



Strasbourg, 21 March 2023

CDCT-BU(2023)01

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

## **BUREAU**

21 March 2023  
Council of Europe Office in Paris

Tuesday, 21 March 2023  
9:30 am – 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm

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### **List of Decisions**

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

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The CDCT Bureau, having met on 21 March 2023, under the Chairmanship of Ms Päivi KAIRAMO (Finland), decided to:

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

Open the meeting.

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

Adopt the agenda.

### **3. Communication by the Chair, other members of the Bureau and the Secretariat**

Take note of the information provided by the Chair, Ms Päivi KAIRAMO, regarding recent developments relevant for the work of the CDCT, namely the adoption of the second Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2023 – 2027) by the Committee of Ministers on 10 February 2023, and start of its implementation period, to which the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CDCT Bureau is dedicated. The Chair accordingly highlighted a number of important decisions to be made with regard to first activities, and in relation to the paramount issue of opening of negotiations regarding the definition of terrorism with respect to which the CDCT received a legal opinion from the Council of Europe Treaty Office. She furthermore reminded colleagues of the remaining activity to be finalised under the 2018 – 2022 Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Lastly, the Chair noted the draft report on the implementation of the 2018 – 2022 Counter-Terrorism Strategy as another important source of knowledge for work to be done in the next five years that will be presented to the Plenary only after the full completion of the activities.

Take note of the supplementary information provided by Mr Carlo CHIAROMONTE, Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, regarding the launch of the project on the “Implementation of the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2023 – 2027)”, its rationale, ongoing and next steps with regards to fundraising. He furthermore informed the Bureau of his participation in the conference organised by the German Federal Foreign Office on 16 March 2023, on "International cooperation in countering Right-Wing Violent Extremism". Lastly, Mr Chiaromonte informed the Bureau of the communication from the Russian Federation regarding termination of participation of the Russian Federation in the treaties opened only to member States of the Council of Europe.

Take note of the information that Finland is highly likely to finalise the ratification of the Additional Protocol on the Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No 217) on 23 March 2023.

Take note of the information that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week, organised by the UNOCT, will take place this year third week of June. The Chair also informed Bureau members that the 8<sup>th</sup> review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is underway.

Take note of the information that the European Commission is formally requesting a mandate from the Council of the European Union to negotiate the definition of terrorism.

#### **4. Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2018 – 2022): Completed and ongoing activities**

Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the current state of implementation of the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Approve the outline and the content of the Evaluation of the implementation of the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy to be presented to the CDCT Plenary for adoption and thereafter to the Committee of Ministers to take note of.

#### **5. Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2023 – 2027)**

Propose the completion of activities 1.5 (Organisation of an International Conference on the abuse of livestreaming, gaming and virtual reality services and platforms by terrorist actors) and 3.6 (Development of guidance for public and private sector authorities on preparedness and emergency responses to the immediate aftermath of terrorist attacks) to the Plenary, in line with the deadlines envisaged by the Strategy (to be completed by the end of 2023).

Propose to the Plenary the initiation of activities 1.4 (Analysis of emerging patterns of misuse of technology by terrorist actors) and 2.7 (Analysis of the status and developments regarding foreign terrorist fighters) in 2023, and instruct the Secretariat to identify experts who could support the CDCT in producing the two analysis.

Propose to the Plenary the continuation of work under activity 2.1 (Preparation of draft Guidelines on the effective use of information collected in conflict zones as evidence for the purpose of criminal prosecution of terrorist offences) in 2023, bearing in mind the progress of work done in this area in the second half of 2022.

Propose to the Plenary the establishment of the working group related to the activity 2.5 (Production of guidance on strategies for the prosecution of violent extremism conducive to terrorism) subsequent to the 10<sup>th</sup> CDCT Plenary in order to ensure the finalisation of the work in line with the deadlines envisaged under the 2023 – 2027 Strategy.

Also propose to the Plenary the initiation of the activity 2.3 (International Conference on investigating and prosecuting terrorist offences committed in the context of armed conflicts) that would take place beginning of 2024, as envisaged by the 2023 – 2027 Strategy, taking into consideration feasibility of its implementation in this time-frame thanks to the already developed expertise with event organisation.

#### **6. Definition of Terrorism**

Reiterate the decision of the 9<sup>th</sup> CDCT Plenary, namely to start formal negotiations on the text of the definition of terrorism in May 2023.

Examine possible procedures for incorporating the text of the future definition of terrorism into the Council of Europe legal framework on counter-terrorism, outlined in the Legal opinion of the Council of Europe Treaty Office.

Propose to the Plenary to consider an amending protocol or a revised convention as a procedure for incorporating the outcome of negotiations, depending on the direction in which the negotiations on the definition of terrorism proceed.

#### **7. Compilation of Best Practices with regards to Deradicalisation, Disengagement and Social Reintegration (Activity 3.1 of the 2018 – 2022 Strategy)**

Hold an exchange with the expert, Dr Ioan DURNEȘCU, and the Chair of the Working Group, Mr Mario JANEČEK, on steps being taken towards the finalisation of this activity ahead of the 10<sup>th</sup> CDCT Plenary and on the substance of the draft Compilation.

#### **8. International Conference on the abuse of livestreaming, gaming and virtual reality services and platforms by terrorist actors (Activity 1.5 of the 2023 – 2027 Strategy)**

Examine and approve the proposed concept note for this Conference, providing advice on possible speakers and organisational aspects.

#### **9. Development of guidance for public and private sector authorities on preparedness and emergency responses to the immediate aftermath of terrorist attacks (Activity 3.6 of the 2023 – 2027 Strategy)**

Examine and approve the proposed concept note, with suggested revisions, and advise the Secretariat to send out the revised concept note to the CDCT inviting the delegations to nominate members to the future CDCT working group that will prepare the draft guidance.

#### **10. Bioterrorism**

Examine and approve the proposed concept note for the Plenary thematic session on bioterrorism with additional suggestions for possible speakers.

#### **11. Draft Guidelines on the effective use of information collected in conflict zones as evidence for the purpose of criminal prosecution of terrorist offences (Activity 2.1 of the 2023 – 2027 Strategy)**

Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding the next meeting of the Working Group, tentatively scheduled for 9 May 2023.

Also take note of the conclusion of the Working Group from its last meeting to aim at the production of a comparative practices documents, as opposed to guidelines, taking into consideration the state of play of national practices in this regard.

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***Points for Information*****12. Countering Terrorist Communications, Recruitment and Training (Activities 1.1, 1.2, and 2.2 of the Strategy)**

Take note of the information provided by the Chair and the Secretariat regarding the outcomes of the Digital Conference on Countering Terrorist Communications, which took place on 31 January and 1 February 2023.

Congratulate the Secretariat and Chair on their organisation and moderation of the event.

**13. 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 on the current status of the Network and the outcomes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Network, which took place on 21 February 2023.

Reiterate its call for member States to nominate national experts to participate in the Network.

**14. 24/7 Network of Contact Points on Foreign Terrorist Fighters**

Take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the outcomes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Network, which took place on 22 February 2023.

**15. Any other business**

N/A

**16. Preparation of the 10<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the CDCT**

Hold the 10<sup>th</sup> CDCT Plenary meeting for two and a half days on 23 - 25 May 2023, starting in the morning of 23 May at 9h30.

Take note of the information provided by the Chair and the Secretariat on the possibility to hold the 11<sup>th</sup> CDCT Plenary in Helsinki, Finland, on 11 - 13 December 2023 (exact dates TBD).

**17. Adoption of the List of Decisions**

Examine and adopt the List of Decisions.