

Albania

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**Draft remarks for the VI Committee, Agenda Item nr.109,
“Measures to eliminate international terrorism”**

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Thank you, Mr. Chair,

Distinguished Colleagues of the VI Committee,

Let me start by saying that Albania fully aligns with the EU
statement.

In my national capacity I would like to make the following
remarks.

The recent terrorist attack in Ankara confirms once again that terrorism spares no one. We express our condolences and stand in solidarity with the people of Türkiye and its government.

Albania condemns in the strongest terms all forms and shapes of terrorism and violent extremism.

We share the SG's assessment that the threat of Da'esh, Al Qaida and affiliates to peace and security, remains high in conflict zones and continues to metastases in different parts of the world.

As the world is facing multiple challenges like ongoing conflicts, climate change, lack of accountability and rule of law, just to name a few of them, it becomes more difficult for law enforcement agencies to identify and tackle successfully terrorism and its main drivers.

Terrorist groups take advantage of the existing gaps within the international architecture and the international legal framework.

We need a rule-based system, transparency and clear legal framework if we really want to eradicate terrorism once and for all. The absence of a definition of “terrorism” and “violent extremism” may lead to misinterpretation, as it has been the case in several occasions.

The VI Committee has the responsibility to really engage and come up to an agreement on what constitutes terrorism. Albania is keen in supporting the negotiation process on this matter.

No one should be allowed to use the fight against terrorism as a pretext to violate human rights, repress civil society and neglect fundamental freedoms.

It is of paramount importance that all measures taken by the state must comply with international law, human rights law, international humanitarian law and refugee law.

Colleagues,

Allow me to emphasize some points that in our view are important in fighting terrorism and violent extremism:

First – Prevention. We must invest more in prevention by implementing the Programs for Repatriation and Rehabilitation and by engaging with local communities, civil society and private sector, as, in our view, this is the best way to tackle all drivers of terrorism.

Second - Accountability and justice. We have to make sure that perpetrators of terrorist acts, despite their motivation, must be

held accountable. Fair and due processes are important for justice to prevail.

Three – Protection for victims of terrorism, in particular for women and children who suffer most. We must invest more in victims' protection programs to help them regain their lives.

Four - Terrorism spares no one. Only united we can win against terrorism. That's why a full, equal and meaningful participation of women is a must, including in the fight against terrorism.

In conclusion, Albania welcomes the adoption of the 8th review of GCTS and reaffirms its commitment and support to UN global efforts in fighting terrorism and violent extremism.

I thank you!

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