



Strasbourg, 21 November 2019

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# **COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMITTEE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM (CDCT)**

## **4<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting**

Strasbourg (France), 19-21 November 2019

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### **Abridged Report and List of Items discussed and Decisions taken**

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

[DGI.CDCT@coe.int](mailto:DGI.CDCT@coe.int) / [www.coe.int/terrorism](http://www.coe.int/terrorism)

The Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Committee (CDCT) meeting in Strasbourg on 19-21 November 2019, under the Chairmanship of Mr Mario JANEČEK (Bosnia and Herzegovina), has decided to:

### **1. Opening of the meeting**

- Take note of the opening remarks by Director Jan KLEIJSEN (Information Society – Action against Crime, Council of Europe), notably concerning the election of the new Secretary General, Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ (Croatia) who took up her functions on 18 September 2019 and that all member States of the Council of Europe have now paid their contributions to the Ordinary budget. Mr KLEIJSEN provided information regarding the Georgian Chairmanship of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers starting from the end of November 2019 until mid-May 2020, focusing on strengthening the system of human rights and the rule of law in Europe, Artificial Intelligence and the protection of the environment. He underlined the key role played by the CDCT in overseeing the implementation of the overall Council of Europe action against terrorism in the framework of the Counter-terrorism Strategy, but also called on the CDCT to be prepared to take up possible new tasks, as appropriate and needed. Mr KLEIJSEN further pointed to the need of European States to remain vigilant notwithstanding the military defeat of Daesh in Syria and Iraq, emphasising the risk of a possible resurgence of the group. He also highlighted the importance of the CDCT as steering committee addressing the issue of how to deal with returnees from Daesh, including women and children. Finally, Mr KLEIJSEN informed the Committee about his recent meeting with officials from UNCTED and stressed the close co-operation between the UN and the Council of Europe.
- As regards the issue of returnees, including women and children with presumed links to Daesh, express its concern for the humanitarian situation facing women and children in the detention camps in Syria while, at the same time, acknowledge the security risks posed by fanatic adherents of Daesh using these camps as incubators for further radicalisation leading to terrorism, and hence the need for States to mitigate these risks.
- Congratulate Mr Carlo CHIAROMONTE with his appointment as Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Coordinator by the Secretary General and wish him the best of luck in his new function.
- Congratulate Mr Gianluca ESPOSITO with his new position as Head of Action against Crime Department, which he will perform in conjunction with his work as Executive Secretary of GRECO.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

- Adopt the agenda and the Order of Business.

### **3. Communication by the Chair and the Secretariat**

- Take note of the information provided by the Chair about the outcomes of the 4th Bureau Meeting (Rome, 27 September 2019). Mr JANEČEK also informed the CDCT about the outcome of his participation to the Consultation of experts (Paris, 25 September 2019) and meeting with the Human Rights Commissioner

of the Council of Europe focusing on the return of foreign fighters and their families to Europe. The Chair of the CDCT also provided information on the outcome of his participation to the CDDH Workshop on the protection of victims of terrorist acts.

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat, in particular that Mr CHIAROMONTE attended the 30th meeting of the Co-ordination Group between the Council of Europe and the OSCE (Vienna, 15 November 2019) in order to assess the activities of both organisations and coordinate their activities on counter-terrorism matters. He also attended the Nineteenth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) of the Organization of American States (OAS) (Washington D.C., 23 – 24 May 2019) during which he presented the Council of Europe 24/7 Network on Foreign Terrorist Fighters, which was identified as a good example of cooperation at regional level. Mr Kristian BARTHOLIN, Co-Secretary to the CDCT, participated in the “High-Level Inter-Regional Conference on ‘Whole-of-Society Approach’ to Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism”, organised by the Government of Mongolia in collaboration with the OSCE Secretariat’s TNTD/ATU and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (Ulaanbaatar, 20 – 21 June 2019) and in the Joint United Nations – Hungary Regional Conference for Central Europe “Prevention of Radicalization to Terrorism through Holistic Policy Responses and Risk Mitigation” (Budapest, 7 – 8 November 2019), focusing on the threats emanating from returning FTFs.
- Instruct the Secretariat to invite Ms Alison August TREPPEL, Executive Secretary to the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) of the OAS, to its next Plenary meeting to present the work of the CICTE, in particular the recently established 24/7 network of the OAS.

#### **4. Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy – Future work and activities of the CDCT**

- Hold an exchange on the current state of implementation of the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2018 – 2022) and take note of progress made in this regard.
- Confirm the decision to initiate activities 1.4, 1.5, and 3.4, of the Strategy in 2020.
- Take note of the proposal by one delegation to prioritise the activities 2.4 and 3.6 of the Strategy following the implementation of current activities.

#### **5. Sub-Group for the purpose of examining the feasibility of elaborating a definition of terrorism (CDCT-DEF)**

- Take note of the information provided by the Chair of the Sub-Group, Mr Nicola PIACENTE (Italy), on the outcome of the 3rd meeting of the CDCT-DEF.
- Take note of the final report by the CDCT-DEF.
- Hold an exchange on the possible follow-up.
- Continue the expert examination of which legal elements, taking into account the final report of the CDCT-DEF, should be included in a definition of terrorism at the next Plenary meeting of the CDCT.
- To this end, invite interested delegations to submit their written observations and suggestions on the aforesaid legal elements to the Secretariat by 31 March 2020,

which together with already existing documents will serve as a basis for further deliberations.

**6. Working Group on the establishment of a set of indicators for assessing the risk that a terrorist attack may be carried out by radicalised individuals (CDCT-RI)**

- Take note of the information contained in the report of the 3rd meeting of the CDCT-RI and provided by the Secretariat.
- Thank the Chair of the Sub-Group, Mr Gábor HORVÁTH (Hungary), for his work.
- Hold an exchange of views on the final document prepared by the CDCT-RI: Draft Screening Tool for evaluating the risk that a terrorist attack will be carried out by radicalised persons (CDCT-RI (2019)).
- Amend as necessary the document and approve it.
- Instruct the Secretariat to submit it to the Committee of Ministers for final adoption underlining the need to respect the classification of the document as secret throughout the procedure.

**7. Terrorism and transnational organised crime (CDCT-TTOC)**

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat concerning the outcome of the last meeting of the CDCT-TTOC, including that the draft guidelines were also submitted for comment or opinion to the CDPC.
- Examine the document and provide comments to be considered by the Sub-Group when finalising the text.
- Instruct the Secretariat to convey their comments to the Sub-Group at its next meeting, notably on the chapter on substantive criminal law.

**8. Working Group on the gathering of evidence from conflict zones for the purpose of criminal prosecution**

- Take note of the information provided by the co-Chair of the CDCT-GE, Mr Mario JANEČEK, about the outcome of the 1st meeting of the Working Group.
- Hold an exchange of views on the main elements for a future instrument identified by the CDCT-GE.
- Instruct the Secretariat to prepare a questionnaire to be submitted to the member States focusing on existing best practices on the aforesaid main elements.

**9. 24/7 Network of Contact Points on Foreign Terrorist Fighters**

- Take note of the oral information provided by the Secretariat on the 24/7 Network.
- Take note that so far 45 member States, 1 Observer State and the European Union have nominated their contact points.

**10. Conference on the roles of women and children in terrorism**

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat concerning the updated Concept Paper on the Counter-Terrorism Conference on the Roles of Women and Children Returnees Involved in Terrorism-related Offences.
- Instruct the Secretariat to continue the preparations for the Conference putting special emphasis on the situation regarding women and children with presumed links to Daesh.
- Hold the Conference in the week starting on 8 June 2020.

**11. Network of Contact Points for the exchange of information regarding the legal standing of victims of terrorism**

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat, notably that the Network has already been set up and become operational.
- Take note that so far 24 member States and 1 Observer State have nominated their contact points.
- Call on all member States which have not yet done so to notify the Secretariat of their designated contact points.
- Call on member States to use their multilateral and bilateral channels to spread awareness of the Network globally.

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

- Take note that the total number of ratifications for the Convention is 40 and the corresponding number for the Additional Protocol is 18.
- Call on all member States, which have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Convention and its Additional Protocol as soon as possible.
- Take note of the information provided by the Chair of the Consultation of the Parties, Mr Nicola PIACENTE (Italy), concerning the outcome of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, in particular on the thematic assessment of Articles 4, 5 and 6 of the Additional Protocol. The next thematic assessment will concern Article 3 of the Additional Protocol.

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

- Consider the updated country profiles on counter-terrorism capacity as submitted by the Delegation of Estonia and the Delegation of Finland and authorise the publication of both on the website of the CDCT.
- Take note that the Delegation of Lithuania intends to submit an update of its country profile in time for the 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the CDCT.
- Invite all other member States to update or submit their country profiles on a regular basis.

#### **14. Elections**

- Elect Ms Ileana VIȘOIU (Romania) as Chair of the CDCT.
- Elect Mr Antonios PAPAMATTHAIYOU (Greece) as Vice-Chair of the CDCT.
- Elect Mr Mario JANEČEK (Bosnia and Herzegovina) as Member of the Bureau.
- Elect Ms Päivi KAIRAMO (Finland) as Member of the Bureau.
- Elect Mr Georgy MIKHNO (Russian Federation) as Member of the Bureau.
- Elect Mr Derhan DOĞAN (Turkey) as Member of the Bureau.
- Thank Mr Mario JANEČEK for his excellent stewardship of the Committee over the last two years and commend him on the achievements made during his tenure.
- Elect Mr Kiro CVETKOV (North Macedonia) as Gender Equality Rapporteur.

#### **15. Items for information**

- Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the most recent developments in the field of crime prevention and crime control and on the upcoming 77th Plenary Meeting of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), in particular on the work on AI to be undertaken by the CDPC.
- Follow closely developments related to AI which may be of importance for the future work of the CDCT.

#### **16. Any other business**

- Hold an exchange of views on the Draft Opinion of the CDCT on the Recommendation 2164 (2019) “Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism” of the Parliamentary Assembly.
- Adopt the Draft Opinion and instruct the Secretariat to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers.

#### **17. Date and place of the 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the CDCT**

- Hold the 5th Plenary Meeting of the CDCT in Strasbourg during the week starting on 25 May 2020.

#### **18. 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.