



Second day of the Fourteenth Meeting
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**BRUSSELS MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
ON SUPPORTING AND PROMOTING THE INTERNATIONAL
LEGAL FRAMEWORK AGAINST TERRORISM**

We, the members of the Ministerial Council of the OSCE, reaffirm our strong determination to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as a crime that has no justification, whatever its motivation or origin and to continue and reinforce OSCE counter-terrorism activities in line with existing OSCE commitments.

We emphasize that measures to conduct this fight must be undertaken with full respect for the rule of law, and in accordance with our obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.

We are convinced of the importance of reinforcing the international legal framework against terrorism, comprised of the universal conventions and protocols related to the prevention and the suppression of terrorism, relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, the recently adopted United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as regional and bilateral legal instruments related to terrorism.

We call on the OSCE participating States to implement the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding the fight against terrorism.

We welcome the significant progress achieved in the participating States' compliance with the Bucharest Ministerial commitment to become party to the 12 anti-terrorism conventions and protocols, with 46 participating States being party to all 12 instruments that are currently in force.

We call on those OSCE participating States which have not yet done so to make every effort to become party without delay to the universal conventions and protocols against terrorism currently in force, and to implement them, in particular through criminalization of related offences in their national legislation.

We reiterate our call on the OSCE participating States to consider becoming parties to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and support continuing efforts to adopt a comprehensive convention on international terrorism on terms that advance the international community's counter-terrorism objectives.

We call on participating States to consider becoming parties to regional and subregional legal instruments related to terrorism or legal co-operation in criminal matters adopted by organizations to which we belong, as well as — whenever appropriate to fill gaps in existing legal instruments — to conclude bilateral agreements on mutual legal assistance and extradition, in order to be able to co-operate fully, in accordance with the rules applicable under domestic and international law, in efforts to find and to bring to justice perpetrators, organizers, supporters and sponsors of terrorist acts, on the basis of the principle to extradite or prosecute.

We will continue exchanging information, including through the Permanent Council and the Forum for Security Co-operation, on progress achieved in becoming party to international, regional and bilateral legal instruments against terrorism and on legal co-operation in criminal matters, as well as on developments in the national legislation related to terrorism.

We welcome work done so far by the OSCE structures, institutions and field presences, in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Council of Europe and other relevant regional organizations, to strengthen the legal regime against terrorism by promoting the implementation of participating States' obligations under the universal and regional anti-terrorism instruments to which they are party, and facilitating international legal co-operation in criminal matters, and encourage them to continue to do so.

We will also continue to develop interaction and dialogue on the issues of supporting and promoting the international legal framework against terrorism with the Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation.