

“Envisioning a post-COVID landscape: potential terrorism and counter-terrorism challenges”

Friday, 17 December 2021

09.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Concept Note

I. Introduction

The United Nations Security Council resolution 2129 (2013) directs the Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to identify emerging issues, trends, and developments in consultation with relevant partners, and advise the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) on practical ways for Member States to implement relevant counter-terrorism resolutions. As such, CTED incorporates the latest evidence-based research in its work and publications through close engagement with its Global Research Network (GRN) and other partners. CTED’s publications (such as Trends Alerts; Trends Reports; Analytical Briefs; Research Digests) keep Member States updated on evolving trends and challenges in counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented the world with a generational challenge that has significantly impacted all aspects of the geo-political and policy landscape, including counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism (CVE) policy measures. CTED has been at the forefront of monitoring and analyzing the impacts of the pandemic on terrorism, counter-terrorism, and CVE. In this regard, CTED’s Analytical Paper series on the COVID-19 pandemic, published in June and December 2020, and June and December 2021 has provided policymakers with an analysis of the key short, medium, and long-term impacts of the pandemic on terrorism, counter-terrorism, and CVE.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Member States and the international community have continued to face a wide range of challenges – distinct in scale, intensity, and impact, which have also exacerbated humanitarian and other socio-economic crises around the world. Against this backdrop, it is imperative to understand and analyze the impacts of the pandemic on terrorism, counter-terrorism, and countering violent extremism and better integrate evidence-based research on this issue to existing counter-terrorism policies and practices.

Although the impacts of the pandemic are not consistent across Member States or regions, with specific differences in conflict and non-conflict areas, as well as resource rich and resource scarce States, the pandemic remains a global challenge, therefore requiring a coordinated global response. CTED’s analysis suggests that there is still a shortage of evidence to draw comprehensive conclusions regarding the impacts of the pandemic on terrorism and counter-terrorism.

II. Objective

This meeting aims to consider questions on the medium to long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on terrorism, counter-terrorism, and countering violent extremism. Panelists will explore what the terrorist and counter-terrorism landscape would look like in a post-COVID world, as well as the challenges likely to emerge afterwards.

III. Format of discussions and topics

Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)

Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of CTED, Ms. Michele Coninsx will provide opening remarks and an address, introducing CTED's work on this issue and some key conclusions.

The meeting will bring together several members of CTED's Global Research Network, as well as Civil Society actors to share their research and experience with policymakers, practitioners, civil society and other researchers, enabling an interactive discussion on future trends and challenges pertaining to the impacts of the pandemic on terrorism, counter-terrorism, and countering violent extremism.

The event will be held via Microsoft Teams.

Please complete the form [available here to RSVP](#) for this virtual open meeting by 13:00 EST, Thursday, 16 December 2021.

An email with log-in details will be provided by Thursday, 16 December 2021.

IV. Date and venue

The meeting will be streamed live on Microsoft Teams on December 17, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. EST. It will also be recorded and made available on CTED's YouTube Channel.