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
Ida Glanzmann-Hunkeler (Switzerland)

Member
Paolo Grimoldi (Italy)

Member
Teresa Jiménez-Becerril (Spain)

Member
Pia Kauma (Finland)

Member
Nikolai Ryzhak (Russian Federation)

**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/hearings and met with counter-terrorism stakeholders from Morocco, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, United States of America, France, Norway and Kazakhstan to determine key challenges on the ground and identify promising practices.

- Organized and contributed to numerous international high-level and expert events – including many on-line webinars and conferences in Lisbon, Madrid, St. Petersburg, Vienna, Rome, Bratislava, Rabat, La Valletta, Tirana, Washington DC and Rome - to share lessons learned and bridge the policy-practice gap.

- Held 10 official sessions of the Committee in Andorra, Vienna (3), Berlin, Luxembourg, Marrakech and on-line (3) 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 to bring a distinct parliamentary contribution.

Key Achievements

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

- Advocated for inclusive, effective and human rights-compliant responses & shared lessons learned on border security, FTFs, radicalization & de-radicalization, victims of terrorism and on-line prevention.

- Developed new 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 stemming from UNSCR 2396 through parliamentary oversight.

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

COVID-19

The COVID19 pandemic has provided a fertile ground for terrorists to boost their propaganda. Through a series of timely online events, the Committee urged OSCE Governments to retain counter-terrorism co-operation high on their agendas by:

I. Addressing cyber and internet security issues as a matter of priority;

II. Countering the flawed narratives and disinformation spread by violent extremists, focusing especially on the most vulnerable layers of society

III. Limiting the use of emergency powers and ensuring that counter-terrorism responses remain human rights-compliant

Upcoming

- Expert Consultations with UNOCT: draft Parliamentary Manual on Facilitating the Implementation of the UN Global CT Strategy & Model Legislative Provisions on Victims of Terrorism, ongoing (online)

- Inauguration ceremony of the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism, 16 June 2021 (online)

- Regional Counter-Terrorism Dialogue with Legislators from South-Eastern Europe, autumn 2021, Vienna (Austria).

For more information: www.oscepa.org