



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

PRESS RELEASE

CTED publishes Analytical Brief on the management of violent extremist prisoners and the prevention of radicalization to violence in prison

New York, 1 February 2023 – The management of violent extremist prisoners (VEPs) poses major challenges to many United Nations (UN) Member States, according to a new Analytical Brief published by the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED). At the same time, the detention period represents a unique opportunity to promote disengagement from violence and develop prevention strategies that can reduce the risks of recidivism in the medium- and long-term.

Challenges identified stem from a host of different reasons. First, the scale of the issue is often unknown or, at best, only roughly estimated. Second, violent extremist prisoners are not a homogenous prison population category, and tailored efforts need to be put in place to address specific needs. Third, for the management of VEPs to be effective, many factors need to be taken into consideration and adequate resources be provided.

In resolution [2396 \(2017\)](#), the Security Council acknowledges that “prisons can serve as potential incubators for radicalization to terrorism and terrorist recruitment” and encourages States to “take all appropriate actions to prevent inmates who have been convicted of terrorism-related offences from radicalizing other prisoners to violence, with whom they may come into contact”.

Experiences gained by States in diverse geographical regions suggest a number of elements that can contribute to enhanced management of violent extremist prisoners, including improving the capacity of staff; developing tailored protocols for the management of risks; and designing and implementing individualized rehabilitation and reintegration plans to support VEPs’ successful re-entry into society and reduce the risk of recidivism. Treatment of prisoners should always respect human rights, which contributes to security and good order in the prison context and enhances prospects for success more long-term. The importance of ensuring a whole-of-society approach that includes inter-agency and multisectoral cooperation and involves non-governmental organizations and religious actors is also highlighted.

You can download the full report [here](#).

For more 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. Lana Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations, was appointed Chair of the Committee on 30 January 2023.

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.