



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

Global survey of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) by Member States

Executive summary

The present “Global survey of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) by Member States” was prepared by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) pursuant to the request of the Security Council, contained in its resolution 2395 (2017), that CTED update the previous survey (S/2016/50), issued in January 2016. It contains a detailed regional overview of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolutions aimed at countering incitement to commit terrorist acts, violent extremism, and terrorist narratives, focusing primarily on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), which calls on all States to prohibit by law incitement to commit a terrorist act or acts.

According to CTED’s analysis, as of 1 March 2021, 112 States had expressly criminalized incitement to commit a terrorist act or acts in their national legislation (compared with a figure of “at least 76 States”, as of 1 November 2015).

The survey also considers steps taken by States to implement other provisions of resolution 1624 (2005), such as measures to prevent incitement to commit terrorist acts; deny safe haven to persons credibly suspected of being guilty of incitement to commit terrorist acts; and counter incitement of terrorist acts motivated by violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

Two other Security Council resolutions are directly relevant to the preparation of the present survey. Council resolution 2178 (2014), on the threat to international peace and security posed by foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs), contains a provision encouraging States to engage relevant local communities and non-governmental actors in developing strategies “to counter the violent extremist narrative that can incite terrorist acts”. It proposes that this can be achieved by addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, including by “empowering youth, families, women, religious, cultural and education leaders, and all other concerned groups of civil society”. This approach has come to be known as countering violent extremism (CVE).

The survey also takes into account Security Council resolution 2354 (2017), on the threat to international peace and security posed by terrorist narratives spread by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), also known as Daesh; Al-Qaida; and other terrorist groups. That resolution encourages States to develop programmes to counter terrorist narratives, stressing that States have the primary responsibility in countering terrorist acts and violent extremism conducive to terrorism and noting that counter-narrative efforts “can benefit through



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engagement with a wide range of actors, including youth, families, women, religious, cultural, and education leaders, and other concerned groups of civil society”.

The survey makes clear that States have made considerable progress, since the publication of the previous survey, on prohibiting incitement to commit acts of terrorism and taking related steps to prevent incitement to commit acts of terrorism, to counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism, and to counter terrorist narratives. It also addresses the human rights challenges that States continue to face in this area, most notably in connection with ensuring respect for the right to freedom of expression. The survey observes that States are now facing an increased threat due to incitement to commit terrorist acts based on xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance.¹ It shows that many States are taking active measures to monitor and prevent the abuse of information and communications technologies (ICT) for terrorist purposes, noting that those measures can benefit from partnerships between Government and the private sector.

Effectively countering incitement of terrorist acts motivated by violent extremism conducive to terrorism presents many challenges for Member States, but it is critical to confronting the threats to international peace and security posed by terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. The present survey shows that States are employing a range of innovative approaches to address these threats, often based on strong partnerships involving all concerned actors in society.

¹ While the Security Council has not established an internationally agreed terminology regarding this threat, the Counter Terrorism Committee noted, in previous documents, that many of the Member States recently assessed by the CTC have referred to terrorist acts committed by such individuals) through a wide range of terminologies.