



Strasbourg, 24 May 2017

CODEXTER (2017) 5

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON TERRORISM (CODEXTER)

ABRIDGED REPORT LIST OF ITEMS DISCUSSED AND DECISIONS TAKEN

32nd Plenary Meeting

Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2017

Secretariat of the Counter-Terrorism Division
Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate, DG I

codexter@coe.int - <http://www.coe.int/terrorism>

The Committee of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER), meeting in Strasbourg on 23 and 24 May 2017, under the Chairmanship of Mr Alexandros STAVROPOULOS (Greece), has decided to:

1. Opening of the meeting

- Hold a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of the terrorist attack in Manchester, United Kingdom, on 22 May 2017;
- Extend its condolences to all who have become victims of terrorism since its last meeting;
- take note of the opening remarks by Mr Ivan KOEDJIKOV, Counter-Terrorism Coordinator for the Council of Europe, in particular as regards the outcomes of the 127th Session of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe's 47 member States which was held on 19 May 2017 in Nicosia, Cyprus;
- as regards the incoming Czech Presidency of the Council of Europe, take note of the information concerning a Roundtable on 14 June 2017 to be held in Prague, of the Council of Europe/Committee of Ministers Chairmanship and the OSCE Chairmanship on radicalisation;
- take note that the priorities of the Council of Europe in 2018 and 2019 are populism, migration and terrorism and the CODEXTER is expected to provide its contribution in attaining the goals set for the Organisation on these priorities as regards terrorism.

2. Adoption of the agenda

- Examine and adopt the agenda.

3. Communication by the Chair and by the Secretariat

- Take note of the information provided by the Chair, Mr Alexandros STAVROPOULOS, notably about the outcome of the 9th Meeting of the Bureau, and by Mr Carlo CHIAROMONTE, Secretary to the CODEXTER, about the most recent activities of the Council of Europe relevant to the CODEXTER's work since the last Plenary meeting in November 2016;
- take note that at the 127th Session of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe a new Council of Europe Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property, which was adopted on 5 May, was opened for signature in Nicosia on 19 May 2017;
- take note of the information by the Secretariat concerning the second meeting of the CoE 24/7 Foreign Terrorist Fighters Network of Contact Points which took place on 21 March 2017 in Strasbourg;
- take note of the information provided by Ms Ileana VISOIU (Romania) about the joint Romanian-Spanish initiative on the possible establishment of an international court on terrorism, notably that a Conference on this topic was held in Bucharest on 16 February 2017.

4. Future work and activities of the CODEXTER

- Examine and endorse, as amended, the draft new Terms of Reference for the Committee for the years 2018 and 2019;

- underline the importance of the Committee being responsible for elaborating and overseeing the implementation of a comprehensive Council of Europe Counter Terrorism Strategy for the years 2018–2022;
- agree that financing of terrorism remains one of the most important task to be addressed by the CODEXTER in cooperation with other relevant committees in the coming years;
- take note that the draft Terms of Reference for the years 2018 and 2019 will be finalised and adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

5. Terrorists acting alone

- Take note of the information provided by the Chair of the Drafting Committee on Terrorists Acting Alone, Mr Nicola PIACENTE (Italy), on the work done with regard to the elaboration of the new recommendation on “Terrorists acting alone” and the outcome of the two meetings held by the Drafting Committee;
- consider the invitation by the Chair of the Drafting Committee to provide input to the deliberations of the drafters as regards best practices and experience in detection and interception of terrorists acting alone in time for the next meeting of the Drafting Committee (27 and 28 June).

6. The Application of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Criminal Law in a Counter-Terrorism Context

- Take note the discussion paper prepared by the Secretariat on the subject of the application of IHL and criminal law in a counter-terrorism context;
- warmly welcome the presentation by Ms Hilde SAGON, Legal Adviser, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), on the application of IHL, including in relation to terrorism;
- warmly welcome the presentation by Dr. Bibi van GINKEL (Clingendael Institute/International Centre for Counter-Terrorism) on the problems involved in collecting evidence for criminal cases in conflict zones;
- exchange views on the problems involved in applying IHL and criminal law provisions to the situation of returning foreign terrorist fighters, including as regards national prosecutorial strategies;
- keep this topic on its agenda in view of possible future action.

7. Links between terrorism and organised crime

- Take note of the final report by Prof. Ana SALINAS DE FRÍAS and Prof. Peter NEUMANN on the links between terrorism and organised crime;
- warmly welcome the presentation by Prof. Ana SALINAS DE FRÍAS on the findings of the report;
- hold an exchange of views on the links between terrorism and organised crime;
- consider the invitation by the Chair to send further contributions on national experiences in dealing with the convergence of terrorism and organised crime to the Secretariat in view of the International Conference on the same topic to take place in Malaga, Spain, on 21 and 22 September 2017;

- take note of the practical information provided by the Secretariat on the aforesaid Conference.

8. Terrorism and the Internet

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat with regard to the proposed cooperation between the Council of Europe and major internet companies and representative associations in relevant areas of activity.
- Take note that a memorandum of understanding is in the process of being agreed with a number of internet companies and representative associations providing the basis for inviting industry representatives to attend deliberations of Council of Europe committees where relevant. The state of play in this regard has been discussed by the Committee of Ministers in the format of TC-INF on 15 May 2017;
- take note of the information provided by Mr Stephan HUSY (Switzerland) on the UN CTED / ICT4Peace initiative “Private Sector Engagement in Responding to the Use of the Internet and ICT for Terrorist Purposes”;
- warmly welcome the presentation by Mr Marc PORRET, Legal and ICT Coordinator UN CTED, on the aforesaid UN CTED / ICT4Peace initiative;
- take note of the presentation by the representative of the CIS, Mr Anton AREFIEV, on activities related to the internet and terrorism;
- hold and active exchange and express its interest in working closely with other international initiatives in this field.

9. The Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No. 196) and Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No. 217)

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat concerning the state of signatures and ratifications of the Convention and its Additional Protocol, notably that the Additional Protocol has been signed by Andorra on 19 May 2017, bringing the number of signatures (without ratification) up to 31. The Additional Protocol will enter into force on 1 July 2017, as it has been ratified by Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Denmark, Italy, Monaco and the Republic of Moldova;
- welcome the entry into force of the Additional Protocol on 1 July 2017 and call on all signatories which have not yet done so to ratify it as quickly as possible;
- take note of the information provided by the Chair of the Consultation of the Parties, Mr Nicola PIACENTE (Italy), concerning its 2nd meeting on 22 May 2017.

10. Gender equality

- Take note of the presentation by Ms Carlien SCHEELE, Senior Gender Equality Advisor, Directorate of Human Dignity and Equality (DGII), concerning the Council of Europe’s efforts in gender mainstreaming.

11. Exchange of views with a representative of the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ)

- Warmly welcome the presentation by Mr Robert STRANG, Executive Secretary, International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ), concerning the activities of the IIJ.

12. The Council of Europe Convention on Offences Related to Cultural Property

- Take note of the information provided by Mr Gábor HORVÁTH, CODEXTER representative to the Committee on offences relating to cultural property (PC-IBC) concerning his participation in the elaboration of a new Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property prepared by the PC-IBC under the aegis of the CDPC.

13. Country profiles on counter-terrorism capacity and information on measures taken at the national level against terrorism

- Take note that Armenia, for technical reasons, will present its updated country profile at a future meeting;
- call on all member States, which have not yet done so, to present or update their country profiles and to inform the Secretariat if they intend to submit new/updated country profiles;
- invite member States to indicate to the Secretariat if their country profiles are still valid;
- invite member States to make public, on a voluntary basis, their national action plans on countering terrorism on the website of the CODEXTER.

14. Date and place of the 33rd Plenary Meeting of the CODEXTER

- Hold the 33rd Plenary Meeting of the Committee in Strasbourg on 22 and 23 November 2017;
- note that the meeting may be extended by half a day in order to accommodate the agenda.

15. Adoption of the Abridged Report and List of Items discussed and Decisions taken

- Adopt the Abridged Report and List of Items discussed and Decisions taken.