

Press Release

The Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS) and the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT) sign an agreement to reinforce collaboration in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism

Vienna, 8 September 2021 – Today, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General of the [United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism](#) (UNOCT), Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, and the Secretary-General Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States ([IPA CIS](#)), Mr. Dmitry Kobitsky, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen the cooperation between the two organizations in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism.

The signature of the agreement took place on the margins of the First Global Parliamentary Summit on Counter-Terrorism and builds on the existing partnership between the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS).

The Memorandum of Understanding aims at promoting parliamentary engagement for a balanced implementation of the [United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy](#). UNOCT and IPA CIS commit to ensure effective coordination of joint initiatives and cooperate on the development of legislative acts and frameworks addressing terrorism and violent extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism.

During the signing ceremony, Mr. Voronkov stressed the importance of parliamentary assemblies and legislators as the cornerstones of effective counter-terrorism efforts based on ‘whole-of-society’ approaches. He also acknowledged the critical role played by parliamentarians in facilitating a comprehensive and balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

This agreement with IPA CIS will contribute to further enhance UNOCT’s engagement with parliamentary assemblies in addition to the other agreements already signed with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), and Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE PA).

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