



Remarks by Mr. Raffi Gregorian,  
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"Our Common Agenda" and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Efforts

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Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning, good afternoon or good evening to all of you, from wherever you may be joining us. My thanks to the Permanent Missions of Norway and the United Arab Emirates as well as our partners from INTERPOL and the Global Center on Cooperative Security for organizing this timely event.

This has been a year of deep reflection regarding the international response to terrorism. Twenty years have passed since the Security Council adopted resolution 1373 and galvanized international counter-terrorism efforts in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

This past June, we held a successful Second UN Counter-Terrorism Week, during which Member States agreed on the most substantive and comprehensive review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy since its adoption 15 years ago.

The General Assembly also noted in its declaration on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations, that terrorism remains a serious threat to international peace and security and a priority for Member States.

As we just heard from Assistant Secretary-General Turk, the Secretary-General shares these concerns. His report on *Our Common Agenda* identifies terrorism as a 'strategic security risk' that requires continued cooperation as part of a *New Agenda for Peace*.

While the Secretary-General has often noted that terrorist groups are present in many of the protracted conflicts with which the international community is grappling, it is useful to pause for a moment to consider what this means.

First of all, when referring to terrorism in protracted conflicts, we are speaking mainly of Al-Qaida, Da'esh and their affiliates or splinter groups that have grafted themselves onto local insurgencies

So in developing the *New Agenda for Peace*, we need to ask ourselves whether the threat landscape in 2023, shaped by transformative technologies, will require another step change like the one from represented by UNSCR 1373 to UNSCR 2178? Or how to adapt today's whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to stay relevant to the evolving nature of the terrorist threat?

That is because we go from a whole-of-government approach to a whole-of-society approach.

The High-Level Conference on Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism and the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism that we will convene next year will further advance this important work, as will the new Human Rights and Gender Section we are standing up next month within UNOCT.

Consistent with the United Nations 2.0 proposed by the Secretary-General, we have positioned ourselves to leverage behavioural sciences and innovation for cutting edge policy and programming, including through our International Hub in Doha.

UNOCT is embracing the opportunities offered by new technologies to connect, collaborate and deliver more efficiently and effectively - while supporting Member States to both mitigate the vulnerabilities caused