



## Hybrid launch event for the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism

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28 April 2025  
New York and online

### Concept Note and Agenda

#### Background

A key outcome from the first United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, held in September 2022 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, was the decision to establish a global network of victims and survivors of terrorism, the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VoTAN) under the umbrella of the Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme (VoT Programme) in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT).

The [Chair's Summary](#), as the main outcome document emerging from the Global Congress, emphasized the criticality of collaboration with and among victims and victims' associations and called on UNOCT to spearhead the development of VoTAN. The network will formalize a diverse platform of victims and survivors of terrorism, victims' associations and civil society organizations under a global umbrella, and aims to strengthen their participation in UNOCT activities, increasing opportunities for victim-centric programming, policy and advocacy, as well as creating more consistent access to engage with high-level decision-makers and UN policy instruments. Moreover, it will provide a safe space for victims and victims' associations to engage, collaborate, and share best practice, research and resources to deepen a community of practice in favor of victims' rights.

In 2024, the Kingdom of Spain contributed funding for UNOCT to develop and launch VoTAN. During a series of regional consultations with victims of terrorism and victims' associations and a validation workshop held in January 2025, participants brainstormed on the structure, governance, activities, and approach that VoTAN could take, to best reflect the needs and priorities of victims of terrorism and victims' associations and ensure VoTAN is victim-centric, trauma-informed, inclusive, and participatory.

## Objectives

This launch event will bring together victims of terrorism, victims' associations, and civil society organizations to mark the launch of VoTAN alongside key stakeholders including Member States and representatives from across the United Nations.<sup>1</sup>

## Format

The event will be held from 10.00 am – 12.00 pm (EST) on Monday 28 April. The UN Web TV link for remote participants is <https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1g/k1gz1e3lze>, with audio available in English, Spanish, French and Arabic.

Attendance is encouraged at Ambassadorial level for Permanent Missions in New York. Requests by Member States to deliver a statement from the floor must be pre-registered.

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<sup>1</sup> The composition of victims' groups includes both victims of terrorism and representatives of victims' associations.