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Virtual Open Briefing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee on "Protection of 'Soft' Targets Against Terrorist Attacks"

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27 January 2021

The protection of soft targets against terrorist attacks is a cross-cutting subject.

Protecting soft targets brings together several communities:

- Those focused on identifying individuals affiliated with terrorism
- Those focused on countering terrorist use of weapons (CBRN, IEDs, SALW, weapons of opportunity, etc.)
- Those focused on protecting targets of terrorist attacks

Some Challenges to Protecting Soft Targets non-exhaustive

- Accessing necessary intelligence to develop holistic threat assessments
- Dynamic threat environment
- Sustaining a culture of security and vigilance in the long term
- Public-private partnerships
- Soft targets protection as a local challenge
- Building and sustaining community engagement, awareness-raising, outreach
- Lack of common definition for a 'soft' target (indoor versus outdoor, permanent facility versus temporary space, etc.)

INTERPOL Tools, Services and Support non-exhaustive

Information-Sharing

Border Management

Incident Prevention
and Response Support

Counter-Terrorism
Support

Vulnerable Targets
Support

International
Coordination

UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection

- INTERPOL serves as Chair. UNICRI, OPCW and UNODA are Vice-Chairs
- 26 UN and non-UN entities participate
- UNSCR 2396, 2341 part of mandate
- Scope of Work includes "Protection of soft targets from terrorist attacks, including security planning and protection of major events, crowded spaces and tourist destinations".
- *"The Protection of Critical Infrastructure Against Terrorist Attacks: Compendium of Good Practices"* published in 2018, joint initiative with UNOCT-CTED-INTERPOL.
- **2021-2022:** plans to produce Second Edition of Compendium, focus on soft targets.





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Thank you.