



SLOVENIA

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STATEMENT

BY

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Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism

73rd Session of the General Assembly
Sixth Committee

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Mr Chairman,

Let me first congratulate you on your election as the Chair of the sixth Committee for the 73rd session of the General Assembly and let me assure you that Slovenia stands ready to work resolutely to enhance the progress and to assist your efforts for successful conclusion of this session.

Slovenia aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and would like to inform you about our national activities in this regard.

Mr Chairman,

The need to shape a multi-faceted response to the threats of violent extremism and terrorism makes us increasingly aware of the importance of optimising synergies and coherence between our actions and policies. Our answer can only be comprehensive, encompassing a whole array of activities, bearing in mind that the only way to achieve lasting results is to address the root causes of terrorism.

Numerous studies have shown that the root causes of terrorism and violent extremism are diverse across countries and continents. Consequently, our responses need to adapt to the individual circumstances. We need to strengthen the resilience of individuals, communities and societies against the appeal of radicalisers and extremism. We talk a lot about empowering the youth, the group most susceptible to the messages of recruiters. But the key to success of our endeavours is to give them what they are looking for the most: a sense of belonging.

We place great importance on the powerful positive influence of **women** in the process of de-radicalisation and reintegration, especially in case of returned foreign terrorist fighters.

Slovenia is focusing primarily on the regional cooperation as the most effective way of coping with this pressing and demanding issue. **Western Balkans** is of our particular interest. Da'esh is looking beyond the MENA region to establish further areas for recruitment and logistical bases.

Links between terrorism and organised crime are well established and rightfully put among priorities of our fight against terrorism. That is why Slovenia proposed the development of the **Western Balkans Counter terrorism Initiative (WBCTi)** into the **Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG)** concept, which includes other prominent areas in national security cooperation: prevention of violent extremism and fight against terrorism (WBCTi), fight against serious and organised crime and border security. Both initiatives were endorsed by the Council of the European Union.

In 2016, Slovenia successfully launched a project entitled "**FIRST LINE Practitioners Dealing with Radicalization Issues - Awareness Raising and Encouraging Capacity Building in the Western Balkan Region**". The aim of this project is to

improve the early exchange of intelligence at the regional level, to introduce unified international standards for the investigation and prosecution of the criminal offence of terrorism, and to guarantee secure and lawful exchange of personal data.

Mr Chairman,

Let me reiterate our support to the UN Office of Counter Terrorism led by Under-Secretary-General Mr. Vladimir Voronkov and underline the important tangible results the office has achieved only one year after its establishment, among them convening of the High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies.

Slovenia supports the efforts of the Working Group on International Terrorism in drafting Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. In the meantime, it is of great importance that the existing mechanisms are fully implemented. We see no need for convocation of the intergovernmental conference as long as the text of the CCIT has not been agreed upon.

Recognizing the importance of ensuring accountability for the hideous crimes committed by Da'esh, Slovenia wishes to express its support to the work of the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism on international crimes committed in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Last but not least, we reiterate our support to the Office of the Ombudsman of the 1267 Committee and welcome the appointment of Mr Daniel Kipfer Fasciati as the new Ombudsman.

Thank you, Mr Chairman