination to pursue a sustained and comprehensive approach and to strengthen co-operation at all relevant levels on preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT, including by emphasizing the importance of strengthening inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination,
11. Deploring all the acts, methods and practices of terrorism, including indiscriminate or targeted killings, torture, sexual and gender-based violence, kidnapping and hostage-taking, abductions, and acts of violence which cause destruction and displace people, and also condemning the incitement of terrorist acts, and repudiating attempts at the justification or glorification of terrorist acts that may incite further terrorist acts,
12. Stressing the need to respect the right to freedom of expression reflected in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR),
13. Acknowledging that the OSCE, as the largest, most inclusive and comprehensive regional security organization, is a privileged platform for the exchange of good practices and lessons learned on preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT, and emphasizing that the profile of the OSCE in this field could be strengthened further in accordance with and building upon the existing mandates,
14. Recalling and reaffirming all relevant OSCE commitments adopted in the field of preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT,
15. Reaffirming the urgency of fully implementing UN Security Council Resolutions 2396 and 2178 and relevant OSCE commitments to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) to the countries of origin, transit and destination, including those returning to their countries of origin or relocating from/to conflict zones,
16. Stressing the need to further boost border control and information sharing, including through systems for advance passenger information (API), passenger name record (PNR) and biometric data, as well as by developing watch-lists or databases of known and suspected terrorists, in compliance with domestic and international law, including human rights law,
17. Underlining the need to prevent and suppress terrorist financing through enhanced international and regional co-operation within the UN, the OSCE, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies,
18. Calling urgently for a strengthening of the measures against the financing of international terrorist groups, in accordance with the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, and urging the swift and effective implementation of the Financial Action Task Force’s (FATF) standards,
19. Noting with increasing concern the multifaceted nexus between international terrorism and transnational organized crime, and stressing the need for all participating States to make full use of available multilateral and bilateral mechanisms and data-sharing systems

and to contribute to existing databases and update them systematically, while fully respecting their obligations under international law,

20. Remaining committed to ensuring national criminal justice systems based on the respect for human rights and the rule of law, due process and fair trial guarantees, which are effectively complemented by appropriate preventive measures and stressing the importance of the development and maintenance of effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice systems, as well as of ensuring effective prison management consistent with applicable international law and national legislation, as a fundamental basis of any strategy to prevent and counter terrorism and VERLT,
21. Emphasizing the importance of a comprehensive approach to preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT, aimed at effectively addressing all internal and external conditions conducive to their spread, while also recognizing that none of these conditions can excuse or justify terrorism or VERLT,
22. Emphasizing the importance of developing tailored and human rights-compliant strategies, policies and programmes, including a gender perspective, in line with applicable international law and domestic legislation, designed to reduce the appeal of terrorism and VERLT,
23. Welcoming the adoption of the UN Security Council Resolution 2354 (2017) and of the “Comprehensive International Framework to Counter Terrorist Narratives (S/2017/375), with recommended guidelines and good practices to counter effectively the ways that terrorist groups and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities use their narratives to encourage, motivate and recruit others to commit terrorist acts,
24. Stressing the importance of building whole-of-society resilience to terrorism and VERLT, as well as of fostering the role of civil society in supporting a global campaign against terrorism and the need to further promote public–private partnerships,
25. Underscoring the importance of involving civil society, in particular families, youth, women, victims of terrorism, and religious, cultural and educational leaders, as well as the media and the private sector, including information technology companies (ICT), in preventing terrorism and VERLT,
26. Recognizing the need to foster an environment that is not conducive to terrorism and, in this context, stressing the importance of counter-narratives which should aim not only to rebut terrorist messages but also to amplify positive narratives, to provide alternatives and address issues of concern to audiences who are targeted by terrorist narratives, and emphasizing the value of public–private partnerships in countering terrorist narratives, along with the need to involve a wide range of actors, including families, youth, women and religious, cultural and educational leaders,
27. Noting the importance of the role played by the media, civil society, religious groups, the private sector, and educational institutions in efforts to enhance dialogues and broaden understanding and in promoting tolerance and peaceful coexistence, and fully respecting the right to freedom of opinion and expression, stressing the necessity to act co-operatively, including with ICT and social media companies, to continue to develop and implement practical measures to counter the exploitation of the Internet and other

information and communication technologies for terrorist purposes, including to commit, incite, recruit, fund or plan terrorist acts,

28. Recognizing that efforts to prevent terrorism and VERLT can benefit from increasing youth participation and sense of their belonging to societies, including by the creation of an enabling environment and opportunities for youth to participate and engage voluntarily and freely in public life and in the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democratic principles and the rule of law, tolerance and non-discrimination, and dialogue and mutual respect, and that such efforts can also benefit from the facilitation of youth access to social services and employment and from support being given to youth-led and youth-focused awareness-raising initiatives, including through the Internet and social media,
29. Underscoring the important role of education in building relevant skills, such as critical thinking, media literacy, and sense of responsibility, in order to enable youth to reject and better challenge terrorist narratives, and in this context, underscoring the need to enhance the exchange of information, lessons learned and good practices on how to effectively engage with youth in preventing terrorism and VERLT,
30. Acknowledging the differential impact terrorism and VERLT have on women and children, with particular respect to such matters as violations and abuses of human rights and that they are often directly targeted by terrorist groups, and highlighting the need to consider evidence-based policies in mechanisms and strategies for preventing terrorism and VERLT,
31. Recognizing that children formerly associated with terrorist groups or who have been forced to travel to conflict zones affected by terrorist attacks should be treated in a manner consistent with their rights, dignity and needs,
32. Stressing the urgency to address the threat posed by terrorists, including relocating and returning FTFs, by *inter alia* developing and implementing, after prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies, policies and programmes before, during and after imprisonment and as part of non-custodial measures of justice, and that such programmes should be compliant with international law, in particular human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law and should also ensure national ownership and address specific concerns, vulnerabilities and needs of men, women and children, including accompanying family members of FTFs, as well to those of incarcerated offenders, as appropriate,
33. Emphasizing the importance of further research, thematic discussions, sharing of good practices and international guidelines, as well as of tailored technical assistance offered by relevant international organizations, including the OSCE,
34. Welcoming the comprehensive efforts of the 2017 Austrian Chairpersonship of the OSCE, including the relevant Declaration on which the present text builds upon, to push forward the agenda of the Organization on the fight against terrorism, violent extremism and radicalization that leads to terrorism, and taking positive note of the activities pursued by OSCE executive structures, including OSCE Institutions and Field Operations, in support of the implementation of OSCE commitments in the field of preventing and

countering terrorism and VERLT, in line with the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security,

35. Acknowledging the role that national Parliaments can play in the field of countering and preventing terrorism and VERLT, especially by developing targeted counter-terrorism legislation in line with international law, including human rights law, by promoting the full implementation of existing international legal frameworks, by providing effective oversight of governmental counter-terrorism policies and authorities, and by fostering greater inclusion of local communities and civil society in national counter-terrorism efforts, in accordance with the principle of national ownership of counter-terrorism strategies and programmes,
36. Recognizing that international parliamentary forums, such as the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, can serve as useful platforms for promoting political dialogue and facilitating the exchange of innovative ideas, lessons learned and best practices on counter-terrorism legislation and policy, thereby providing a distinct contribution to the global fight against terrorism by promoting greater policy coherence and international co-operation,
37. Recalling and reaffirming relevant OSCE PA resolutions on countering terrorism and violent extremisms, including the 2017 Minsk Declaration on Strengthening the Role of the OSCE in Countering Terrorism, the 2015 Helsinki Declaration on a Comprehensive Legislative Reform on Foreign Terrorist Fighters from the OSCE Area, the 2014 Baku Resolution on the Fight Against Terrorism and the 2012 Monaco Resolution on Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism,
38. Welcoming the work conducted by the OSCE PA and by its Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism since its establishment in 2017, and in particular its focus on identifying the most pressing policy and legislative challenges faced by the OSCE participating States in countering terrorism and VERLT, as well as on building strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders in the field to contribute to the global counter-terrorism agenda by leveraging on the Assembly's comparative advantages,
39. Commending the efforts of the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism to promote the exchange of lessons learned and good practices in countering and preventing terrorism and radicalization in the OSCE region, including through the organization of field visits to Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime, and the OSCE executive structures, as well as through the active participation in numerous international conferences and expert events,
40. Taking note of the recurring themes identified by the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism as potential areas where the OSCE PA could add value in the future, including, but not limited to, information sharing and co-ordination mechanisms, prevention of radicalization, countering the spread of terrorist and violent extremist ideologies and narratives, challenges stemming from the phenomenon of FTFs, links between terrorist networks and transnational organized crime, support to the victims of terrorism, protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in countering terrorism, and the challenges stemming from the improper use of new technologies for terrorist purposes,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

41. Calls on the OSCE participating States to swiftly and fully implement the international legal framework on countering terrorism, as well as relevant OSCE commitments in this field;
42. Calls on the OSCE participating States to co-operate, share relevant information and consistently support each other in preventing and countering terrorism, including by eliminating the supply of weapons to terrorists, preventing the recruitment and mobilization of individuals as terrorists, and responding to the challenges stemming from returning and relocating FTFs;
43. Invites the OSCE participating States and OSCE Partners for Co-operation to actively engage in and reinforce their work to address the spread of terrorist narratives, and to this aim undertake appropriate national and international measures, in accordance with their obligations under international law, in line with the relevant UNSC resolutions and consistent with relevant OSCE commitments, and also invites the OSCE executive structures, within their mandates and available resources and complementing ongoing UN efforts, to facilitate thematic discussions, focused on implementing on a regional level UNSCR 2354, and on exchanging lessons learned and good practices to promote a comprehensive response to the spread of terrorist and violent extremist ideologies and narratives;
44. Urges the current, incoming and future OSCE Chairpersonships to continue to strengthen the contribution of the OSCE executive structures on the topic of preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT, leveraging the added value of the OSCE comprehensive approach to security;
45. Invites the OSCE participating States, the OSCE Partners for Co-operation and the OSCE executive structures to actively co-operate and co-ordinate with the OSCE PA on the topic of preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT, with a view of ensuring inclusive and human rights-compliant responses for the benefit of all in the OSCE region;
46. Calls upon Parliaments in the OSCE region to retain the topic of preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT high on their national agendas, and to continue to act as a driving force, in accordance with national legislation and procedures, to advance counter-terrorism efforts, including by allocating adequate resources to counter-terrorism, by adopting inclusive and human rights-compliant legislation in line with the international counter-terrorism legal framework, by ensuring oversight of national security forces, by monitoring the implementation of relevant national policies and strategies, by promoting transparency, respect for human rights and the rule of law, by building trust and dialogue among all levels of society, by advocating solidarity with the victims of terrorism and by supporting counter-terrorism narratives at national and local levels;
47. Encourages Parliamentarians in the OSCE region to continue to engage at regional and international levels with a view to strengthening relevant legislative and policy frameworks and exchanging best practices and lessons learned on preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT;

48. Calls upon the OSCE PA and the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism to further explore possible areas of potential added value for the OSCE PA in preventing and countering terrorism and VERLT, with a view of promoting complementarity of efforts with other stakeholders and avoiding duplication;
49. Calls upon the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism to continue to identify key challenges in this field, to build strong partnerships with the OSCE participating States and executive structures – including the Security Committee, the Secretariat and the Field Operations – and other relevant global, regional and national stakeholders, to consider forward-looking policy guidance wherever needed and to engage in targeted initiatives to bring an increased parliamentary perspective in this critical field of the international security agenda, in full compliance with its mandate;
50. Tasks the OSCE PA International Secretariat to continue to provide technical support to the work of the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism through the organization of regular meetings, field visits and other targeted initiatives, as relevant and within available resources.