

HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF TERRORISM

7-8 June 2022

Rome, Italy

PRESS RELEASE

Rome (Italy), 8 June 2022 - A high-level conference on Parliamentary Support to Victims of Terrorism was held in Rome, Italy on June 7-8, 2022.

The Conference was organized by the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement, in cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE PA), the African Parliamentary Union (APU), and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar.

The objective of the high-level conference was to find ways for parliamentarians to address the rights and needs of victims of terrorism and to identify tangible and impactful legislative measures that can be implemented to enact positive change and create lasting impact at the national level, as well as within communities.

The high-level conference included a presentation of the [“Model Legislative Provisions, to support and protect the rights and needs of Victims of Terrorism \(VoT\)”](#), which is a tool for parliamentarians jointly developed by UNOCT/UNCCT, UNODC, and IPU, and launched virtually on 4 February 2022.

During the first session, panellists discussed the role of parliamentarians in ensuring a tailored response to address large scale displacement and violations of rights to livelihood, shelter, education, healthcare, and liberty.

The second session focussed on the role of civil society groups and organizations in complementing state and parliamentary efforts in supporting victims of terrorism and ensuring access to justice.

Session three focused on incorporating protection and national support, including material and social needs, for victims of terrorism in counter-terrorism strategies and legislation. In session four, panellists shared good practices and lessons learned on support to victims of terrorism on the local and national levels and the importance of systematizing and promoting the exchange of information regarding existing good practices.

The Conference was attended by 120 in-person and 30 online participants, from 29 different countries¹. Parliamentarians and representatives of of parliamentary assemblies, such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the ECOWAS Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries, the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States, the The Arab Parliament, and the Accueil Secrétariat exécutif du G5 Sahel, attended the Conference. Furthermore, participants included representatives of 15 Civil Society Organizations and Academia, including victims of terrorism and their associations; and representatives of UNOCT, The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and other international organizations. The conference concluded with a call for concrete recommendations and regional plans of action trough the Parliamentary Assemblies.

For more information:

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¹ Albania; Algeria; Austria; Cameroon; Comoros; Côte d'Ivoire; Djibouti; Egypt; Finland, Gambia; Israel; Italy; Iraq; Kingdom of Morocco; Madagascar; Mongolia; Niger; Portugal; Rwanda; Serbia; Somalia; Spain; Spain; South Sudan, State of Palestine; State of Qatar; Turkey; United Arab Emirates; Zimbabwe