



RESOLUTION ON

THE WAGNER GROUP'S TERRORISTIC NATURE AND ACTIONS¹

1. Emphasizing that terrorism constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and unequivocally condemning all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all of its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, regardless of their motivation, as criminal and unjustifiable,
2. Recalling that States bear the primary responsibility for preventing and countering terrorism, violent extremism, and radicalization that lead to terrorism, while respecting their obligations under applicable domestic and international law, including but not limited to international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law, as well as relevant United Nations (UN) Security Council Resolutions,
3. Stressing the central role of the UN in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism (CT&PVE), and recalling relevant UN resolutions such as Security Council Resolution 1566 (2004), in particular paragraph 3 on, *inter alia*, criminal acts to intimidate people or governments, and Security Council Resolution 2462 (2019) urging states to take into account the potential effect of counterterrorism measures on exclusively humanitarian activities,
4. Underscoring the complementarity of the counterterrorism legal framework with international humanitarian law (IHL), where relevant, and recalling that all acts or threats of violence against civilians with the primary purpose of spreading terror among the civilian population are prohibited according to IHL,

¹ This resolution was adopted by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly at the 30th Annual Session (Vancouver, 30 June to 4 July 2023) as a part of the [Vancouver Declaration and Resolutions](#).

5. Recalling this Assembly’s Luxembourg Declaration, adopted at the 28th Annual Session, which referenced the obligation held by States to ensure “that PMSCs [private military and security companies] operating in or from their territory act in accordance with international humanitarian law, human rights law and customary international law,
6. Highlighting that the Wagner Group, a self-described private actor, undertakes military action and subversive operations, to further the overt and covert foreign policy goals of the Government of the Russian Federation, though private military companies are technically banned under Russian law,
7. Emphasizing that the President of the Russian Federation has publicly admitted – after years of Kremlin denials – that the Wagner Group had been “fully funded” by the Russian State, with the Wagner Group receiving over 86 billion Russian roubles, or over US\$1 billion, from the State budget in one year, thus clearly making the Russian State responsible for the acts of the Wagner Group abroad,
8. Noting the direct ties between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Wagner Group, established by Yevgeny Prigozhin, a close associate of the President of the Russian Federation, including Wagner’s use of Russian Federation military infrastructure, advanced Russian weapons systems, including tanks and combat aircraft, and close institutional relationships with the Russian Federation’s military intelligence service, the GRU,
9. Affirming that the activities of the Wagner Group are terroristic in nature, as they are characterized by premeditated violence committed against noncombatants in the pursuit of political objectives,
10. Denouncing the deliberate, systematic and criminal atrocities and violations of human rights attributed to Wagner Group personnel while conducting operations in Ukraine in furtherance of the interests of the Government of the Russian Federation,
11. Underlining that the Wagner Group’s recruitment of prisoners for its operations in Ukraine also increased its propensity for the commission of atrocities and war crimes,
12. Emphasizing that the Wagner Group and its affiliated entities have also committed, or are credibly accused of committing, predatory and terroristic activities in numerous other locations, including Mali, Sudan, the Central African Republic, Libya, the Syrian Arab Republic, Mozambique and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela,
13. Highlighting that the actions that Wagner Group operatives are credibly accused of committing include, but are not limited to, heinous acts of violence and human rights violations against civilians such as mass atrocities, summary executions, mutilations, sexual violence, destructions of homes, kidnapping, torture, human trafficking and the murder of journalists,

14. Noting European Parliament Resolution of 23 November 2022, which calls on the European Council to include the Wagner Group, *inter alia*, on the EU list of persons, groups and entities involved in terrorist acts (EU terrorist list),
15. Welcoming ongoing efforts in various national parliaments to address the terroristic actions of the Wagner Group, including the legislatures of Ukraine, Lithuania, Estonia, France, Canada, Belgium and the United States,
16. Taking positive note of the official visit of the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism to Switzerland on 21–22 March 2023, in which, *inter alia*, the terroristic nature of the Wagner Group’s operations was repeatedly pointed out,
17. Also commending the goal-oriented partnership established by the OSCE PA with the OSCE executive structures and with relevant UN organs and agencies, and especially the 2022/23 OSCE PA Presidency of the Coordination Mechanism of Parliamentary Assemblies on CT&PVE as an excellent opportunity to better coordinate relevant parliamentary actions across the globe,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

18. Determines that the actions of the Wagner Group on behalf of the Russian government can rightly be characterized as terroristic in nature and intent, and that designation of the Wagner Group as a terrorist organization by national authorities is therefore justified;
19. Strongly condemns the Belarusian Government for its support and permission for the construction of a military base on its territory by the Wagner Group, endangering the entire region of the Baltic countries;
20. Calls on OSCE participating States, in accordance with international and national legislation and without prejudice to the applicability of IHL, to take action against the Wagner Group and its affiliated and successor entities, including through its designation as a terrorist organization;
21. Urges OSCE participating States to make full use of all domestic and international instruments, including those established to counter terrorism, to thwart the malign presence of the Wagner Group (and its affiliates and successors) wherever it operates and ensure accountability for all those responsible for the crimes they have committed;
22. Encourages OSCE participating States to reinforce international norms which clearly recognize the terroristic nature of the Wagner Group and its actions, the responsibility of the Russian Federation as the State sponsor of said terrorist organization, and the inadmissibility of employing such actors in inter-State relations;
23. Decides that the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism, with the support of the International Secretariat, shall remain seized of this matter and support the implementation of this resolution as appropriate.