

---

**Second day of the Twenty-Second Meeting**  
MC(22) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

## **MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON REINFORCING OSCE EFFORTS TO COUNTER TERRORISM IN THE WAKE OF RECENT TERRORIST ATTACKS**

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, are horrified by the deadly terrorist attacks against civilians that occurred across the OSCE area and in its neighbourhood in 2015; we offer heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims, and to the people and governments that have been targeted, and wish a speedy recovery to those who were injured.

We condemn unequivocally and in the strongest terms all terrorist attacks, including the indiscriminate killing of civilians and the deliberate targeting of individuals and communities, *inter alia* on the basis of their religion or belief, in particular by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, also known as DAESH (ISIL/DAESH), Al-Nusrah Front (ANF), and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, which constitute a global and unprecedented threat to international peace and security.

We reaffirm that terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed, and that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any race, religion, nationality or civilization.

We are committed to reinforcing our efforts to address the threat of terrorism, including the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, and to this aim to continue to fully implement OSCE commitments in the field of preventing and combating terrorism, as well as UN Security Council resolutions 2170, 2178, 2199 and 2249.

We recall that participating States shall prevent and suppress the financing of terrorist acts, and shall refrain from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, including by suppressing recruitment of members of terrorist groups and eliminating the supply of weapons to terrorists.

We reaffirm our commitment to remain united in combating terrorism and to work together to prevent and suppress terrorist acts, as well as to address the conditions conducive to its spread, through increased international solidarity and co-operation, in full recognition of the central role of the United Nations, and in accordance with the UN Charter and other obligations under applicable international law, in particular international human rights law,

international refugee law and international humanitarian law, as well as through the full implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions and the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

We underscore that respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law are complementary and mutually reinforcing with effective counter-terrorism measures, and are an essential part of a successful counter-terrorism effort, and note the importance of the respect for the rule of law so as to effectively prevent and combat terrorism.

We reiterate our determination and commitment to co-operate fully in preventing and countering terrorism in accordance with our obligations under international law in order to find, deny safe haven to and bring to justice, on basis of the principle of “extradite or prosecute”, any person who supports, facilitates, participates in or attempts to participate in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or provides safe havens.

We stress that terrorism can only be defeated by a sustained and comprehensive approach involving the active participation and co-operation of all participating States and relevant international and regional organizations, as well as, where appropriate, civil society, to impede, impair, isolate and incapacitate terrorist threat.

We recall relevant OSCE documents adopted in the field of countering terrorism, in particular Permanent Council Decision No. 1063 on the OSCE Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism, and Ministerial Council Declaration 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).

We are convinced that combating terrorism, in accordance with OSCE principles and commitments, requires comprehensive and sustained efforts, in addressing the manifestations of terrorism, as well as the various social, economic, political and other factors, which might engender conditions in which terrorist organizations could engage in recruitment and win support, while recognizing that none of these conditions can excuse or justify acts of terrorism.

We reaffirm the steadfast determination of the participating States to protect the fundamental principles on which the OSCE is based, and to implement all OSCE commitments, particularly those related to preventing and combating terrorism, including the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters to countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism, to respecting human rights and the rule of law and to fostering tolerance and non-discrimination, mutual respect and understanding in our societies.