UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM
Programme Office in Doha

OSCE PA
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

مجلس الشورى
The Shura Council
دولة قطر • State of Qatar

Parliamentary Engagement
in Preventing and Countering Terrorism

FOURTH PARLIAMENTARY POLICY DIALOGUE & SIXTH MEETING OF COUNTER-TERRORISM COORDINATION MEETING FOR PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLIES
HOSTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

5-6 December 2024
Rome, Italy

PRESS RELEASE

THE FOURTH PARLIAMENTARY POLICY DIALOGUE ON COUNTER-TERRORISM HELD IN ROME

Rome, Italy, 5 December 2024 – Parliamentary Assemblies from across the world met in Rome to participate in the Fourth Parliamentary Policy Dialogue, hosted by the Parliament of Italy. The event was organized by the Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement of United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) with the support of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, and in collaboration with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA).

This Fourth Parliamentary Policy Dialogue focused on issues related to the misuse of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other new technologies by terrorist and extremist groups. Participants examined good practices for the development and adoption of relevant laws and policy recommendations to prevent and counter these threats.

This hybrid event gathered over 70 in-person and 10 online representatives of 12 parliamentary assemblies from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East, who are members of the Counter-Terrorism Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies. International think-tank, research organizations and several United Nations agencies, including Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI).

The opening session featured **Honorable Eugenio Zoffili**, Member of the Defence Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, Italian Parliament – Head of the Italian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly; **Honorable Salvatore Deidda**, Chair of the Committee on Transportation, Post and Telecommunications of the Chamber of Deputies, Italian Parliament; **Honorable Paolo Trancassini**, Commissioner of the Chamber of Deputies, Italian Parliament; **Honorable Mr. Kamil Aydin**, Chair of the

Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Chair of the Presidency of the Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies; **H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al-Malki**, Member of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar; and **Mr. David Alamos**, Chief of the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism. The closing remarks were delivered by **H.E. Ambassador Maurizio Massari**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, who noted, "*Your conference today confirmed that the challenge imposed by terrorism in the age of artificial intelligence requires a multi-faceted approach that combines technological innovation, law enforcement collaboration and public awareness. Investing in advanced AI technologies to bolster cybersecurity defences, enhancing international cooperation to combat transnational crime and educating the public on safe online practices are essential steps in fighting terrorism*."

The Dialogue concluded with the adoption of a set of recommendations on the role and possible contribution of parliamentary assemblies and national parliaments in preventing and countering the misuse of AI and other new technologies by terrorist and extremist groups.

The meeting of Parliamentary Assemblies will continue with **the Sixth Meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies** on 6 December. Participants will review recent activities and initiatives implemented and launched by parliamentary assemblies, including those in co-operation with UNOCT. They will also discuss the priority areas for the next 6–12-months and elect the new Presidency of the Coordination Mechanism for the 2025 term.

The previous three Parliamentary Dialogue focused respectively on border security and cross-border cooperation in the context of counter-terrorism (Doha, January 2023); youth and prevention of violent extremism held (Vienna, October 2023), and the protection of religious sites, symbols, and objects against terrorist threats (Istanbul, May 2024).

Additional Quotes:

Honorable Eugenio Zoffili:

"*Today's and tomorrow's sessions represent a unique opportunity for an in-depth analysis and multilateral dialogue on a crucial and highly relevant topic: countering the use of new technologies and AI by terrorist groups and criminal organizations. We are discussing a particularly sensitive topic, one that requires international collaboration. Our task, as parliamentarians, is therefore crucial: we must translate into concrete policies the recommendations that will emerge from our discussions, ensuring that technological and AI development occurs within a framework of transparency and legality.*"

Honorable Salvatore Deidda:

"*I believe Italy's participation in such forums and continued investment in AI research and development to strengthen our prevention and response capabilities is crucial. Equally important is promoting a culture of cyber-security, raising public awareness of technology misuse risks, and enhancing the digital skills of law enforcement agencies.*"

Honorable Paolo Trancassini:

"This event not only fosters critical discussion on the use of AI for terrorist purposes but also provides an opportunity to delve into the symbolic heart of Italian democracy and to experience the beauty of the Chamber of Deputies."

H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al-Malki:

"The Shura Council places great importance on discussing issues related to artificial intelligence and its misuse. The council has held several sessions to discuss the risks of exploiting these technologies and emphasized the need to strengthen legislative frameworks to ensure their use serves security and development. Through its sessions and discussions, the council aims to support governmental and international efforts to achieve a balance between benefiting from artificial intelligence and protecting society from the risks of its misuse."

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For more information

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