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## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SAINT PETERSBURG ADDRESSES LEGISLATIVE REGULATION OF AI AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN COUNTER-TERRORISM

17 April 2025

Saint Petersburg, Russia

### PRESS RELEASE

**Saint Petersburg (Russia), 17 April 2025** – The international conference on “Legislative Regulation of Measures to Counter the Use of Artificial Intelligence and Other New Technologies for Terrorist Activities” was held in Saint Petersburg. Organized by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement, with the support of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, and in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the event convened 120 parliamentarians, legal experts, technologists, and representatives of international organizations to address the urgent need for regulatory frameworks governing the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in counter-terrorism efforts.

The conference opened with remarks by Honourable Mr. Konstantin Kosachev, Deputy Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation; Ms. Guadalupe Megre, Chief of the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement; Honourable Ms. Aigul Kuspan, Chairperson of the Standing Commission of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly on Political Affairs and International Cooperation, Chairperson of the Committee of the Majilis of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan on International Affairs, Defence and Security; Mr. Boris Michel, Head of the Regional Delegation of the ICRC to the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus.

Participants engaged in substantive discussions on the dual nature of AI and new technologies, acknowledging their potential to support counter-terrorism measures while recognizing the risks associated with their misuse by terrorist actors.

The conference provided a platform to examine national and international legislative gaps, ethical considerations, and the importance of compliance with international human rights and humanitarian law.

Experts and policymakers underscored the importance of international cooperation in ensuring that AI regulations align with global security imperatives while fostering innovation. Discussions highlighted the role of model legislation in harmonizing national regulatory approaches, enabling more effective cross-border collaboration, and addressing emerging threats. Special attention was given to the need for ongoing capacity-building initiatives to enhance the ability of national parliaments to develop and



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implement comprehensive legal frameworks that address AI's role in both terrorism and counter-terrorism operations.

As an outcome of the conference, participants identified key principles for legislative frameworks that balance security, technological advancement, and respect for fundamental rights. The event also strengthened partnerships among UNOCT, IPA CIS, ICRC, and national parliaments, paving the way for further collaborative efforts in developing regulatory measures to prevent the exploitation of AI for terrorist purposes. A preliminary list of joint activities was proposed, outlining future initiatives to support the development of legal and policy tools that ensure AI and emerging technologies are utilized responsibly in counter-terrorism efforts.

The conference reaffirmed the commitment of international organizations and legislative bodies to addressing the challenges posed by AI and new technologies in security contexts. By fostering dialogue and collaboration, it laid the groundwork for future legislative initiatives aimed at mitigating risks while leveraging technological advancements to strengthen global counter-terrorism efforts.

### Quotes

**Ms. Guadalupe Megre, Officer-in-Charge, Special Projects and Innovation Branch, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism**

*"The rapid evolution of AI demands urgent, coordinated legislative responses—ones that harness innovation while safeguarding human rights. Today's dialogue is a pivotal step toward a model framework that balances security, ethics, and international law".*

**Honourable Ms. Aigul Kuspan, Chairperson of the Standing Commission of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly on Political Affairs and International Cooperation, Chairperson of the Committee of the Majilis of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan on International Affairs, Defense and Security**

*"The use of artificial intelligence is now ubiquitous, ranging from entertainment infrastructure to its exploitation by terrorist. I hope we can contribute to the efforts to counter the use of artificial intelligence and new technologies for terrorist purposes"*

**Mr. Boris Michel, Head of the Regional Delegation of the ICRC to the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus.**

*"AI is not just a technical tool; it is a matter of responsibility, judgment, and values. When used in high-risk environments, it can influence life and death decisions, affect humanitarian access, and put civilians at risk."*

### **For more information:**

- Visit the conference website: [www.un.org/counterterrorism](http://www.un.org/counterterrorism)
- Contact: [Gerardl@un.org](mailto:Gerardl@un.org), Head of the Strategic Communications Unit, UNOCT