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I would like to start by thanking the keynote speakers and all participants for their valuable contribution to the conference. During the last two days, we had a very varied, enriching exchange. The summing up by the Chairs of the sessions was excellent – even so, I find it difficult, if not impossible for me to distil definitive conclusions from our work. In the days to come, we in the Council of Europe will be revisiting the statements and the session Chairs' summaries to draw inspiration for our intergovernmental work.

The topic of the conference, terrorism and organised crime, is very broad. The last session, dedicated to the preventive aspects of combating terrorism and other forms of serious organised crime touched upon the role of Internet and social networks and it showed clearly that regulation of content on the Internet is a theme for a separate, and perhaps more than one, conference. Therefore I will not try to summarise what was said or offer a conclusion on this topic. Regulation of content on the Internet is a process, which reflects the evolution of the mainstream views in our societies. For example, where it comes to how to deal with child sexual imagery on the Internet, there is broad consensus amongst the Council of Europe member States. Perhaps to a somewhat lesser degree, the same is true about denial of the Holocaust. Whether terrorist content and what aspects of it will follow the same road, depends on how our societies will develop. Of course, societal developments will eventually be reflected in the case law of the European Court of Human Rights.

A point of departure for the discussion was the similarities and differences between organised crime and terrorism. This is a good analytical method, but from a certain point of view it is also a false debate. Between organised crime and terrorism, there are both differences and similarities – although, as one keynote speaker aptly put it, perhaps the only difference is that a terrorist attack is public, for everything else terrorists and organised criminals operate in much the same ways, using secret communication, corruption, threat of violence etc.

In effect, it does not matter whether similarities or differences are prevalent - what is important is to become more effective and efficient in countering both terrorism and organised crime, as both have in common the severity of the threat posed to society. For this purpose, lessons can be learned both from the similarities and the differences.

I would also like to mention here the White Paper on Transnational Organised Crime, adopted by the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) in June this year, which is in your files – as you know, it addresses many of the issues taken up for discussion at this conference.

Let me now present a broad brush of the salient points as I retained them from the conference.

- (1) When dealing with terrorism cases, judicial, prosecuting and investigating authorities are encouraged to have more recourse to the methods and tactics commonly used in ordinary crime investigations. This presents numerous advantages, such as less need to follow complex rules and procedures for preserving classified information, easier admissibility of evidence in court and especially across jurisdictions, more overall transparency of the whole process, better public awareness of the criminal nature of terrorism and acceptance of counter-terrorism measures.
- (2) In particular, in the context of criminal investigations, wider use can be made of special investigation techniques, aiming at gathering information in such a way so as not to alert the target persons. In this respect, the currently ongoing updating of the Recommendation Rec(2005)10 of the Committee of Ministers to the Council of Europe member States is expected to take into account the latest technological developments and thus make the recommendation a more useful guidance for all practitioners.
- (3) In prison, all too often inmates sentenced for common crime offenses follow a pathway taking them across an invisible bridge to the side of radicalised individuals with terrorist intentions. This bridge must be closed.

Radicalisation of the mind often manifests itself through action with a delayed effect, when the individuals have served their sentence and are out of prison – in other words, when prison administrations are no-longer directly responsible for them. Therefore, what is needed is a holistic approach, combining the efforts of prison management and all relevant social services, and covering ground from early detection of signs of radicalisation in detention to post-prison insertion programmes.

Bringing criminals, including terrorists to justice is not only about punishing them, but first and foremost about helping them disengage, deradicalise and become, after serving their sentences, normal members of our societies.

- (4) The financing of terrorism and organised crime was identified as the strongest link between the two. Terrorist and organised crime groups are very creative in finding loopholes in the global financial system and exploiting them for laundering and transfer of funds. They have used the advent of Internet to diversify and dissimulate their financial dealings.

Cutting off the financing of terrorist and organised crime groups is amongst the most efficient ways of preventing terrorist and criminal acts. Following the money trail is important for identifying and locating the criminals. This is an area where more and better international communication, co-ordination and co-operation are needed. The Council of Europe has an important role to play in enhancing such co-operation.

- (5) Addressing terrorism propaganda and radicalisation on the Internet. The rapid development of the Internet is a wonderful facilitator for spreading knowledge and networking – for good purposes, but also for organised crime and terrorism ends. One of the examples given was the trend to shortening of the time between the first appearance of knowledge about and the spread of use of every next generation of improvised explosive devices.

Facing the challenge requires a twofold reaction: on the one hand, developing a counter-narrative to the propaganda violent extremism and terrorism, including through making the voices of the victims heard, and on the other hand, addressing the seeking of training for terrorism, active participation in violent extremism chat fora and similar behaviour. The need for better legal frameworks for the use by law enforcement of virtual agents on the Internet was also mentioned.

- (6) Further work is needed on admissibility of evidence, including on standards for the probative value of protected witnesses.
- (7) We have not discussed in depth the new United Nations Security Council Resolution 2178 for the simple reason that it is very new – it was adopted during the meetings of this conference. It is however clear that this binding resolution, adopted at Summit level under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, will set the counter-terrorism agenda for the forthcoming months and years. The resolution sets far-reaching mandatory goals for all States in new counter-terrorism areas, such as preventing the travel of foreign terrorist fighters and disrupting their financial support, about suppressing the recruitment, organisation, transportation or equipping of individuals travelling for receiving

of terrorism training or participation in terrorist activities. It has chapters on international co-operation and on countering violent extremism in order to prevent terrorism. The implementation of UNSC Res 2178 will require legislative changes and adapting the law-enforcement procedures and practices in the Council of Europe member States. It has therefore implications for the work of CDPC, the Committee of Expert on Terrorism (CODEXTER) and other intergovernmental steering committees of the Council of Europe.

- (8) Last but not least is the conclusion permeating the whole conference as well as how the Council of Europe will make use of its results: the absolute need to respect Human Rights and the rule of law.

Terrorism explicitly seeks to disrupt democracy; organised crime erodes the democratic fabric of society. Measures taken to prevent and suppress these crimes should not in themselves disrupt the democratic way of life.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my satisfaction at the participation in the conference of the Chair of CDPC Mr Jesper Hjortenberga and the Chair of CODEXTER Mr Nicola Piacente and thank them again for the contribution they made as participants and session Chairs. I am confident that the results of the conference are in good hands.

My special thanks go to Mayor Francisco de la Torre Prados and the City of Malaga, to the University of Malaga and especially to Professor Ana Salinas de Frías, to her wonderful team of university students who helped the smooth running of the conference in every possible way, and of course to the conference interpreters.

Thank you.