



MEDIA ADVISORY

WHAT

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations will jointly organize a [virtual dialogue with human rights and civil society partners on “Building a Better Paradigm to Prevent and Counter Terrorism.”](#)

WHO

The *Dialogue* Opening Session will be moderated by **Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism**. It will feature high-level keynote speakers, including the **Foreign Minister of Spain, Ms. Arancha González Laya** and **Ms. Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner for Human Rights** (video message).

The *Dialogue* will bring together Member States, UN entities, human rights representatives, women led organizations, youth and civil society actors, as well as experts and other stakeholders for a practical exchange of views on how to address terrorism and violent extremism while safeguarding and promoting human rights, in particular the rights of women, children and victims of terrorism.

WHEN

25 May 2021, 10:00 AM – 1:15 PM New York time

Opening session followed by a discussion on *“The Imperative of Respecting Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Efforts.”*

26 May 2021, 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM New York time

“The Role of Civil Society in Preventing and Countering Terrorism and Protecting Rights of Victims of Terrorism,” which will include the premiere launch of *“VictimA”*, a documentary featuring women victims of terrorism in Spain

WHERE

The event will be held virtually and be livestreamed on [UNWebTV](#)

BACKGROUND

The *Dialogue* will be an important prelude to the Málaga Conference in 2022 on Counter-Terrorism and Human Rights. It will also contribute to exchanging ideas and providing inputs in the context of the seventh [review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by the General Assembly](#) (June 2021). The event will elevate and profile the role that human rights defenders and civil society actors, including women led organizations, play at a time when COVID-19 is exacerbating the fault-lines that terrorists are keen to exploit, including socio-economic inequalities, governance challenges, political disenfranchisement, gender inequality and discrimination, human rights abuses, and the misuse of new technologies.

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