Counter-Terrorism Compact in Review September- October 2025



COUNTER-TERRORISM COMPACT IN NUMBERS



46

Compact entities

139

Member States

14

International & regional organizations

1,050

Total focal points

3,670

Documents shared

477,850

Virtual visits to the CT Platform

861

CTED TA recommendations

28

CTED country assessments



LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION, COHERENCE

KEY HIGH-LEVEL EVENTS

- → 80th UNGA General Debate highlighted terrorism and PCVE as priorities for many Member States, with emphasis on multilateral cooperation, concerns about Africa/Sahel, and evolving threats (Sep)
- At UNOCT Quarterly Briefing for Member States, 1267 Monitoring Team, CTED, OHCHR, UNAOC, UNOCT, UNODC, and UN Women shared counter-terrorism updates on capacity-building, impact and priorities (8 Sep)
- → Iraq, with support from UNOCT, held a
 High-Level International Conference on the
 Repatriation of persons from Al-Hol,
 surrounding camps and places of detention
 (26 Sep)



→ UNOCT-UNODC-IAEA-Morocco High-level side event marked 20 years of Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) adoption, urging universal implementation (17 Sep)



→ UN Women hosted a high-level event presenting its <u>Al-Hol study</u>, urging gender-sensitive repatriation and reintegration (22 Oct)



→ The Counter-Terrorism Committee
Open Briefing marked CTED's 20th
Anniversary, highlighting achievements,
lessons, and ongoing support to
Member States (27 Oct)



- → UNIDIR <u>Side Event</u> to UNGA <u>First</u>
 <u>Committee</u> examined artificial
 intelligence proliferation risks, with case
 studies on autonomous weapons and
 large language models (28 Oct)
- → The 1540 Committee Open Briefing for Member States and regional organizations outlined activities and implementation of resolution 1540 (29-30 Oct)

KEY ISSUES RAISED BY HEADS OF ENTITIES

→ Marking the International Day of Police Cooperation, UN Secretary-General Guterres highlighted that digital tools, including Artificial Intelligence, can enhance investigations, justice access, and crime prevention, while strengthening the effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of police institutions (7 Sep)



→ On behalf of the SG, **USG Ryder** called on Members States to urgently repatriate their nationals from Al Hol, Surrounding Camps and Places of Detention and to reaffirm their shared responsibility, charting a course towards sustainable solutions in line with international law (26 Sept)



→ Addressing the 6th Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, UNOCT Acting USG Zouev emphasized that "Victim-centered responses are essential to building trust, restoring social cohesion, and ensuring that counterterrorism efforts uphold human rights" (24 Sep)



→ At the Counter-Terrorism Committee open briefing, CTED ED/ASG Gherman stated that the Pact for the Future's vision of a world free from terrorism requires sustained commitment from Member States, UN system coordination, and broad partnerships with all relevant stakeholders (27 Oct)







ENGAGEMENT WITH MEMBER STATES

→ CTED-Malta <u>high-level side event</u> introduced the <u>Valletta Principles</u>, updating the 2013 Bogota Principles to guide effective, rights-based counter-terrorism (23 Sep)



- → CTED-Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) high-level side event addressed <u>spyware misuse</u>, launching the PAM report on legislative, governance and technical aspects (24 Sep)
- → CTED-Philippines-Morocco cross-regional CT exchange shared CT/PCVE lessons from South-East Asia and West Africa, with UNOCT-UNODC collaboration (26 Sep)
- → UNODC facilitated Mozambique-Portugal high-level meeting to boost cooperation on security, borders and civil protection, ahead of Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLC) and ministerial engagements (30 Sep-3 Oct)
- → UNODC engaged with The Bahamas during its Diplomatic Week (19-22 Oct) and with Colombia to advance ICSANT adherence (27 Oct)
- → UN Special Rapporteur on human rights while countering terrorism (HR and CT) marked the mandate's 20th anniversary with Australia and Mexico (23 Oct), submitted <a href="Missingle-Mis
- → UNOCT-OAS training in Colombia on radiological and nuclear terrorism boosted awareness of ICSANT for 11 ministries and agencies (28-31 Oct)





GUIDANCE, RESEARCH, ANALYSIS

COMPACT WORKING GROUPS MEETINGS

19 September

RMME WG updated on progress in the development of the unified results framework, highlighted importance of coordinated funding for multipartner initiatives, and featured Gender WG briefing

16 October

ETCIP WG meeting featured briefings from UNODA on Asia-Pacific proliferation risks, OPCW on emerging tech, and UNOCT on dual-use chemicals, IED-UAS links, and AI

29 October

CJLR-CFT WG discussed CTED assessment report on terrorist financing gaps in Africa, CFT coordination, and SG report on human rights and terrorism



17 September

BMLE WG meeting featured briefings from IMO on cybersecurity, UNODC on legal/operational gaps, WCO on customs/data exchange, and UNOCT on passenger data

30 September

GENDER WG meeting meeting included debriefs on CTED visits to Somalia, Chad, and Cameroon, OHCHR guidance on terrorism definition, and UN Women's update on WPS month

21 October

HRRoL-VoT WG was briefed by the Special Rapporteur on HR & CT on terrorismorganized crime nexus, visits to Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Somalia, AI Position Paper, and GA report on human rights impacts of administrative CT measures and model definition for terrorism



REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

UN Secretary-General's Annual Report on the Work of the Organization reviews global

challenges, including conflict, climate extremes, rising poverty, and erosion of human rights, while reaffirming UN action to advance peace, development, and human rights (Sep)



UN Secretary-General's Annual Report on women and peace and security warns that 676M women live near conflict zones, with casualties quadrupled and sexual violence up 87% (5 Sep)

UN Secretary-General's report on terrorism and human rights was presented to the UNGA Third Committee, highlighting human rights concerns in counter-terrorism measures (16 Oct)

UN Special Rapporteur on HR & CT launched a <u>Position Paper</u> on AI and terrorism (20 Oct) and presented his <u>thematic report</u> to the UNGA Third Committee, recommending rights-based administrative measures against terrorism and violent extremism (22 Oct)

CTED's Trends Alert warns of the rapidly evolving exploitation of children by terrorists (Oct)

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WHAT IS NEW

 UN SG appointed Mr. <u>Alexandre</u> <u>Zouev</u> as Acting Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism.



In this role, he also chairs the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact on behalf of the United Nations Secretary-General (14 Sep)

UN SG appointed
 Mr. <u>Eihab Omaish</u> as
 Director for Policy
 and Coordination in
 UNOCT; he oversees
 coordination
 through the



Counter-Terrorism Compact (15 Sep)

 UN SG appointed Ms. <u>Vanessa Frazier</u> as Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict (3 Oct)



 UN SG appointed Mr. <u>Steven Hill</u> as Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs (22 Oct)



 UN Special Rapporteur for HR & CT issued a Call for inputs[EN] [FR] [ES] on definitions of terrorism, terrorist organisation and violent extremism, to inform his March 2026 HRC report



JOINT INITIATIVES AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

MULTI-AGENCY MEETINGS, PROGRAMMES

UNOCT-UNMAS-CTED-Canada launched a threeyear-project to strengthen Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda's capacity to counter IEDrelated terrorist threats (11 Sep)



DPO/OROLSI/UN Police-UNOCT 4th Train-the-Trainer course for Cabo Verde, the DRC, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya and Nigeria focused on capacity- building, monitoring and mentoring (15 Sep-2 Oct) UNOCT-UNODC regional trainings focused on countering SALW trafficking (15-18 Sep) and best practices in Turkmenistan (22-23 Sep) and on evidence collection in SALW-terrorism cases in Kyrgyzstan (6-9 Oct)

Committee Meeting discussed priorities in Africa, international cooperation, and the launch of new GCTF resources to face new and existing threats (22 Oct)

GCTF 25th Coordinating

WHO CBRN Workshops with Jordan, UNOCT, UNICRI, INTERPOL, OPCW and UNODA covered CBRN events, biothreats and disinformation (6-8 Oct and 13-15 Oct) OHCHR-CTED-UN Special Rapporteur on HR & CT convened a <u>side-event</u> on the definition of terrorist acts and international human rights laws (22 Oct)

UNOCT-UNODC briefing for strategic partners of the UN CT Travel Programme discussed key achievements and outcomes (11 Sep) UNDP-UNODC-EU launched a 3-year <u>Pan-Asia Project</u> on supporting Asian countries' resilience to violent extremism in the digital space (7 Oct)



REGIONAL FOCUS



UNOCT's goTravel
enabled Botswana,
Georgia,
Luxembourg,
Moldova, Mongolia,
Norway, and the
Philippines to process
over 63 million
passenger records
(Jan-Sep 2025),
strengthening efforts
against terrorist and
organized criminal
travel via air routes
(Sep)

UNODC regional meeting in Mauritania (16-18 Sep) and Sahelian Countries visit to Morocco (15-18 Sep) reinforced crossborder cooperation on terrorism-organized crime nexus

UNICRI-Mauritania workshop identified priority regions for climate and violent-extremism risks and launched gendersensitive research (7 Oct)

UNODC held a crossregional workshop for <u>Central Asia and Middle</u> <u>East</u> to strengthen cooperation against terrorism and foreign terrorist fighters (23-25 Sep)

INTERPOL convened a biosecurity training on Biological Crime Scene Management (Kuala Lumpur, 8-12 Sep), on Darknet Investigation (Riyadh, 28 Sep-2 Oct) and on Criminal-Epidemiological Investigation (Abuja,13-17 Oct) INTERPOL held <u>Geiger</u>
<u>Working Group</u> regional
meetings on radiological
and nuclear risks for 11
Southeast Asia countries
(9-11 Sep) and 11
Southern African
countries (7-9 Oct)

UNODC convened a regional ICSANT mock trial with Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe on nuclear and radiological crimes (14-16 Oct)

COLLABORATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY, ACADEMIA AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

- CTED and the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism hosted a <u>UNGA</u> <u>side event</u> bringing together tech industry, government, academia, and civil society to strengthen join efforts against terrorists targeting children and youth (24 Sep)
- UN Women and the Global Cybersecurity Forum signed a <u>Memorandum of</u> <u>Understanding</u> to advance women's representation in cybersecurity (3 Oct)



COUNTER-TERRORISM COMPACT STRUCTURE

EIGHT COMPACT WORKING GROUPS

Promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and supporting victims of terrorism Chair: OHCHR Vice-Chair: UNOCT

Adopting a gender-sensitive approach to preventing and countering violent extremism Chair: UN Women Vice-Chair: CTED

COMPACT ENTITIES

Preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism

> Chair: UNOCT Vice-Chairs: UNAOC, UNDP, UNESCO

GLOBAL COUNTER-TERRORISM STRATEGY

Resource mobilization, monitoring, and evaluation Chair: UNOCT / Co-Chairs: CTED, UNODC

> **National and Regional** counter-terrorism strategies Chair: CTED Vice-Chair: UNOCT



8 working groups under 4 pillars

Border management and law enforcement relating to counter-terrorism Chair: CTED / Co-Chair: WCO / Vice-Chairs: INTERPOL. UNODC

and critical infrastructure protection Chair: INTERPOL Vice-Chairs: UNODA, UNICRI, **OPCW**

Emerging threats Criminal justice, legal responses, and countering the financing of terrorism Chair: UNODC Vice-Chairs: CTED, UNOCT

Pillar I

Pillar III Pillar IV

Pillar II

To see the Counter-Terrorism Compact Brochure: bit.ly/CTCompact-Brochure

COORDINATION COMMITTEE



Chair: Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and Head of UNOCT

COUNTER-TERRORISM COMPACT SECRETARIAT



UNOCT's Policy, Knowledge Management and Coordination Branch

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Please contact Counter-Terrorism Compact Secretariat, UNOCT PKMCB



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To see the full list of Compact Members and Observers: bit.ly/CTCompact-Members

