



FOR A SAFER WORLD

POUR UN MONDE
PLUS SÛR

OUTCOME DOCUMENT

MANAGING FOREIGN TERRORISTS FIGHTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

With the involvement of the Global Coalition to defeat Da'esh, the last territorial bastions of Da'esh's so called caliphate have finally fallen. Da'esh is now dispersing into a network of diffuse branches, and continues to pose a serious threat to international peace and security.

In this context, whilst some foreign terrorist fighters in Eastern Syria have been killed in conflict, as others have sought, sometimes with their relatives, to escape the fighting and to relocate to other regions or countries, or even return to their country of origin or their country of departure, where they may pose a national security threat.

There is a risk that these foreign terrorist fighters will scatter, including those who are currently under the detention of the Syrian Democratic Forces in North-eastern Syria, as well as the women and children associated with Da'esh who are maintained in internally displaced persons camps. If the humanitarian conditions were to deteriorate, they may blend into new migratory flows headed to neighbouring countries or to Europe. Exploiting these flows could constitute a serious terrorist threat to all G7 countries and beyond.

G7 Ministers of Interior have mobilised to strengthen the monitoring of foreign terrorist fighters and their accompanying relatives. In the context of Daesh's territorial decline, the issue has become more acute now.

Some concrete issues now arising include the potential active management of the return of foreign terrorist fighters and their accompanying family members, their legal prosecution as appropriate, the prevention of radicalisation to violence in



prisons, monitoring foreign terrorist fighters following their prison sentences, in compliance with applicable law, as well as reintegration into society in due course, when applicable.

Thus, the G7 Ministers of Interior commit to the following:

- Implement the relevant obligations and recommendations for the management of foreign terrorist fighters, specifically those addressed in UN Security Council Resolutions 2396, 2178 and 2242, and the Madrid Guiding Principles of 15 December 2015 and its addendum, adopted on 27 December 2018;
- Establish systems to enable the identification of foreign terrorist fighters and associated travellers, using data collected during passenger check-in procedures (such as Advance Passenger Information, or API) and data from Passenger Name Records (PNR) based upon the international standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), to promote the harmonisation of the data formats and support ICAO to establish an international standard for the responsible use and protection of PNR data;
- Ensure systematic checks against relevant databases of foreign terrorist fighters in custody in conflict zones;
- Bolster external border controls through the modernisation of national information systems in place, facilitating their interoperability and the systematic checks of all travellers at the external borders against relevant national, regional and international databases (including Interpol's I-24/7 system as appropriate), and promoting the systematic integration of biometric data to prevent identity fraud;
- Pool all available resources among G7 members to enhance the military-to-law enforcement transfer, collection, storage, and analysis of battlefield data and objects, in a manner consistent with applicable law, while also encouraging sharing this information through different platforms, including Interpol, and allow for and encourage its proper use and admissibility, pursuant to national law, during criminal proceedings, investigations or for preventive or law enforcement purposes;



- Ensure that all foreign terrorist fighters who are or were in conflict zones are held accountable for their actions and that their prosecution is successful and led in a manner consistent with applicable national and international law;
- Provide support and training, in terms of information and intelligence sharing and cooperation in law enforcement and criminal matters, to potential home, departure and transit countries for foreign terrorist fighters and their family members, in order to ensure their effective prosecution, including with the support of UNODC and the UN Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (UN CTED);
- Enhance, if needed, national legal frameworks to allow legal proceedings to be systematically initiated against all nationals travelling for terrorist purposes, whether to reach battlefields or to engage in or materially support terrorist activities in another state;
- Endow their national legal authorities with extraterritorial jurisdiction allowing for the prosecution of foreign terrorist fighters when they engage in or materially support terrorist activities outside national territory, upon their return to their countries and with respect to the competence of the state where the crime were committed;
- Enhance the monitoring of detainees in prisons, ensure the appropriate training of prison staff in order to detect and prevent radicalisation of others to violence, specifically when it comes to foreign terrorist fighters incarcerated upon their return from conflict areas, including by implementing best practice approaches to rehabilitation of violent extremist prisoners;
- Implement, as consistent with national law, specific intelligence systems to ensure the monitoring of radicalised convicts inciting violence or persons who were charged with terrorist offences upon their being released from prison on the basis of a risk assessment, in coordination with relevant local and central authorities, multidisciplinary stakeholders, and civil society in order to foster social reintegration;
- Promote the management of minors upon their return from combat zones respecting international law and juvenile justice standards for returning children, if subject to criminal investigation, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, as applicable, and within a safeguarding framework including appropriate trauma informed care and



psychological, educational and academic support, and operating with the participation of the relevant local authorities, underlining that children should be considered as victims;

- Alongside national security measures, support intervention programming and capacity building for front-line workers and practitioners who may be called upon to support the disengagement and rehabilitation of foreign terrorist fighters, and their relatives, from violent extremist ideologies. These interventions do not replace, prevent or exclude monitoring and investigating by security agencies;
- Implement the aforementioned commitments in full compliance with human rights and the rule of law.

The G7 Ministers of Interior are calling for the Roma-Lyon Group to ensure the monitoring of the implementation of these commitments by the G7 countries, and to compare the systems and actions taken to manage the return of foreign terrorist fighters and their accompanying family members, from their arrival upon national territory to their reintegration into society, as applicable, taking into account existing good practices documents, including the Good Practices on Addressing the Challenge of Returning Families of Foreign Terrorist Fighters of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF); and to share the best practices, on implementing these commitments outside of the G7, supporting other nations to do so as well.

