

Fact Sheet

OSCE Activities to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism

Countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism following a multi-dimensional approach is a **strategic focus area for OSCE** counter-terrorism activities (PC.DEC/1063). The OSCE has adopted a **comprehensive ministerial declaration** on this issue.

The OSCE is well equipped to contribute to preventing and countering violent extremism (CVE) with its **comprehensive approach to security**, its **dedicated Action against Terrorism Unit** in the Transnational Threats Department, its **network of 17 field operations** closely engaged with their host authorities, its **experience in co-operation with civil society**, and its **specialized institutions** namely the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM), and the High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM).

The OSCE has developed an overall **awareness-raising and capacity building programme** on CVE, which **promotes a multi-dimensional approach to CVE and encourages multi-stakeholder collaboration**. OSCE field operations have become increasingly involved, at the request of their host authorities.

How has the OSCE been engaged in CVE

- **Capacity-building:** National CVE seminars for experts from state authorities, civil society and the media in 7 different countries in South Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Eastern Europe
- **Youth and Civil Society:** Regional expert meetings to explore and identify good practices and recommendations
- **Women and CVE:** Elaborated the good practices adopted in September 2015 by the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) on women and CVE <http://www.osce.org/secretariat/120964>
- **Community-policing:** Published a policy guidebook in six languages on how to leverage community-policing for CVE <http://www.osce.org/atu/111438>
- **Human Rights:** Published a practical manual for law enforcement officers in counter-terrorism investigations <http://www.osce.org/odihhr/108930>
- **Youth Engagement in CVE:** Formulated a comprehensive list of recommendations <http://www.osce.org/secretariat/103352>
- **#UnitedCVE:** an on-going OSCE-wide social media campaign to promote OSCE values in support of the global consensus against violent extremism <http://osce.org/UnitedCVE>

Reference Documents

- Ministerial Council Declaration No. 4/15 on *Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism* <http://www.osce.org/cio/208216>
- Ministerial Council Declaration No. 5/14 on the *OSCE Role in Countering the Phenomenon of Foreign Terrorist Fighters in the Context of the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014)* <http://www.osce.org/node/130546>
- OSCE Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism <http://www.osce.org/pc/98008>
- Overview of OSCE Counter-Terrorism Related Commitments <http://www.osce.org/node/26365>

How is the OSCE contributing to CVE

Regional Dialogue:

OSCE Security Days conference on *Promoting Dialogue to Advance Tolerance and Prevent Radicalization*, held in May 2015 in Vienna

OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Expert Conference held on 30 June – 1 July 2015 in Vienna on “Countering the Incitement and Recruitment of Foreign Terrorism Fighters”

“OSCE United in Countering Violent Extremism” (#UnitedCVE) communication campaign through social media, highlight OSCE values and activities to prevent and counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism across dimensions and executive structures

Regional expert workshop on *Media Freedom and Responsibilities in the Context of Counter Terrorist Policies*, held in October 2015 in Bucharest

Expert workshops on foreign terrorist fighters for both Central Asia and South-east Europe held in February 2015 in Dushanbe and in October 2015 in Sarajevo

OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Expert Conference held on 31 May – 1 June 2016 in Berlin

OSCE-wide Expert Workshop on *Freedom of Expression on the Internet and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism*, held in September 2016 in Sarajevo

Capacity-Building:

Multi-year OSCE “Leaders against Intolerance and Violent Extremism” (LIVE) project to build the capacity of civil society leaders, including youth, women and religious figures, to speak up and mobilize against violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism in their local context

Development of national training based on the OSCE guidebook on community-policing for preventing terrorism

Promoting the integration of gender aspects in policies and measures to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism, including operational responses

National capacity-building, through field operations, examples:

- Series of national policy seminars on preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism
- Capacity-building programme in Tajikistan since 2011, including field research, Parents against Terrorism” awareness-raising campaign, and support to the development of a national CVE strategy and Action Plan
- Support to the development of a national counter-terrorism strategy in Serbia
- Support to the development of a local CVE strategy and action plan by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo
- Support to “local coalitions against hate” in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Support to a Dialogue on Prevention of Violent Extremism in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in support of implementation of the national counter-terrorism strategy
- Table-top exercises in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania with the Partnership for Peace Consortium