

PRESS RELEASE

UNOCT Launches Parliamentary Handbook on the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373

Istanbul, Türkiye – May 8, 2024 - The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism launched a new Handbook for parliamentarians on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001). The launch took place during the Fifth Counter-Terrorism Coordination Meeting of Parliamentary Assemblies, with keynote speeches from Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, and Mr. Weixiong Chen, Deputy Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

Addressing participants at the launch, **Mr. Voronkov** said *“With the current challenges facing global counterterrorism efforts, this Handbook is designed to ensure that national counterterrorism measures are developed, promulgated, and implemented in accordance with international human rights and humanitarian laws. It aims to raise awareness, provide concrete guidance, and share good practices to support parliamentarians in navigating these challenges.”*

Mr. Weixiong Chen highlighted that *“CTED remains firm and ready to continue to work with parliamentarians with a view to achieving our objective as outlined in the Handbook, ensuring that our counterterrorism efforts are holistic and inclusive, human rights-compliant, gender-sensitive, and most important of all, effective and impactful.”*

More than 70 representatives from 18 parliamentary assemblies across Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America actively engaged in discussions on the Handbook's relevance and value in parliamentarians' efforts to prevent and counter terrorism. Additionally, more than 40 representatives from national parliaments of Member States, as well as leading UN agencies and other international organizations, participated in the launch event online.

The Handbook serves as a reference tool for parliamentarians as they set out to propose, discuss, amend, and adopt legislation and national strategies related to countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism in all its forms. It also provides an overview of the available opportunities for technical assistance in support of Member States' implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and other resolutions focused on global cooperation to counter the scourge of terrorism.

Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) introduced a significant new dimension to international counterterrorism law by requiring all Member States to criminalize various acts associated with terrorism, as well as with the participation in the financing, planning, preparation, or perpetration of such acts. The resolution emphasizes the need to bring terrorists to justice through effective criminalization and requires that the punishment duly reflect the seriousness of such acts.

Looking ahead, UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism plans to conduct a series of awareness-raising and capacity-building activities worldwide to promote the Handbook's application within national parliaments.

For more information:

- Read and download the handbook at: bit.ly/OCT-PUBLICATIONS
- contact: Gerardl@un.org, Public Information Officer, UNOCT