



UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL
COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE (CTED)

PRESS RELEASE

CTED Launches Trends Report on “The Gender Dimensions of the Response to Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters”

New York, 27 February 2019 – Today, the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) launched its third Trends Report, “[The Gender Dimensions of the Response to Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters](#).” The report - which primarily draws on the work of academia and think tanks, particularly members of CTED’s Global Research Network (GRN) - seeks to provide counter-terrorism policy makers, practitioners, and experts with an analysis of the latest research into some of the challenges presented by the gender dimensions of the foreign terrorist fighter (FTF) phenomenon. The report presents the latest research findings on (1) the numbers and demographics of women who travel to, return from, and remain in the conflict zone of Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic; (2) the drivers of female radicalization; (3) gendered narratives used by terrorists; and (4) implications for counter-measures.

The report was prepared by CTED in accordance with Security Council resolution 2395 (2017), which reaffirms the essential role of CTED within the United Nations to identify and assess issues, trends, and developments relating to the implementation of a number of Security Council resolutions related to counter-terrorism.

CTED’s work with academia and think tanks via GRN helps to inform the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the global counter-terrorism policy-making community about these issues, trends, and developments. CTED’s Global Research Network, which was created in February 2015, consists of over 100 leading research institutions from around the world.

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Background

Established by the Security Council, the **Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED)** is a Special Political Mission of the United Nations, tasked with assisting the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee in monitoring the effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant counter-terrorism resolutions. CTED conducts on site country assessments visits with Member States' approval 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 constitute the basis for the concerned technical assistance and capacity-building projects. **Michèle Coninsx** was appointed Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on 11 August 2017.

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 in the United States. The Committee, comprising all 15 Security Council members, was tasked with monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), which requested countries 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. On 1 January 2018, **H.E. Gustavo Meza-Cuadra Velásquez**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Peru to the United Nations, became Chair of CTC.