



**United Nations Security Council
Counter-Terrorism Committee
Executive Directorate (CTED)**

PRESS RELEASE

CTED resumes on-site assessment visits on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee with first comprehensive visit to Bulgaria

New York, 19 April 2022 – After working for two years in virtual and hybrid settings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) resumed its on-site assessment visits on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, conducting a [comprehensive visit to the Republic of Bulgaria](#) from 4 to 9 April 2022.

The visiting delegation consisted of CTED experts, as well as experts from the following United Nations bodies and international organizations: the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT); the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol); the International Organization for Migration (IOM); the International Maritime Organization (IMO); the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE); and the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL).

The visit enabled the delegation to assess progress made by Bulgaria in adopting measures to implement Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant Security Council resolutions. Country visits are one of the key channels of the Counter-Terrorism Committee to engage and conduct a constructive dialogue with Member States with a view to achieving effective implementation of the relevant Security Council counter-terrorism resolutions.

The human rights aspects of Bulgaria's counter-terrorism measures and the role of women in countering terrorism and violent extremism were also raised during the discussions.

The delegation also held separate meetings with the Human Rights Ombudsman, the Commission for Protection against Discrimination, and representatives of civil society.

The delegation was led by Mr. Ahmed Seif El-Dawla, CTED Chief of Section for Europe, Middle East and Central Asia, who commended Bulgaria for its continued cooperation and for facilitating a constructive, in-depth dialogue between the visiting experts and their Bulgarian counterparts.

For further information, please contact:

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Background

The **Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)** was established by Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which was adopted unanimously on 28 September 2001 in the wake of the 11 September terrorist attacks carried out in the United States. The Committee (which consists of all 15 Members of the Security Council) was tasked with monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), which requests States to implement a number of measures intended to enhance their legal, institutional and operational abilities to counter terrorist activities at home, in their regions, and around the world.

H.E. Mr. T. S. Tirumurti, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, was appointed Chair of the Committee on 13 January 2022.

The **Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)** was established by the Council as a special political mission of the United Nations, tasked with assisting the Counter-Terrorism Committee in monitoring Member States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant counter-terrorism resolutions. Acting on the Committee's behalf, CTED conducts on-site country assessments visits, with the consent of the host State, to identify progress made and remaining challenges in addressing threats posed by terrorists to international peace and security. The findings of the assessment visits also form the basis for technical assistance and capacity-building projects delivered by partner entities.