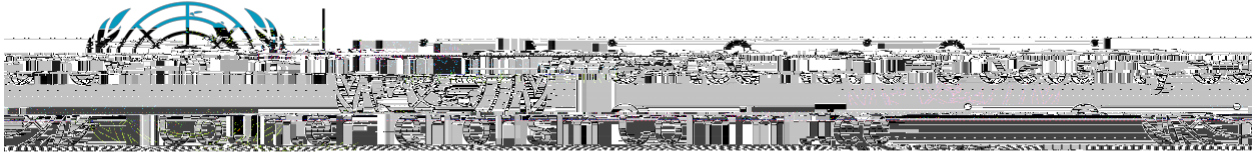


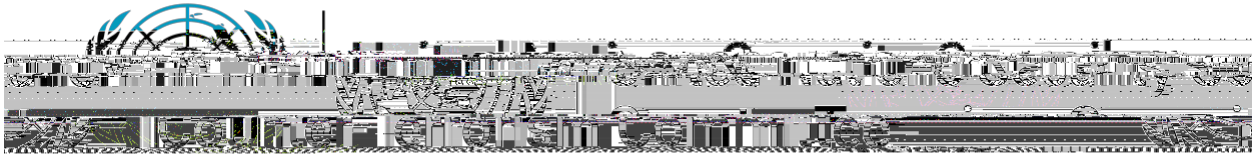
# Global survey of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant resolutions by Member States

## Executive summary

The nature of the global terrorist threat has continued to evolve since 2016, compelling Member States to adapt their policies and approaches to address new challenges and existing gaps in their counter-terrorism measures. Those challenges include the evolution of the foreign terrorist fighter (FTF) threat; the rising threat of terrorism in conflict areas; the emergence of new terrorist methodologies; the growing threat of **terrorist attacks on the basis of xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance**,<sup>1</sup> along with the growing emergence of some transnational linkages between such terrorist groups, and most recently, the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic.



**West Africa** faces an extremely high terrorist threat. The dramatic increase in terrorist activity in the subregion is primarily due to two groups: Jama'at Nusrat al Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM) and the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS). Although the territorial presence and activity of Al-Qaida and its affiliates (particularly Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM)) was initially limited to the extreme north of Mali, it has now expanded across large areas of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. The growing strength of ISIL in West Africa has compounded the terrorist threat and

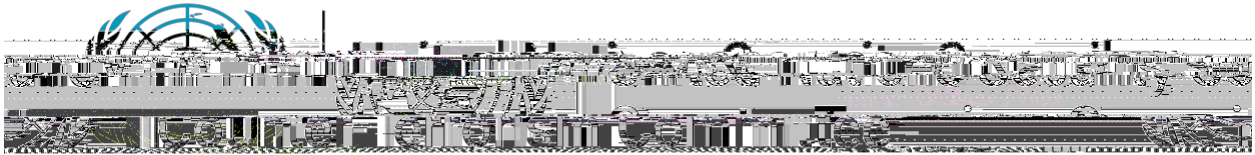


Ten of the 12 Member States of **Western Asia** have been affected by terrorist attacks. The fragility of the political and security situation in some of the States continues to warrant vigilance. ISIL remains an active terrorist threat within the borders of some States of this subregion, including States experiencing a fragile political and security situation. ISIL views that most of those States should observe a stricter interpretation of religious teachings. The proximity to the armed conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic and the activities of various terrorist organizations continue to greatly exacerbate the terrorist risk to Western Asia, owing in part to the continued displacement of people from Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, causing continued cross-border security concerns and significant political and economic tensions for States located in this subregion.

Although the **East Asia** subregion was believed to be largely untouched by the conflicts in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, reports indicate that ISIL and affiliated groups did recruit individuals from this subregion as FTFs.

The terrorism risk to States of the **Pacific Islands** subregion is low, owing to their isolated geographic location, transport limitations, their small size and populations (factors that limit anonymity), and their relatively small financial and commercial sectors. No State of this subregion has experienced a terrorist attack.

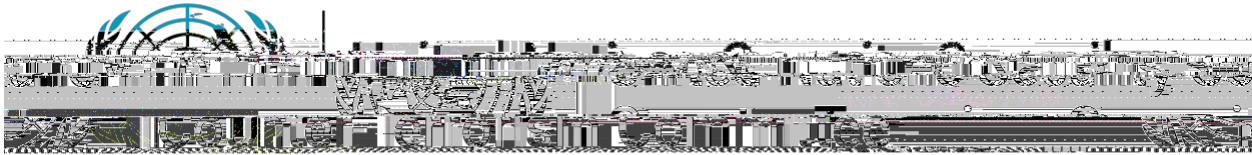
The **Central America** subregion faces challenges relating to violence and corruption stemming from organized crime and drug trafficking. Even though the terrorist threat remains low, States of the subregion have continued to strengthen their counter-terrorism efforts, primarily within the framework of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States (OAS/CICTE). Recent evidence indicates that criminal organizations may be adopting tactics **similar to those** associated with terrorist organizations and that new trends and cells inspired by violent extremism conducive to terrorism have surfaced in the subregion.



Small numbers of South American nationals are known to have travelled to the conflict zones of Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic in support of ISIL.



Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) within the framework of its dialogue with Member States on behalf of the Counter-



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In designing PRR-related laws, policies and measures, only a few States have conducted meaningful public consultations that include all relevant stakeholders, in particular communities most affected by terrorism. Inclusive and participatory law and policymaking on often sensitive PRR issues will promote the legitimacy and thereby the effectiveness of the resulting measures.

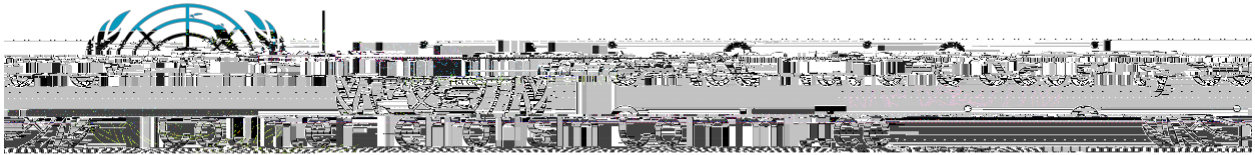
Member States also face considerable challenges in their efforts to develop and implement measures aimed **at preventing and countering terrorism in the context of armed conflict**. Armed conflicts (in particular, those of a protracted nature) and the resulting violence, instability, and breakdown of rule-of-law institutions act as drivers of violent extremism that may lead to terrorism. Such conditions can render individuals and communities vulnerable to recruitment, including through the exploitation of deep-rooted grievances caused by the conflict and the often-associated governance and accountability gap. Moreover, conflict-related institutional, social and economic vulnerabilities may also significantly undermine counter-terrorism efforts and impair their long-term sustainability.

The Security Council has regularly stressed that Member States' efforts to prevent and combat terrorism and violent extremism must comply with their obligations under international law, including **international humanitarian law**. The Council has also underlined that counter-terrorism strategies should aim to ensure sustainable peace and security and that respect for international law is essential to the success of counter-terrorism efforts. The associated obligations are particularly relevant in the context of addressing the FTF phenomenon.

Terrorism and violent extremism can be significant contributing factors to humanitarian crises, including complex emergencies resulting from a combination of natural and man-made elements, such as severe climatic disasters and armed conflict. Emergencies of this nature require a swift and effective humanitarian response that is delivered in a neutral, independent and impartial manner. Terrorist activity also endangers humanitarian actors and can undermine humanitarian action. ISIL and other terrorist groups have declared aid workers "legitimate targets" and called on their followers to "fight" humanitarian organizations.

In their efforts to guarantee the **criminal accountability** of FTFs, States' criminal justice systems have been required to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate conduct perpetrated thousands of miles away, often in conflict zones experiencing a breakdown of rule-of-law institutions and the proliferation of armed non-State actors. Effectively prosecuting related conduct perpetrated in conflict zones requires the use, consistent with internationally recognized fair trial standards, of non-traditional types of information and evidence, including e-evidence, open source and social media intelligence, and information collected or obtained from conflict zones, including by military actors. This presents significant challenges for many States which, if left unaddressed, may lead to impunity and denial of justice to victims of terrorism and to society more broadly.

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**Terrorists and terrorist groups continue to raise funds** through, inter alia, abuse of legitimate enterprises and non-profit organizations, exploitation of natural resources, donations, crowdfunding, and the proceeds of criminal activity, including kidnapping for ransom, extortion, illicit trade and trafficking in cultural property, trafficking in persons, drug trafficking and the illicit trade in SALW. These funds are moved not only by “traditional” means, such as formal banking systems, financial institutions, money service businesses or informal financial networks and cash-couriers, but also through the use of emerging payment methods such as prepaid cards, mobile wallets or virtual assets.

Member States have increasingly introduced amendments to their countering the financing of terrorism (CFT) legislation to address the requirements of the relevant Council resolutions, recommendations made by the Counter-Terrorism Committee pursuant to its country assessment visits, and mutual evaluations and follow-up processes of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the FATF-



often traverse, the increasing presence of unofficial border crossing points (BCPs), and the use of broken travel pose significant challenges to Member States in this regard.

Member States have also continued to confront the threat posed by terrorist **exploitation of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICTs), including social media,**