

Open briefing on "The Role of Women in Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism"

EU intervention

(Delivered by Eglantine Cujo, Legal Adviser, EU Delegation to the UN)

Let me first thank the CTC for organizing this very timely briefing and for the panellists for sharing with us their extremely interesting experiences.

Inclusion of women and girls and gender mainstreaming are often overlooked in efforts to counter violent extremism. This is despite the considerable evidence both of the participation of women and girls in violent extremist and terrorist acts, as well as the powerful roles women can play as preventers of violence and conflict and agents of change. P/CVE efforts would benefit from better leveraging women's experiences and voices to reach vulnerable communities.

In order to discuss the threat posed by violent extremism and its impact on women, but also to highlight efforts being undertaken to support community-level engagement, particularly those that integrate a gender dimension, in preventing and countering violent extremism, the EU will host a high-level event on the margins of the opening of the UNGA on "Integrating a gender dimension in preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) policy and practice". This event, that will bring together senior officials, experts, and civil society practitioners, will take place on 30 September 2015 from 8.30-11.30am at the Benjamin Hotel. Invitations will be sent shortly and you are all welcome to attend to continue the discussion.

Thank you.