## **September in Review** 2025



## Leadership



UNOCT welcomes Mr. Alexandre Zouev, designated by the UN Secretary-General as Acting Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism. A long-serving UN official with a career spanning more than three decades, Mr. Zouev has most recently served since 2017 as Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peace

Operations. We thank Mr. Vladimir Voronkov for his dedicated leadership as outgoing Under-Secretary-General. (14 Sep)

At the 6th Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, Acting USG Alexandre Zouev highlighted the resilience and agency of victims and survivors as "the human face of our shared struggle against terrorism" and urged Member States to keep victims' perspectives at the center of global counter-terrorism efforts. (24 Sep)

In his final Quarterly Briefing to Member States, USG Voronkov highlighted key achievements, including expanded

capacity-building and the growing impact of UNOCT's global programmes. He emphasized the importance of sustainable resources. multilateral cooperation and victim-centered approaches ahead of next year's ninth review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (8 Sep)



In his message on the International Day of Police Cooperation, USG Vladimir Voronkov highlighted the vital role of law enforcement in preventing and countering terrorism and underscored UNOCT's support to Member States through technology-focused programmes. (7 Sep)

## Highlights

• The Government of Iraq, with technical support from UNOCT, convened a High-Level International Conference to galvanize efforts to repatriate over 30,000 individuals, mostly women and children, still held in Al-Hol and other camps and places of detention in northeast Syria. Participants shared lessons learned and urged safe, voluntary and dignified returns in line with international law. (26 Sep)



• UNOCT/UNCCT launched a three-year project to strengthen capacities of national authorities in Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda to prevent and respond to terrorist activities involving improvised explosive devices. (11 Sep)





**USG Vladimir Voronkov** and Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia signed the **Principles of Cooperation** between UNOCT and the Russian Federation. (5 Sep)



### **UNOCT Office Structure**

www.un.org/counterterrorism/office-structure







#### **About UNOCT**

The Office provides its capacity-building support to Member States through the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) and the Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB). UNCCT was established by an initial contribution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund in 2011. UNCCT has an Advisory Board composed of 21 Member States plus the European Union (EU) as a Guest Member. SPIB was established following a contribution by the State of Qatar as part of the Contribution Agreement between UNOCT and the State of Qatar signed in 2018.

To enhance coordination and coherence, the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, which is a coordination framework bringing together 46 entities, was launched by the UN Secretary-General in December 2018. The Compact operates thanks to a contribution of the State of Qatar. It operates through its Coordination Committee and eight thematic Inter-Agency Working Groups, which were revitalized in April 2019, providing an "All-of-UN approach" to the system's work on counter-terrorism and preventing and countering violent extremism as conducive to terrorism.



### **UNOCT Mandate**

Established through GA resolution 71/291 on 15 June 2017, the Office has five functions:

- **Provide leadership** on the GA counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General from across the UN system
- Enhance coordination and coherence across the 46 Global Counter-Terrorism Compact entities to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the UN Global CT Strategy
- Strengthen delivery of UN counter-terrorism capacity building assistance to Member States
- Improve visibility, advocacy and resource mobilization for UN counter-terrorism efforts
- Ensure that due priority is given to counterterrorism across the UN system and that the important work on preventing violent extremism is firmly rooted in the Strategy

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**Recent Pledges to** the UN Trust Fund for **Counter-Terrorism** 

#### **UN Peace and Development Fund:**

\$1.4M ▶ AROS Programme and \$1.1M > Global CT Coordination Compact

**United States of America:** 

\$1M ▶ CT Travel Programme

#### **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:**

\$317,000 ▶ CT Travel Programme

Kingdom of Morocco: \$10,000 ▶ Additional funding for the UNOCT Programme Office for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa

## Capacity-building

## **UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)**

**UNOCT Cybersecurity and New Techno**logies Programme, with INTERPOL and EU FPI, held a CT TECH+ workshop in Iraq to strengthen national capacity to address threats from terrorist misuse of emerging technologies. (14-17 Sep)



**UNOCT/UNCCT & UNODC** held a training in Turkmenistan to strengthen national experts' skills in analyzing intelligence on small arms and light weapons trafficking and its links to terrorism. (15-18 Sep)

UNOCT/UNCCT, together with UNRCCA and Uzbekistan, held a regional training to strengthen risk-assessment skills of local communities within the Counter-Terrorism Early Warning Network for Central Asia, supporting early detection of threats and regional cooperation. (15-19 Sep)

At the 69th IAEA General Conference, UNOCT/UNCCT, the IAEA, Morocco, and UNODC co-hosted a side event marking



Amendment, key instruments against nuclear terrorism. (17 Sep)

## **Special Projects & Innovation Branch (SPIB)**

UNOCT and UNODC co-hosted a CT Travel Roundtable in Vienna with over 50 participants from 26 Permanent Missions and key partners highlighting achievements in expanding the use of passenger data through legislative, operational, and technology support. (11 Sep)

**UNOCT Fusion Cells Programme** delivered a three-week "Train the Trainer" course with UN Police and an "Analyst" course with Morocco to enhance intelligenceanalysis capacities of law-enforcement officers from across Africa, strengthening national counter-terrorism expertise and regional cooperation. (15-23 Sep)

**UNOCT Vulnerable Targets Programme** hosted a briefing for its Global Expert Network on protecting cultural and religious sites from terrorist threats during which Italy's National Police shared good practices on safeguarding public spaces. (16 Sep)

### **Human Rights and Gender Section**

UNOCT received recognition from UN Women for its performance in the 2024 UN Systemwide Action Plan



(UN-SWAP) on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, exceeding or meeting 15 out of 17 performance milestone indicators. This reflects UNOCT's commitment to genderresponsive counter-terrorism, women's empowerment, and the full, meaningful participation of women.

**UNOCT and UN Women** hosted a webinar on advancing women's full, equal, and meaningful participation in decisionmaking in counter-terrorism and PCVE. (11 Sep)

#### **EU-UN** Global **Terrorism Threats Facility**

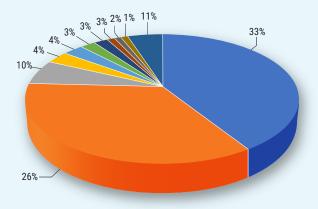
The EU-UN Global Terrorism Threats Facility convened 25 Kenyan trainers and investigators in Nairobi to co-design a counter-terrorism course for the National Criminal Investigations Academy, enhancing national training capacities for police to respond to evolving terrorism threats. (17 Sep)



## **Top Contributors to UNOCT**

UNOCT cumulative pledges since inception of the Trust Fund for Counter Terrorism and from other funds to date, amount to \$424 million, out of which \$381 million has been received from 50 funding partners. Overall, the top contributors to date are:





- Allocation from the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund
- \*\* In addition, in-kind contribution provided by the Netherlands (valued at \$11.5 million in 2018) and Hungary (\$2 million in 2021-2024).



# JN Global Counter-Terrorism

#### Pillar I

Addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism

#### Pillar II Preventing and combating terrorism

#### Pillar III

**Building States'** capacity and strenathening the role of the UN

#### **Pillar IV** Ensuring human rights and the rule

of law

20 years of ICSANT and the CPPNM



