

## OUTCOME DOCUMENT

### Side Event at the Launch and Award Session on "Parliamentary approaches to the use of information and communication technologies in Counter-Terrorism in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1373"

on the margins of  
**THE INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM (IGF)**  
Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**18 December 2024**

*In-person with limited virtual participation*

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) [Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism](#) with the support of [the Shura Council of the State of Qatar](#), and in cooperation with [the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe \(OSCE PA\)](#) organized a side event titled "Parliamentary Approaches to the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Counter-Terrorism in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1373." The event took place on the margins of [the Internet Governance Forum \(IGF\)](#) on 18 December 2024, in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The discussion highlighted the critical role of national parliaments in shaping and implementing counter-terrorism policies that address the challenges posed by emerging technologies. An expert panel shared key recommendations on leveraging ICT, artificial intelligence (AI), and other emerging technologies in counter-terrorism (CT) and preventing violent extremism (PVE). Participants also preliminarily agreed on joint follow-up actions. The event was attended by over 50 in-person participants and 10 online participants.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Side Event titled “Parliamentary Approaches to the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Counter-Terrorism in Accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1373” was held on 18 December 2024, in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on the margins of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF).

The event brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including government representatives, parliamentarians, international and regional parliamentary assemblies, UN bodies, academia, and media. Its objective was to foster dialogue on the challenges and opportunities of using ICT in counter-terrorism, while emphasizing human rights, gender-sensitive approaches, and alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.

The aim of the event was to facilitate dialogue among policymakers, experts, and parliamentarians on the challenges and opportunities presented by ICT in counter-terrorism. It also focused on promoting the development of holistic, inclusive, and human rights-compliant counter-terrorism strategies, with particular emphasis on gender-sensitive approaches and alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Key highlights included contributions from an expert panel featuring Dr. Ahmed El Buckley, International Expert and author of the UN Parliamentary Handbook on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1373; Honourable Mr. Emanuele Loperfido, Vice Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, and Member of the Italian Parliament; Honourable Abdelouahab Yagoubi, Rapporteur on AI of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) and Member of the People’s National Assembly of Algeria; Ms. Jennifer Bramlette, Coordinator for ICT, United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED); and Ms. Akvile Giniotiene, Head of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism / United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNOCT/UNCCT) Cybersecurity & New Technologies Unit. Welcoming remarks were delivered by H.E. Dr. Ahmed bin Hamad Almohanadi, Member of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar; Mr. David Alamos, Chief of the UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement; and Honourable Kamil Aydin, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (via online participation).

Discussions underscored the critical role of national parliaments in shaping counter-terrorism policies in response to the malicious use of emerging technologies. The event highlighted the importance of parliamentary oversight to ensure that technological advancements uphold human rights and enhance global security.

The event concluded with key recommendations on ICT, AI, and emerging technologies in counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism. These recommendations will be disseminated to participants and serve as the foundation for future collaborative actions.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**Adapting to Emerging Threat.** Terrorists are continuously evolving their tactics and strategies, adapting quickly to new environments and countermeasures. Regular reviews of current perceptions and stereotypes about how terrorists use AI, the internet, and virtual reality are essential to stay ahead of these threats. Security forces and policymakers must remain agile to address these rapidly changing dynamics.

**Legal Frameworks for Counter-Terrorism.** Law enforcement agencies cannot operate effectively in a legal vacuum. Clear policies and frameworks are necessary to guide their actions, ensuring that AI and new technologies are used responsibly in counter-terrorism efforts. Moreover, it is critical for security agencies to understand both the threats and the opportunities presented by AI, using it as a tool to enhance counter-terrorism efforts.

**Legislation and Policy Development.** Parliamentarians play a key role in drafting legislation and policies that regulate the development and application of AI and emerging technologies. It is essential that these legal measures align with international human rights standards while providing a framework for the responsible use of technology in counter-terrorism efforts. Among other activities, the recent published living report, prepared by the PAM Centre for Global Studies (CGS) on [“The Malicious Use of AI and Emerging Technologies by Terrorist and Criminal Groups: Impact on Security, Legislation, and Governance”](#), and produced in partnership with the UNSC-CTED and UNOCT, provides Parliamentarians with a comprehensive overview of the misuse of AI and emerging technologies. The report includes a number of recommendations to identify concrete policies to implement effective legislative frameworks.

**Leveraging AI for Counter-Terrorism.** AI and other new technologies are critical in identifying harmful content, such as deep fakes, audio, and video materials used by terrorist groups for radicalization and recruitment. Initiatives like the [OSCE PA’s Resolution on “Artificial Intelligence and the Fight Against Terrorism”](#) urges and advocates participating States to enhance legal frameworks to regulate AI development and use, ensuring human rights and privacy protections, while preventing misuse by terrorists. It encourages criminalizing AI applications for terrorism, establishing independent oversight bodies, and promoting AI-based tools for counter-terrorism aligned with ethical standards. The Assembly recommends mandatory labelling of AI-generated content to combat misinformation, alongside investments in public education and media literacy to reduce online radicalization, as well as calls for robust public-private partnerships to enforce transparency among AI developers, strengthened international cooperation, and the exchange of best practices through multilateral forums like the OSCE.

**Comprehensive Capacity Building for Law Enforcement.** Law enforcement agencies must be adequately equipped and trained to address the evolving challenges posed by AI-driven terrorist and extremist activities. This includes not only detecting and prosecuting crimes facilitated by AI but also leveraging these technologies to prevent and counter terrorism

effectively. Comprehensive training programs and resources are essential to prepare law enforcement and security agencies for these unique challenges, ensuring that all counter-terrorism measures align with international human rights standards.

**Digital Literacy and Education for Countering Extremism.** Governments must prioritize investments in digital literacy and education to empower citizens, particularly young people, to critically analyze information, recognize misinformation, and counter extremist propaganda. The accessibility and low costs of AI have created new opportunities for its exploitation by terrorist organizations, making public awareness and resilience crucial. Integrating AI and new technologies into educational curricula and training programs for all age groups can help individuals identify extremist content and understand its dangers. These efforts will reduce the effectiveness of online radicalization and strengthen societal defences against misuse of emerging technologies.

**Public-Private Sector Collaboration.** Close collaboration between governments, the ICT sector, and the tech industry is essential to ensure that AI technologies are both accessible and secure. Policymakers must engage with technological experts to create safeguards that balance accessibility with safety, preventing misuse by terrorist organizations.

**Protecting Human Rights and Ensuring Justice.** Counter-terrorism efforts must always comply with the respect for human rights. Ensuring the protection of personal data and maintaining justice are crucial to preserving equality and fairness in society. Governments should implement policies that safeguard citizens' rights while combating terrorism effectively.

**International Cooperation and Cross-Border Collaboration.** Enhanced international cooperation is vital to address the global nature of terrorism and the transnational use of AI and new technologies for malicious purposes. Member States must promote cross-border collaboration to ensure effective and consistent efforts in countering terrorism and violent extremism. Parliamentarians should lead efforts in facilitating this cooperation at all levels, ensuring that national efforts align with international standards.

## FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

**Ongoing Collaboration and Coordination.** The UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Prevention and Countering Terrorism, in collaboration with key partners, will continue to foster collaboration among parliamentary assemblies, national parliaments, UN agencies, and other stakeholders. This will involve developing and implementing comprehensive strategies and policies to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism, with a focus on ICT, AI, and emerging technologies. Capacity-building programs and technical assistance will be part of this effort.

**Global Parliamentary Conference on AI and New Technologies.** The UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Prevention and Countering Terrorism in collaboration with the UNOCT/UNCCT Cybersecurity & New Technologies Unit, will seek to organize a

Global Parliamentary Conference in 2025-2026 to explore the role of AI and new technologies in counter-terrorism and PVE. This will aim to provide a platform for parliamentary dialogue and collaboration on effective approaches to these critical issues.

**Training Modules for Parliamentarians.** The UNOCT Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Prevention and Countering Terrorism jointly with the UNOCT/UNCCT Cybersecurity & New Technologies Unit, also plan to develop a training module for parliamentarians and relevant staff to enhance their understanding of AI and new technologies in the context of counter-terrorism and PVE. This training will seek to empower parliamentarians to make informed decisions regarding legislation and policy development, ensuring that their work remains human rights-compliant.

**Dissemination of Expert Recommendations.** The recommendations provided by expert panels will be disseminated to partners, stakeholders, and parliamentary assemblies involved in counter-terrorism efforts. This will facilitate a more coordinated and effective response to the challenges posed by AI and emerging technologies in the fight against terrorism.

### **Additional Information**

#### **Press releases:**

[UNOCT and OSCE PA joint side event highlights Parliamentary Approaches to Use Information and Communication Technologies in Counter-Terrorism Effort](#)

[OSCE PA stresses the key role of legislation and education in preventing violent extremism at the 2024 Internet Governance Forum in Riyadh](#)

[PAM advocates for stronger AI Legislation at the 19th UN Internet Governance Forum](#)

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