

CTN Newsletter

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SAVE-THE-DATE, Conference on The Role of the OSCE in Addressing Current Terrorist Challenges, 28– 29 April 2014, Interlaken, Switzerland *at the level of National CT Coordinators

Intensify Efforts to Address Existing and Emerging Transnational Threats – OSCE Foreign Ministers



At the OSCE Ministerial Council in Kyiv on 5-6 December 2013, Foreign Ministers of all 57 participating States issued a Declaration on Strengthening the OSCE's Efforts to Address Transnational Threats.

In the declaration participating States recognize the evolving nature

of transnational threats in the OSCE region and beyond, and the necessity to provide collective and effective international responses, co-ordinated and founded on a cross-dimensional approach.

Welcoming progress achieved so far, they further encourage the OSCE participating States and relevant executive structures within their mandates and established procedures to intensify efforts to achieve greater unity of purpose and action in addressing existing and emerging transnational threats and to continue dialogue in this field, including at focused and result-oriented OSCE-wide thematic conferences.

The full text of the Declaration can be accessed [here](#)

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OSCE Supports Regional Workshop in Tajikistan on Investigation, Prosecution and Adjudication of Terrorism Cases

A three-day regional workshop aimed at sharing good practices in international co-operation for the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism related cases concluded in Dushanbe on 12 December 2013.

The event was organized by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in co-operation with the OSCE Office in Tajikistan and with support of the OSCE Secretariat's Transnational Threats Department/Action against Terrorism Unit (TNTD/ATU).

It brought together 35 representatives from General Prosecutor's Offices, financial monitoring bodies, national investigation departments of ministries of internal affairs and national security committees, as well as judges of municipal and supreme courts from the Central Asian region. They exchanged experiences and discussed challenges related to extradition, mutual legal assistance and co-operation between law-enforcement agencies to counter terrorism.

The workshop participants discussed counter-terrorism practices in the UK, the US, the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Representatives from INTERPOL, OSCE Office in Tajikistan and the UNODC delivered presentations and took part in the discussions.

For more information contact Xenia.Beck@osce.org

OSCE, Turkish Police to Boost Anti-terrorism Capacity of Kyrgyz Security Bodies

A letter of intent to co-operate in organizing anti-terrorism training courses for Kyrgyzstan's state government bodies was signed on 29 January 2014 between the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, Turkish National Police and the Anti-terrorism Centre under the State Committee of National Security (SCNS) of Kyrgyzstan.

In addition, a two-year bilateral agreement of co-operation was signed between the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and the SCNS Anti-terrorism Centre.

The signing ceremony marked the launch of a two-year initiative that will run through 2015 aimed at boosting the country's anti-terrorism capacity, with a particular focus on combatting violent extremism and radicalization that leads to terrorism.

Training courses are expected to take place in the classrooms that were previously equipped by the OSCE Centre in Bishkek for the Anti-terrorism Centre.

As part of the project, a study tour to Turkey of relevant Kyrgyz government officials to familiarize themselves with training methods is also foreseen for 2014.

Officers of the State Committee of National Security, State Border Service, State Penitentiary Service, Ministry of Interior and representatives from the civilian bodies such as Office of the Prime Minister, State Committee on Religious Affairs, Defence Council and local self-government bodies will take part in the training.

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Co-operation between the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and the SCNS Anti-terrorism Centre will also envision expanding technical and expert assistance. It will cover other OSCE initiatives such as the strengthening of the government press service, strengthening the material base of SCNS and providing support to operational anti-terror simulation exercises.

For more information contact Ross.Brown@osce.org

OSCE Trains Judges on Anti-money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism in Baku

The OSCE Office in Baku and Justice Academy of Azerbaijan organized a two-day training course from 9 to 10 December 2013 on handling anti-money laundering and countering financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) for 20 Azerbaijani judges.

The purpose of the training course was to familiarize judges with best practices from other OSCE participating States with established AML/CFT case law and to increase their knowledge of the applicable international framework.

The training course focused on applying international norms and standards to domestic criminal legislation. An international expert, Professor Ari-Matti Nuutilla conducted the course. Participants also attended an interactive seminar on real court cases in Germany.

The course built on previous training seminars held at the OSCE Office in Baku designed to increase prosecutors' and judges' skills in investigating and adjudicating money laundering crimes.

For more information contact Mathilde.Nguyen-Panigel@osce.org

ODIHR Issues Legal Opinion on Tunisian Anti-terrorism Legislation

Upon request from the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice of the Republic of Tunisia, ODIHR produced a legal Opinion on the Tunisian draft law related to the Fight Against Terrorism and the Prevention of Money Laundering.

The Opinion formulates recommendations aimed at enhancing the draft law's compliance with international human rights standards. The legal review was presented by ODIHR during a roundtable organized by the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice in Tunis on 16 December 2013.

The Opinion was prepared as part of the ODIHR mandate to assist OSCE participating States, upon request, in reviewing draft anti-terrorism legislation and strengthening existing legislation in line with international human rights standards and practice. The Opinion is available in both English and Arabic on ODIHR's online legal database [Legislationline](#).

For more information, please contact Lucile.Sengler@odihr.pl

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ODIHR Expert Meeting on Protecting Freedom of Association while Countering Terrorism Financing

This meeting, held in Warsaw on 9-10 December 2013, gathered civil society experts from different OSCE participating States and Partners for Cooperation as well as representatives from TNTD/ATU and the Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA).

The participants addressed the impact of counter-terrorism financing laws and practices on freedom of association with a particular focus on Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Recommendation 8 concerning "the abuse of non-profit organizations for the financing of terrorism".

Participants discussed a number of case studies related to the subject. The discussion also aimed at informing potential ODIHR work on this topic.

For more information, please contact Lucile.Sengler@odihr.pl

OSCE Noteworthy

- ⇒ Ambassador Lenarčič, Director of ODIHR, issued a **press release** on the eve of the 12th anniversary of the arrival of the first detainees to the Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility calling for the closure of the facility. Upon an invitation from the United States, an ODIHR delegation visited the Guantanamo Detention Facility and met with U.S. officials in August 2013 (see CTN No. 94). The delegation also met with civil society representatives and the defense counsel of some detainees. ODIHR is currently carrying out an assessment of the human rights situation of the Guantanamo detainees and will issue a public report with findings and recommendations later this year. For more information, please contact Lucile.Sengler@odihr.pl
- ⇒ **Inventory of Policy Documents and Legislation on Countering VERLT** –TNTD/ATU circulated a questionnaire to Delegations (SEC.GAL/8/14) requesting information on the national strategies or actions plans adopted by participating States and Partners for Co-operation in the field of countering VERLT, as well as legislation to criminalize incitement to commit acts of terrorism. The Department intends to prepare an inventory to facilitate an exchange of information, as per Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/08.
- ⇒ **Call to Update Counter Terrorism Network (CTN) Focal Points** - On 29 January 2014, in a letter distributed under SEC.GAL/12/14, the Director of the TNT Department requested all delegations to update their national CTN focal points in delegations as well as capitals. Delegations are encouraged to submit the names and contact details of their focal points to the CTN Co-ordinator (Ben.Hiller@osce.org) as well as to make use of the CTN Newsletter to inform other partners about significant national developments regarding action to combat terrorism, including new counter-terrorism legislation, counter-terrorism training or assistance programmes and examples of national "best practices". Likewise, information on seminars, workshops and conferences related to counter-terrorism concerns that national authorities may host, and that are open to outside collaboration would be highly valuable.

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- ⇒ **On 2-6 December 2013, TNTD participated in the UN CTED country visit to Ireland** - The country visit aimed at monitoring and promoting the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005). TNTD/ATU supported the work of the team, taking part in the subgroup addressing Law Enforcement aspects of the current status of implementation of the aforementioned resolutions. The team presented preliminary conclusions of the visit to the local authorities. Since 2005, the OSCE has been participating in CTED's country visits in the OSCE area.
- ⇒ **On 8-9 January 2014, TNTD and ODIHR participated in the GCTF Experts Meeting on Protecting and Using Intelligence Information in Rule of Law-Based, Criminal Justice Sector -Led Investigations and Prosecutions** in Frankfurt, Germany. Senior counterterrorism practitioners discussed issues related to the implementation of the Rabat Memorandum on Good Practices for Effective CT Practice in the Criminal Justice sector. In addition, participants presented their experiences related to the protection of sensitive information at trial, evidence information gathered in clandestine investigation, protection of informants and intelligence services representatives in terrorism cases. ODIHR informed participants about the new manual on *Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Investigations*, jointly developed with the OSCE Secretariat's Transnational Threats Department/Strategic Police Matters Unit (TNTD/SPMU).
- ⇒ **On 4-6 December 2013, OSCE participated and presented on the OSCE Travel Document Security Programme at the Intergraf Security Printers International Conference and Exhibition**, in Vienna. In addition, the Centre in Ashgabat supported the participation of two Turkmenistan State Migration Service at the same event.

OSCE Upcoming/Recent Events

- ⇒ **Regional Seminar on Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs) and Traveller Identification Management**, 8-10 April 2014, Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The OSCE will support ICAO with organizing this event which will address international travel document standards and best practices, assistance and capacity-building needs of States, identification management and related border-security issues. For more information click [here](#) or contact Ben.Hiller@osce.org or Paul.Picard@osce.org
- ⇒ **Conference on The Role of the OSCE in Addressing Current Terrorist Challenges, 28-29 April 2014, Interlaken, Switzerland**. The conference will be organized by the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship with the support of the TNTD/ATU and in close co-operation with ODIHR. The aim of the conference is to address new terrorism-related challenges of particular concern for the international community, and possibly conclude with a list of recommendations which will serve as a basis for further discussions. The themes to be discussed are: Terrorism Financing – addressing kidnapping for ransom; Ensuring legality, transparency and accountability in counter-terrorism; and Responding to the phenomenon of individuals leaving their home country to take part in violent hostilities within or outside the OSCE area ("foreign fighters"). As outlined in the invitation letter, each OSCE participating State is encouraged to register up to three high-level experts on www.polis.osce.org. Partners for Co-operation are invited to register up to two experts. For more information contact Manuel.Marion@osce.org

UN News

UN Security Council Calls for Additional Steps to Prevent Kidnapping for Ransom

On 27 January 2014, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 2133 (2014), calling on Member States to continue expert discussions within the United Nations and other relevant international and regional organizations on additional steps the international community could take to prevent kidnappings and to prevent terrorists from benefiting directly or indirectly from using kidnapping to raise funds or gain political concessions.

In line with the resolution's appeal, the topic of Kidnapping for Ransom (KFR) will feature during the upcoming OSCE conference entitled *The Role of the OSCE in Addressing Current Terrorist Challenges*, to be held on 28-29 April 2014 in Interlaken, Switzerland. The conference will be organized by the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship with the support of the Action against Terrorism Unit of the Transnational Threats Department (TNTD/ATU), in close co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

The full text of the resolution is available [here](#)

Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

The President of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA) recently announced the dates of 12-13 June 2014 for the next review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Since September 2006, Member States have reviewed the strategy biennially. The review in 2014 will specifically encourage participants to focus on their experience with the implementation of national strategies, especially with regard to addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.

Relatedly, TNTD recently send out a request to OSCE participating States to provide information on national strategies/action plans on countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT) as well as legislation to criminalize incitement to commit terrorist acts (as highlighted on p.4). A first updated inventory is planned in time for the OSCE Counter-Terrorism Conference to be convened by the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship on 28-29 April in Interlaken, Switzerland. Subsequently, this information will be shared at the UNGA review.

UN 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 10 January 2014, Georgia 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).
- ⇒ The European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) held its 65th plenary meeting on 2-5 December 2013 in Strasbourg, during which it approved the *Draft Recommendation on Dangerous Offenders*.
- ⇒ On 12 December 2013, the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL) published a report assessing progress by the Holy See (including the Vatican City State) on measures to combat money laundering and financing of terrorism.
- ⇒ On 3 December 2013, the European Court of Human Rights held a Chamber hearing in the cases of *Al Nashiri v. Poland* and *Husayn (Abu Zubaydah) v. Poland*, which concerned the CIA secret detention sites.
- ⇒ On 12 December 2013, the European Court of Human Rights delivered its judgment in the case of *Donohoe v. Ireland*, where it ruled that the non-disclosure of police sources did not make the trial of a member of the IRA unfair.