AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COUNTERING TERRORISM

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
Kamil Aydin (Turkey)

Members
Vilija Aleknaitė-Abramikienė (Lithuania)
Ravshanbek Alimo (Uzbekistan)
Ida Glanzmann-Hunkeler (Switzerland)
Paolo Grimoldi (Italy)
Maria Karapetyan (Armenia)
Pia Kauma (Finland)
Tsogtbaatar Damdin (Mongolia)
Marc Veasey (United States of America)

Parliamentarians in Counterterrorism

_act as enablers_, shaping the national policy & legislative counter-terrorism frameworks and establishing the mandate of security-related bodies.

Serve as controllers, ensuring 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

Areas of Focus

- Promote the successful prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration of FTFs and their families, including women and children, in the OSCE Region.

- Strengthen border security and information sharing through sound Advance Passenger Information (API), Passenger Name Records (PNR) and biometric data management systems, in accordance with UNSCR 2396.

- Foster prevention efforts and promote sensible global parameters & guidance to counter radicalization, both offline and online.

- Support victims of terrorism and strengthen the role of victims’ associations through advocacy and awareness-raising.

- Explore the intersection of terrorism with other serious threats, such as bioterrorism, terrorist financing, nuclear proliferation and hybrid threats.

- In the context of the COVID-19 emergency, prompt OSCE governments to 1) ensure that counter-terrorism responses respect human rights 2) counter the narratives and disinformation spread by violent extremists, and 3) lend critical support to the most vulnerable and exposed groups in society.

Key Achievements

- Strengthened the engagement of parliamentarians on counter-terrorism and identified several thematic areas where they may 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 international co-ordination through a network of partnerships with key stakeholders, including the OSCE, the United Nations (e.g. 2020 MoU with UNOCT) and various regional interparliamentary assemblies.

CCT “Toolkit”

- Committee Meetings
- Informative Hearings
- Official Visits & Conferences
- Policy Resolutions
- Oversight Initiatives
- Outreach & Public Messaging
- Partnerships

Upcoming

- Third Co-ordination Meeting of Parliamentary Assemblies, January-February 2023 (Doha, Qatar)

- Regional Policy Dialogue on Prosecution, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration of FTFs in (Central) Asian Countries, January-February 2023 (Doha, Qatar)

- Official CCT Visit to Switzerland, February-March 2023, TBC (Switzerland)