



UNOCT



Усиление Устойчивости к Насильственному  
Экстремизму в Азии

СОВМЕСТНОЕ ПАРТНЕРСТВО ЕС И ООН

Strengthening Resilience Against Violent  
Extremism in Asia

A JOINT EU-UN PARTNERSHIP

---

**STRIVE ASIA**

---

**Press Release**

Roundtable Discussion on “The role of Parliamentarians in the implementation of National Action Plans for addressing terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism”

**Doha, 14 December 2021** – Today, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) of the United Nations Office on Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the United Nations Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), kick-started a two-day-roundtable discussion on “The Role of Parliamentarians in the implementation of National Action Plans for addressing terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism,” in Doha, Qatar.

The objective of the roundtable was to initiate a dialogue among Central Asian parliamentarians, together with Parliamentary Assemblies and international organizations on the role of parliamentarians in facilitating National Action Plans (NAPs) processes. Participants discussed international standards and good practices, as well as challenges and opportunities, in this area.

The event brought together over 80 participants from Central Asia, including Members of Parliament and Parliamentary Assemblies, experts on preventing and countering violent extremism, United Nations agencies, and international, regional, and specialized organizations.

The opening session included statements by Ms. Natalia Gherman, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNRCCA and Mr. Mauro Miedico, Chief of the Special Projects Implementation Branch of UNOCT.

Speakers reaffirmed their commitment to having a collaborative approach to the current security challenges in order to achieve a future free of terrorism.

The opening session was followed by presentations of the National Action Plans of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. During this session, Central Asian countries discussed the implementation of their respective national counter-terrorism and extremism strategies, and challenges and opportunities.

Thereafter, sessions regarding the Role of Parliamentary Assemblies in the implementation of NAPs and the UN's engagement with Parliamentarians were held. These sessions were attended by, *inter alia*, representatives of the Andean Parliament, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, the African Parliamentary Union, the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union, officials from UNODC, UNRCCA, UNOCT's Office on Parliamentary Engagement, and UNDP, among others.

The Roundtable was held within the framework of the EU-UN STRIVE Asia initiative and the regional joint UNCCT and UNRCCA project entitled "Towards the Implementation of the Joint Plan of Action for the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia". It was organized with the support of the UNOCT Program Office in Doha on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism and in cooperation with the Shura Council of the State of Qatar.

#### **Quotes from speakers at the opening session**

##### **Ms. Natalia Gherman, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNRCCA**

*"...regional cooperation between the parliaments of the Central Asian states is very important. It is a vital component of the process of rapprochement, openness and mutual understanding that characterizes the Central Asian region and is a manifestation of the political will of all Heads of State."*

##### **Mr. Miedico, Chief of the Special Projects Implementation Branch of UNOCT**

*"Parliaments play a crucial role in preventing and countering terrorism as Parliaments are normally vested with the authority to propose, amend, and adopt legislation, including in the sphere of counter-terrorism, which means that they could facilitate the implementation of NAPs to implement National Strategies to Counter Terrorism and Extremism in Central Asian countries."*

\*\*\*\*

*For more information, please contact:*

Ms. Laurence Gerard, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), [gerardl@un.org](mailto:gerardl@un.org)