



## 2021 Counter-Terrorism Week SIDE EVENT



UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN  
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE

برلمان البحر الأبيض المتوسط

# Press Release

## Parliamentarians Join Forces to Mainstream Counter-Terrorism Responses Across Parliamentary Functions on the Occasion of the International Day of Parliamentarism

**New York, 30 June 2021** – The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar co-organized virtually a High-Level Event on “Mainstreaming Counter-Terrorism Responses across Parliamentary Functions” on 30 June 2021 on the margins of the 2021 United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week and on the occasion of the International Day of Parliamentarism. The event was also co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of the Republic of Indonesia and the State of Qatar to the United Nations and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean.

As Member States have the primary responsibility to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and other relevant United Nations resolutions, parliaments and other legislative bodies also have a crucial role to play to facilitate their integrated implementation. As part of the United Nations Global Programme on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism, and as we mark the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, UNOCT has produced a ‘Parliamentary Guide to Facilitate the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy’.

Opening the high-level panel discussion, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism Mr. Vladimir Voronkov noted that the event marked the first activity of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism launched on 16 June 2021. He stated that today’s event presents “a unique opportunity to bring together governments and parliaments whose strong and efficient cooperation is vital to ensure success in the balanced and integrated implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent reviews.”

“Our success in countering terrorism requires a comprehensive and collective response that embraces and strengthens the fundamental role of parliaments as core legislative, oversight and representative institutions”, he underscored.



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Speaker of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, H.E. Mr. Ahmad bin Abdulla bin Zaid Al Mahmoud praised the great work done by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and affirmed the State of Qatar's support for its Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism, which was launched in Doha on June 16, 2021 to be the global centerpiece of capacity-building of parliamentarians and coordinating their efforts in combating terrorism and violent extremism. The Speaker also reiterated the main tasks of the Doha office and the goals it will achieve in the future.

The high-level side event included statements by H.E. Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, H.E. Mr. Wolfgang Sobotka, President of the National Council of the Republic of Austria, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ali Houmed, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Djibouti, H.E. Ms. Roberta Pinotti, Chair of the Committee on Defense of the Senate of the Republic of Italy, Mr. Muhammad Farhan, Member of the Parliament at the House of Representative of the Republic of Indonesia, and Ms. Paloma Valencia, President of the Commission on Human Rights and Vice-President of the First Commission of the Senate of the Republic of Colombia.

All distinguished speakers reiterated their commitments to robust parliamentary action to translate international counter-terrorism obligations into national legislation and policies and pledged to step up parliamentary work for a safer world without terrorism and violent extremism.

The high-level guests were joined by Member States and heads of their counter-terrorism agencies and focal points, parliamentarians, parliamentary assemblies, United Nations entities, other international and regional organizations and civil society.

UNOCT in partnership with H.E. Ms. Alia Bouran, President Emeritus of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean and Senator of Jordan, presented a new 'Parliamentary Guide to Facilitate the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy'. The Strategy and its review resolutions recognize the importance of parliamentary work by specifying legislative and other measures which should be taken by Member States to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism. The new tool will build upon parliamentary functions in support of governments and provide practical guidance to parliamentarians on how they can contribute to the Strategy's implementation nationally, regionally and globally.

Preceding the 2021 Counter-Terrorism Week, on 16 June 2021, UNOCT and the Shura Council of the State of Qatar opened the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism based in Doha, State of Qatar. The new parliamentary office will support parliaments from all over the world building upon partnerships with parliamentary assemblies and entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact.

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For more information:

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