



PRESS RELEASE

**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM CONCLUDES WORKSHOP ON ONLINE PREVENTION AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA**

**Bangkok, 21 November 2023** – The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) through its United Nations Counter-Terrorism Center (UNCCT) concluded a nine-day regional workshop on Online Prevention and Countering of Violent Extremism (PCVE) in Bangkok, Thailand. Held in partnership with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the workshop provided advanced technical training in strategic communications to 16 emerging young leaders from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand.

Opening the workshop through a recorded statement, **UNOCT/UNCCT Deputy Director, Mr. Steven Siqueira**, highlighted the importance of countering online extremism through collaboration across communities, emphasizing the role of youth leaders in combatting the spread of violent extremism through concerted community engagement. *“This workshop marks an important milestone, not only in your capacity to implement and deliver effective strategic communications for enhancing community resilience, but also in your ability as young leaders within your communities to prevent violent extremism and help us shape a safer future,”* he said.

The workshop built on a 3-week online training delivered to the youth participants in October 2023, which covered introductions to violent extremism and PCVE strategic communications. Delivered by UNCCT’s Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE), the in-person workshop focused on the development of tailored community resilience campaigns, and introduced a Training of Trainers model, empowering the young leaders to be able to pass on their strategic communications skills by delivering training in their respective communities.

In the coming months, the young leaders will guide the finalization of the Training of Trainers Tool for Campaign Design, and will join UNOCT’s Alumni Youth Network, which seeks to connect diverse youth from across the globe and amplify their collaborative PCVE efforts.

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) [Global PCVE Programme](#) provides tailored technical assistance to beneficiaries worldwide in a range of areas. The Online Radicalization and Strategic Communications Portfolio works to strengthen the capacity of Member States, civil society, UN entities, and regional organizations to use strategic communications as one of the tools in PVE intervention, specifically to prevent the appeal of terrorism. The project offers training, capacity-building assistance, and remote mentorship to requesting entities in strategic communications in the PVE context.

Financial support for this workshop was provided by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade as part of a UNOCT South-East Asia initiative.

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