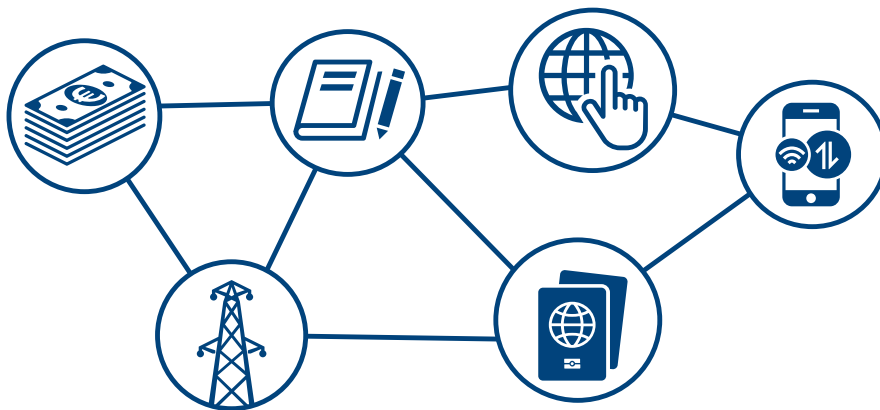


Transnational Threats Department Action against Terrorism Unit



Who we are

The Action against Terrorism Unit of the OSCE Transnational Threats Department supports the OSCE's 57 participating States and 11 Partners for Co-operation in the implementation of their anti-terrorism commitments.

Anti-terrorist activities play a prominent role in the OSCE's overall efforts to address transnational threats. Guided by the 'Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism', the Unit acts as the OSCE focal point, information resource, and implementation partner, providing OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation with a wide range of programmes and activities.

Based on the OSCE's comprehensive and co-operative approach, the Unit promotes multi-stakeholder dialogue, raises awareness and carries out capacity building to prevent and counter terrorism by working closely with the Organization's field presences and executive structures.

The Unit collaborates with international and other regional organizations and promotes public-private partnerships to advance the global counter-terrorism agenda.

OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Conference

In co-operation with the OSCE Chairmanship, the Unit organizes the OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Conference, which brings together high-level representatives, counter-terrorism experts and practitioners,

international and regional organizations, civil society, youth and the private sector to examine emerging threats and explore ways to counter and prevent terrorism at local, regional and global levels.



What we do

The terrorist threat is multi-faceted and evolving. The Action against Terrorism Unit is responsive to the challenges facing the participating States and Partners for Co-operation in countering terrorism.

The Unit carries out a wide range of counter-terrorism programmes and activities:

Promoting implementation of the international legal framework against terrorism

The universal implementation of the international legal framework against terrorism allows for the pursuit and prosecution of terrorists beyond national boundaries based on the uniform criminalization of terrorist acts. The Unit supports OSCE participating States in implementing this framework and promotes with relevant UN bodies and the Global Counterterrorism Forum international legal co-operation in terrorism-related cases.

Preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT)

By engaging civil society, promoting community policing

and strengthening policies on youth participation and gender awareness, the Unit is at the forefront of efforts to promote and facilitate the exchange of good practices in countering incitement to terrorism and preventing terrorist radicalization, while upholding human rights and the rule of law. Upon request, the Unit also assists in developing and implementing comprehensive national strategies and action plans to counter violent extremism and terrorism.

Suppressing the financing of terrorism

To support national efforts to counter terrorist financing, the Unit has developed, in co-operation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, training courses focused on inter-agency co-operation, analysis, investigation, and creating a toolkit for the financial disruption of terrorist networks. The training courses are based on real-world scenarios for intelligence agencies, financial intelligence

units, law enforcement bodies and the judiciary.

Countering the use of the internet for terrorist purposes

The internet is increasingly exploited by terrorists to find, recruit and train new members, collect and transfer funds, organize attacks and incite violence. The Unit works to identify effective counter measures such as an online course, publicly accessible, showing how terrorists manipulate the internet for their own nefarious aims and how to counter this multi-faceted threat.

Protecting non-nuclear critical energy infrastructure

The impact of terrorist attacks on critical energy infrastructure is potentially devastating to society. The Unit engages both the public and the private sectors in crisis management simulation exercises to increase the resilience of such infrastructure to terrorist cyber-attacks.

Strengthening travel document security

Through specially designed capacity-building activities from the perspective of counter-terrorism, the Unit works together with the OSCE Border Security and Management Unit in supporting participating States in attaining membership

in the International Civil Aviation Organization's Public Key Directory, enhancing their use of the Advance Passenger Information system, better detecting forged travel documents and improving identity management systems.

OSCE Counter-Terrorism Network

More than 1,000 counter-terrorism focal points within the OSCE participating States, executive structures and field presences, and regional and international organizations are connected through the web-based Counter-Terrorism Network. The network facilitates exchange on counter-terrorism programmes and legal developments, as well as regional and global terrorism trends. The Unit also produces a bi-monthly newsletter for the Network.

How we work

The OSCE's response to terrorist threats follows a multi-dimensional approach to ensure that counter-terrorism measures comply with human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Unit engages state authorities, the private sector, civil society, media, regional and international organizations, and develops and implements programmes based on innovative methodologies and tools.

These methodologies and tools include:

Interactive training programmes

The multi-year Leaders against Intolerance and Violent Extremism (LIVE) initiative builds the capacity of leaders in civil society, especially youth, women, and community leaders, to speak out and mobilize others against violent extremism that leads to terrorism.

Awareness-raising and strategic communications

The OSCE United in Countering Violent Extremism (#UnitedCVE) campaign seeks to reinforce a global consensus against VERLT, creating opportunities for the public, in

particular youth, to contribute to formulating alternative narratives to violent extremist messaging online and offline.

Table top exercises

Based on specially designed interactive scenarios, exercises have been developed to increase the resilience of national critical energy infrastructure from terrorist cyber-attacks and to promote a whole-of-society approach to address the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters.

E-learning

A publicly accessible, modern online tool offers up-to-date course materials and provides basic knowledge about countering the use of the internet for terrorist purposes.



Through its #UnitedCVE campaign, the Unit engages young people and helps raise awareness of how everyone can contribute to preventing violent extremism.



Discussion between youth leaders during the LIVE programme pilot.

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