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OSCE Chairperson Condemns Bombing Attacks at Boston Marathon, Offers Condolences



The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Leonid Kozhara expressed his shock on 16 April 2013 at the Boston marathon explosions.

"I was deeply shocked by the news about the bomb blasts that occurred at Boston Marathon on 15 April 2013 and cost the lives of several people and

wounded many others, many of them women and children."

"A sport event that serves for peace, and brings people together, became a place of bloody tragedy. I strongly condemn this act of violence resulting in the death and casualties of many people," Kozhara said.

Noting that investigation into the reasons and persons behind this action is still underway, the OSCE Chair reminded that all OSCE participating States should stand united in their response to such kind of violence, being often of a terrorist origin. Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations can never be tolerated or justified.

"The attacks in Boston emphasize the need for the international community to strengthen the cooperation in prevention of terrorist acts. Those perpetrating such actions must be found and brought to justice." "As the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and in my national capacity on behalf of the Government of Ukraine I convey my heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of the victims and wish a speedy recovery to the wounded. We share the grief and pain of the US people," Kozhara said.

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OSCE Roundtable Promotes Preventive Measures of Terrorist Bombings Convention



On 13 March 2013, the Transnational Threats Department/Action against Terrorism Unit (TNTD/ATU), the Department for Security and Public Safety (DSPS) of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMiK), in co-operation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), organized a roundtable on good practices to enhance the implementation of preventive measures related to the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings in Prishtinë/Priština.

the terrorist bombing convention, as well as enhanced co-operation between institutions and the business community in Kosovo in controlling the production, transport, trade and use of industrial explosives and explosive precursors.

The workshop identified potential gaps in the legislative framework of Kosovo in relation to

A total of 28 experts/representatives participated from the Assembly of Kosovo, relevant ministries, Kosovo Police, Customs Service, Office of the Special Prosecutor, the agriculture, trade and business community, as well as international experts from OSCE, UNODC and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Participants highlighted that more co-ordination and information sharing was necessary between key stakeholders including the public and private sectors when it comes to implementing pertinent regulations. They also agreed that, although Ammonium Nitrate Fertilizers have not been used in terrorist/criminal attacks in Kosovo, efforts should focus on raising awareness and train key staff, both in official and private sectors on the potential dangers. Finally, experts suggested that the Ministry of Interior should regularly evaluate the threat of these materials being used by criminals and terrorists.

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OSCE Meeting Focuses on Role of Mosques and Imams to Prevent Extremism and Radicalization in Tajikistan

On 30 April 2013, The OSCE Office in Tajikistan (OiT) hosted a roundtable organized by Asia-Plus media holding on the role of mosques and imams in Tajik society, and in particular the support imams need to safeguard their communities from the threat of violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism, as well as the role of parental responsibility in this.

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Representatives of governments, local NGOs, civil society groups and international organizations participated. Moreover, Mavlon Muhtorov, the Deputy Head of the Religious Committee of Tajikistan, Khomushov Jamoliddin, the Deputy Head of the Council of Ulema, and Atovullo Qosimov, the Head of Centre for Capacity Enhancement of Imams were among the high-level participants.

The meeting produced a number of recommendations outlining steps that need to be taken in near future, including: Enhancing the capacities of imams to disseminate counter-narratives to discredit extremist ideologies, to developing new curricula and providing training at educational institutions, applying stricter criteria when select-

ing imams and monitoring them after they have taken up their position.

Another recommendation was to jointly work on further emphasizing the role of mosques as centers for promoting traditional Islam and Tajik culture and values. Participants also discussed the potential for amendments to the law on parental responsibilities. The OiT will follow up on the recommendations with the Religious Committee of Tajikistan, the Council of Ulema and the Centre for Capacity enhancement of Imams.

The event is part of the OiT VERLT (Violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism) Programme that aims to create a platform for government, civil society, media and other stakeholders to exchange views, share concerns and discuss international and Tajik experiences and best practices in dealing with extremist and radical ideologies.

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OSCE Supports Anti-Terror Exercise for Kyrgyz Law Enforcement

An OSCE Centre in Bishkek -supported exercise, "Batken-Antiterror-2013", for law-enforcement officers took place in Batken, southern Kyrgyzstan, from 24 to 25 April 2013.

The aim of the exercise was to simulate governmental responses to a possible terrorist attack or incursion into the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic and to work out mechanisms to co-ordinate actions of the state law-enforcement agencies.

Participants learned about establishing headquarters that would guide an anti-terrorist operation, ensuring its proper functioning and co-ordination between the key law-enforcement agencies, as well as about checking current state of the agencies' operational potential and readiness to react.



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Senior representatives of the State Committee of National Security, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Emergency Situations, Internal Affairs, as well as of State Border Service and Batken province Administration participated in the exercise.

After the simulation exercise, key law-enforcement officials, parliamentarians, as well as representatives of local authorities, took part in a roundtable discussion on the security situation in the border areas of the Batken region. The meeting was organized by the non-governmental organization, the Parliament of Political Parties, with the support of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek. The roundtable was part of the OSCE Centre's activities to promote the role of the Kyrgyz Parliament in formulating priorities and policies for law-enforcement agencies involved in combating terrorism.

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OSCE Trains Police in Kosovo on Network Forensics



From 15 to 26 April, the Department for Security and Public Safety (DSPS) of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMiK) organized a two-weeks training course on Network Forensics in Prishtinë/Priština.

The training was designed to further equip Kosovo Police (KP) investigators with the knowledge and skills in carrying out forensic analysis and recovering evidence from a variety of computer and IT related devices.

The training course delivered by an external consultant from Turkey, was attended by 15 Kosovo Police (KP) investigators of the Directorate for Investigation of Organized

Crime, Directorate for Counter Terrorism, Directorate for Intelligence and Analysis, Directorate for Economic Crime and Corruption Investigation, Cybercrime Investigation Unit and Department for Information Technology and Communication.

The goal of the training was to enhance the capacities of investigators to better and effectively investigate organized crime and terrorist groups who are using Internet for their communication and illegal activities.

This is the latest activity organized by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo that focuses on cybercrime since 2009. A key development in connection with OMiK activities in the area of cybercrime was the establishment of the Kosovo Police cybercrime unit in 2011.

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OSCE Promotes Aviation Security in Turkmenistan

From 4-22 March 2013, the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat conducted three specialized training courses on emergency response skills of aviation security personnel at three airports in Turkmenistan.

Organized in co-operation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the State National Service "Turkmenhowayollary" ("Turkmenistan Airlines"), these courses brought together 57 senior management participants from "Turkmenistan Airlines", transportation police and national security from all airports in the country.

During each five-day course conducted at Ashgabat, Turkmenbashi and Mary airports, an international expert presented internationally-standardized emergency response, search and rescue and crisis management guidelines for aviation, natural and man-made disasters and responses to crisis events. Participants also took part in drills and exercises and discussed the need for effective planning and operations in co-ordination with other states. The trainings were designed to enhance current standards for aviation and transportation security in Turkmenistan.

The training courses were particularly relevant because Turkmenistan plans to expand its aviation and other transport resources, including through the construction of a modern international airport in Ashgabat. Thus, the importance of enhanced emergency planning and response capacity will increase and the trainings aimed to expand the knowledge and expertise of staff and officials at the country's major airports in all relevant areas. The training courses provided a platform for sharing principles, strategies, operational perspectives and experiences, all of which are cornerstones of aviation emergency response operations.

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OSCE Participates in UN CTED Country Visit to the Republic of Serbia

On 18-21 March 2013, the TNTD/ATU participated in a country visit in Serbia led by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (UN CTED).

CTED monitors and promotes the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005). During the visit, the delegation held discussions on counter-terrorism issues with senior Government officials and experts of relevant ministries and agencies. The delegation presented preliminary conclusions of the visit to the Serbian authorities.

As follow-up CTED with contributions by all of the participants of the delegation will prepare a report with recommendations on how to address potential gaps pertaining to the implementation of the aforementioned resolutions. Since 2005 the OSCE is regularly invited to participate in these visits. TNTD/ATU contributed to the team of the delegation covering aspects related to law enforcement, border management and international co-operation.

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OSCE Trains Border Officials on Protecting Human Rights in Countering Terrorism

On 16-19 April 2013, the ODIHR Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism Programme delivered a four-day training session on "Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism and Border Security", in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

This course, organized in co-operation with the OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC), brought together 26 mid-level and senior border officials from 12 OSCE participating States (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Spain, Tajikistan and Ukraine) and 2 Partners for Co-operation (Israel and Tunisia).

The training aimed to assist OSCE participating States and OSCE Partners for Co-operation in enhancing the capacities of national border officials to respect human rights in their daily work. The participants deepened their understanding of the relevant international human rights standards and ways to protect human rights when combating terrorism at and along the borders.

The training was based on ODIHR training manual and module on "Countering Terrorism, Protecting Human Rights" and adapted to the specific border security context. It was the third training session organized jointly by ODIHR and the BMSC on human rights in counter-terrorism and border security since 2010.

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OSCE Publication Focuses on Inland Transport Security

On 26 February 2013, in Geneva, the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) jointly with the UN Economic Commission for Europe's Transport Division launched the 2012 OSCE-UNECE Inland Transport Security Forum Proceedings.

This compilation of academic-style expert papers outlines ways to further improve the effectiveness of international and national efforts in making inland transport more secure (incl. in the road, railways and inland waterways sector). Upon request, targeted follow-up activities could be held across the region. The Proceedings can be accessed [here](#)

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Noteworthy

- On 10-11 April 2013, the ODIHR Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism Programme contributed to the workshop on **Supporting Curriculum Development for the International Institute of Justice and the Rule of Law in Tunisia** organized by the Center on Global Counter-Terrorism, the Institute for Security Studies and the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism. The workshop was aimed at discussing the future training curricula for judges, prosecutors, police and correctional officers of the International Institute of Justice and the Rule of Law.
- On 15-16 April 2013, the ODIHR Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism Programme participated in the launching workshop of a new **UNCTIF project aimed at developing training and capacity building activities on human rights, the rule of law and the prevention of terrorism**, with a particular focus on North Africa (including OSCE Partners for Co-operation), Middle East and the Sahel regions. The project is implemented by the UNCTIF Working Group on Protecting Human Rights while Countering Terrorism.
- TNTD/ATU took part in the **Global Counter Terrorism Forum (GCTF) Working Group Workshops on Countering Violent Extremism**, on 19-22 March 2013, Washington DC. At the workshop TNTD/ATU presented its joint guidebook project with ODIHR '*Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism: a Community Policing Approach*'.
- **Status of the Universal Anti-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols:** On 5 April 2013, TNTD/ATU updated the '*Status in the OSCE Area of the Universal Anti-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols as well as Other International and Regional Legal Instruments Related to Terrorism and Co-operation in Criminal Matters*'. The update can be accessed [here](#)

Upcoming Events

- **International Conference on Special Investigation Techniques, 14-15 May 2013, Strasbourg.** The aim of the Conference is to bring a broader perspective to examining the existing international legal frameworks governing the use of such techniques, to identify new developments in this area since the adoption of Recommendation Rec(2005)10, to exchange views on the challenges faced by states when applying such techniques and on best practices to overcome these challenges while fully respecting Human Rights and the rule of law. The UN CTED, Council of Europe, OSCE and League of Arab States are co-organizing this conference.
- **Seminar on the ICAO Public Key Directory in Yerevan, 22-23 May 2013, Armenia.** TNTD/ATU will organize a Seminar to raise awareness of Armenian government representatives on the International Civil Aviation Organization Public Key Directory (ICAO PKD). The seminar will highlight the administrative, technical and organizational details of the ICAO PKD and the necessity to implement e-Passports and the ICAO PKD together.
- **Enhancing Counter Terrorism Co-operation in the Mediterranean Basin while implementing the Universal Legal Instruments against Terrorism, 17-18 September 2013, Malaga.** This is a joint event by the OSCE and UNODC primarily targeted at OSCE Mediterranean Partner countries.

UN News

Border Control Co-operation, Focus of Conference in the Sahel and the Maghreb

The UN Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (UN CTED), the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and the Government of Morocco held a conference on border-control co-operation in the Sahel and the Maghreb, which took place in Rabat from 13 to 15 March 2013.

Representatives of 11 States and 21 international, regional and sub-regional organizations including the OSCE, discussed how to enhance the capacity of States to take border-control actions within the framework of the fight against terrorism.

Terrorist groups operating in the region include Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Boko Haram and the Movement for Unity and Jihad in Western Africa (MUJAO). Their activities are linked to transnational crimes such as trafficking in firearms, drugs, human beings and the smuggling of migrants.

The capacity to prevent the movement of terrorists and the preparation of terrorist attacks in the region depends upon the effectiveness of measures taken to control borders, as well as on effective co-ordination and co-operation among the services concerned, whether at the national, regional or inter-regional levels.

The United Nations works closely with partners to promote dialogue, co-operation and efforts to identify appropriate solutions with a view to strengthen the capacity of States to prevent and combat terrorism in a co-ordinated and coherent manner. On behalf of the Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee, CTED has been involved in monitoring the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and identifying assistance needs in this area. For more information click [here](#)

Sanctions Lists

- The Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) regularly conveys changes to the Committee's list of individuals and entities subject to the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo set out in paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 1988 (2011) adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. An updated version of the 1988 Sanctions List is accessible in XML, PDF and HTML formats on the [Committee's website](#)
- The Secretariat of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) regularly conveys updates to the Committee's list of individuals and entities subject to the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo set out in paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 1989 (2011) adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. An updated version of the Al-Qaida Sanctions List is accessible in XML, PDF and HTML formats on the [Committee's website](#)

Council of Europe News

- On 7 February 2013 the Dominican Republic acceded to the *Convention on Cybercrime* (ETS No. 185).
- On 25 February 2013 Bulgaria ratified the Council of Europe *Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism* (CETS No. 198).
- On 7 March 2013 **Estonia** signed the Council of Europe *Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism* (CETS No. 198).
- On 25 March 2013 Georgia signed the *Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters* (CETS No. 182); the *Additional Protocol to the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption* (ETS No. 191); the Council of Europe *Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism* (CETS No. 198).
- On 26 March 2013 **Slovenia** ratified the *Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters* (ETS No. 182).
- On 10 April 2013 Uruguay acceded to the *Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data* (ETS No. 108) and the *Additional Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data*, regarding supervisory authorities and transborder data flows (ETS No. 181).
- On 12 April 2013 the Republic of Moldova signed the *Third Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition* (CETS No. 209).

Events

- The CyberCrime@IPA High-Level Conference on Strategic Priorities was held on 13-15 February 2013 in Croatia. A declaration on "Strategic Priorities in the Cooperation Against Cybercrime" was adopted, which offers a blue-print for consistent measures aimed at the strengthening of legislation, criminal justice capacities, public-private cooperation, the confiscation of criminal money on the Internet and efficient international cooperation.
- On 18-21 March 2013 the Terrorism Division of the Council of Europe participated in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (UN CTED) Comprehensive Visit to Republic of Serbia to monitor the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) by UN Member states.
- *The Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL)* held its 41st Plenary Meeting on 9-12 April 2013 in Strasbourg. It examined and evaluated follow-up reports of Slovenia and Hungary and adopted the typologies projects on "The use of internet gambling for ML and TF purposes" and "Postponement of financial transactions and the monitoring of bank accounts".

Council of Europe News

- *Ad hoc Drafting Group on Dangerous Offenders (PC-GR-DD)*: The 2nd meeting of the Ad hoc Drafting Group on Dangerous Offenders (PC-GR-DD) took place on 24 - 26 April 2013 in Paris.
- *Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights*: On 16 April 2013, the Court delivered a judgment relevant to counter-terrorism issues in the case of *Aswat v. the United Kingdom*. The applicant was accused of terrorism related offences and the USA requested his extradition from the UK. The Court held that the applicant's extradition would amount to a violation of the Convention solely on account of the current severity of his mental illness.

Upcoming Events

- The 5th meeting of the Group of Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism will take place on 13 May 2013 in Strasbourg.
- The 24th meeting of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER) will take place on 16 - 17 May 2013 in Strasbourg.
- The 64th Plenary Session of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) will be held on 28 - 31 May 2013 in Strasbourg.
- The 64th meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Operation of European Conventions on Co-Operation in Criminal Matters (PC-OC) will be held on 28-30 May 2013 in Strasbourg.
- The 9th Plenary meeting of the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY) will take place on 4 - 5 June 2013 in Strasbourg.
- The 3rd *Council for Penological Co-operation (PC-CP) Working Group Meeting* will be held on 19-21 June 2013 in Strasbourg.

Commonwealth of Independent States

- The Heads of Antiterrorist Centers of the CIS member States met to discuss "Recent developments in cooperation of competent governmental agencies of CIS countries in countering terrorism" (12 February 2013). The main topics discussed were transport security with a view to the upcoming Olympic Games in Sochi in 2014, and the impact of the "Arab Spring" and terrorism activities. For more information click [here](#)
- The Joint Commission on Legislation Harmonization in the Sphere of Combating Terrorism, Crime and Drug-Business in the CIS, met on 26 February 2013. Among other topics, participants discussed the outcomes of the "Program for cooperation of CIS countries in countering terrorism and other violent extremist activities in 2011-2013" and perspectives for further co-operation in this field. For more information click [here](#)

Selected OSCE relevant News

Rise in EU Terror Attacks And Deaths In 2012: Europol

The terrorism threat in Europe remains elevated, with a quarter more attacks in the European Union in 2012 than in the previous year, according to Europol.

The annual terrorism report identified 219 completed or failed attacks in 2012 in EU-member states, the majority in France and Spain. That was a rise of 26 percent over 2011, when 174 such attacks were reported. As in years past, the majority of the attacks came from separatist groups. But the threat from religiously-inspired lone actors also remained strong, the report found as the Mohamed Merah case demonstrated in France.

The report found a continued reliance on the Internet for smaller groups and lone actors who use it to collaborate with like-minded individuals and plan attacks. The report can be accessed [here](#)

Boston Marathon Bombings

During the Boston Marathon on 15 April 2013, two pressure cooker bombs exploded, killing three people and injuring 264.

The suspects were identified as brothers Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev. Shortly after the FBI released their images, the suspects allegedly killed an MIT police officer, carjacked an SUV, and initiated an exchange of gunfire with the police in Watertown, Massachusetts.

During the exchange, Tamerlan Tsarnaev was killed, and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was injured and escaped. A resident later helped police find the suspect who was hiding in a boat in his back yard. Dzhokhar was arrested and taken to a hospital shortly thereafter.

During an initial interrogation in the hospital, Dzhokhar said they were self-radicalized and unconnected to any outside terrorist groups. He said that he and his brother had decided after the Boston bombings to travel to New York City to bomb Times Square. Dzhokhar was charged on 22 April 2013, while still in the hospital, with use of a weapon of mass destruction and malicious destruction of property resulting in death. For an overview of news related to the Boston bombings click [here](#).