

PRESS RELEASE

CTED publishes Trends Tracker on Evolving Trends in the Financing of Foreign Terrorist Fighters' Activity: 2014 – 2024

New York, 7 November 2024 – Today, the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) published its latest report, "CTED Trends Tracker | Evolving Trends in the Financing of Foreign Terrorist Fighters' Activity: 2014 – 2024."

In its resolution 2178 (2014), adopted unanimously on 24 September 2014, the Security Council expressed particular concern over the acute and growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs), in particular those recruited by Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL or Da'esh), the Nusrah Front and Al-Qaida. It also underlined the need to disrupt financial flows supporting FTFs, while respecting international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law. In that resolution, the Council also directed CTED to identify issues, trends and developments related to FTFs.

In this regard, the Trends Tracker offers a brief examination of how financial flows related to FTF travel and activities have evolved over the past 10 years, reflecting the changes in their locations and circumstances. Financial activity linked to Da'esh-inspired FTFs typically involves supporters collecting or sending small amounts of money abroad or financing their own or others' travel to zones with terrorist activity. This money typically comes from legal means, often personal savings, and sometimes may be collected on behalf of others. Individuals may coordinate the donations through encrypted mobile applications, send the funds in the form of virtual assets, wire them abroad through a fiat money service business, or, if collected in cash, pass them to couriers. Overall, the financial patterns associated with FTFs have demonstrated remarkable adaptability, shifting from relatively simple methods to increasingly sophisticated and technologically advanced approaches.

A brief overview of the report is available <u>here</u>; and you can download the full report <u>here</u>.

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. Mr. Amar Bendjama, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations, was appointed Chair of the Committee on 2 January 2024.

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.

Natalia Gherman was appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate by Secretary-General António Guterres on 2 December 2022. Ms. Gherman took up her functions on 1 March 2023.