



CTED

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL
COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE

PRESS RELEASE

CTED Publishes Updated Trends Alert on the Response of Extreme Right-Wing Terrorists to COVID-19

New York, 6 July 2020 – Today, the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) published an update to its fourth Trends Alert, “[Member States Concerned By The Growing and Increasingly Transnational Threat of Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism.](#)” Based on information collected during CTED’s engagement with Member States and insights from CTED’s [Global Research Network](#), the *Trends Alert* provided an overview of key trends relating to extreme right-wing terrorism, Member States’ responses, and guidance that might support those responses.

The update to the [April 2020 Trends Alert](#) provides an analysis of data from Member States, researchers and civil society organizations which indicates that extreme right-wing terrorists are using COVID-19-related conspiracy theories and disinformation to radicalize, recruit and fundraise, and seeking to inspire plots and attacks. The update also analyses the potential related challenges, and how Member States, international and regional organizations, and the private sector are responding.

The report was prepared by CTED in accordance with Security Council resolution 2395 (2017). This reaffirms the essential role of CTED within the United Nations to identify and assess issues, trends and developments relating to the implementation of Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014), 2396 (2017) and other relevant resolutions.

CTED *Trends Alerts* are designed to increase awareness, both within the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and among United Nations agencies and policymakers, of emerging trends identified through CTED’s engagement with Member States on their implementation of the relevant Council resolutions. The Alerts also include relevant evidence-based research conducted by members of the CTED Global Research Network (GRN) and other researchers.

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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 visit 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 5 May 2020, **H.E. Mr. Kais Kabtani**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tunisia to the United Nations, was appointed Chair of CTC.