

## OSCE PA's counterterrorism committee renews its strategic partnership with UN



CCT members meet with UNOCT in New York, 21 May 2025



CCT-members visit the 9/11 World Trade Center Memorial, 22 May 2025

Members of the OSCE PA's Ad Hoc Committee on Counter-Terrorism (CCT), led by President Pia Kauma (Finland) and Committee Chair Kamil Aydın (Türkiye), visited the United Nations Headquarters in New York last 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 the 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.

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.

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 and assured the 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 Aydın reflected on the four-day visit to the United States, which kicked off on 20 May 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.

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.

## Annual Session media registration open, upcoming deadlines

Press registration is open for the OSCE PA's 32nd Annual Session, scheduled to take place 29 June - 3 July 2025 in Porto, Portugal. Journalists interested in attending the Annual Session should reach out by email to [press@oscepa.org](mailto:press@oscepa.org) with the subject line "Annual Session Press Registration." (Any other media-related questions may also be directed to that email address.)

OSCE PA delegations should also kindly note the following document deadlines for the Annual Session:

- Amendments to Committee Draft Resolutions - **15 June 2025**
- Amendments to Supplementary Items - **22 June 2025**

## President Kauma expresses condemnation of Russia's air attacks on Ukraine

Over the weekend, OSCE PA President Pia Kauma (Finland) reacted to the Russian Federation's intensified aerial attacks on Ukraine that left at least 13 people dead and dozens injured. "As @OSCEPA President, I strongly condemn brutal attacks on [Ukraine] by [Russia] last night claiming lives of innocent people and children," Kauma posted on X Sunday morning. "I call for immediate ceasefire, allowing for peace negotiations. End the war now!"



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