



## **PERMANENT MISSION OF MONTENEGRO TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

### **STATEMENT**

**By H.E. Mrs. Milica Pejanović Đurišić, Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Montenegro to the United Nations  
at the Sixth Committee of the 74<sup>th</sup> session of the UNGA  
Agenda item 109: *Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism***

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Mr. Chairman,

As this is the first time that my delegation is taking the floor, I would like to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your election and assure you of our full support.

Although we align ourselves with the statement delivered by the European Union, I would like to point out some issues of particular importance for my country.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorist attacks and tragic events taking place across the globe are stark reminders that only limited results have been achieved so far in addressing this global treat. Bearing that in mind, I would like to reaffirm our strong commitment to enhance effective measures to prevent and combat terrorism both at the national and international level. By doing so, we remain devoted to ensure that measures to counter terrorism are in full compliance with human rights standards and the rule of law.

Terrorism and violent extremism could not be associated with any religion, nationality or ethnic group. In this regard, we would like to encourage states to make further efforts to combat xenophobia and strengthen inclusion, thus removing stereotypes associated with this issue. It is also important to not misuse the fight against terrorism to suppress political opposition or ideological dissent from mainstream values.

Mr Chairman,

Montenegro largely aligned its strategic and legal framework with international standards. The laws on the prevention of money laundering and financing terrorism, as well as on the international restrictive measures were amended to comply with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and Moneyval recommendations. In addition to that, the activities on the



development of the new strategy for the prevention of terrorism, money laundering and financing terrorism for the period 2019-2022 are at the final stage, as well as to combat violent extremism for the period 2020-2023.

Even though the country has only been marginally affected by the radicalization and foreign fighters, in addition to the criminalization of such activities in the Criminal Code, our Government is implementing preventive anti-radicalization activities and awareness-raising, in cooperation with CSOs and local authorities, as well as developing measures for the reintegration of returnees and their families.

Bearing in mind the increasingly transnational nature of this phenomena, Montenegro reaffirms its commitment to the regional and multilateral cooperation to develop coordinated and effective international responses to terrorism.

In this regard, I would like to emphasize the importance of the Western Balkan Counter-Terrorism initiative (WBCTi), launched in 2015, with the support of the European Union, aiming at joint and coordinated regional cooperation in this matter. Furthermore, Montenegro actively contributes to the implementation of the Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans, signed in October 2018, setting up specific steps for better cooperation in countering terrorism, including cooperation on money laundering, terrorism financing and preventing radicalization.

These steps include further legislative harmonization with international standards, capacity-building for its implementation and enforcement, strengthening the protection of citizens and critical infrastructure, as well as intensive information exchange among relevant institutions, including intelligence agencies.

Mr Chairman,

Effective fight against terrorism requires measures that address not just security issues, but also underline problems related to development, good governance, human rights and, in particular, humanitarian concerns. Only through the multi-stakeholder dialogue, enhanced exchange of information and expertise among states, as well as criminal justice cooperation we can achieve concrete results, thus contributing to global peace and security.

I thank you.