2017 Chairmanship OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Conference
Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and

Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism
23 – 24 May 2017, Hofburg, Vienna

ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES

Conference goals

The conference will focus on preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. The conference will build upon the ministerial documents adopted at the Hamburg and Belgrade Ministerial Councils. To further this goal, it is foreseen to have a list of recommendations issued by the Chairmanship as an outcome of the conference.

Participants

The suggested level of participants for this event is deputy ministers, national counter-terrorism coordinators, senior experts and practitioners, as noted in the invitation letter. The OSCE Chairmanship would welcome the participation of up to three experts per OSCE participating State and up to two experts per OSCE Partner for Co-operation.

It is expected that participants will share concrete examples, good practices and lessons learnt on the topics outlined in the indicative agenda. States are strongly encouraged to include at least one senior counter-terrorism expert in their official delegation to the conference, with relevant expertise or experience on preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. Therefore, senior experts from relevant government ministries/institutions, such as the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education/Youth, or Ministry of Foreign Affairs are especially encouraged to attend. Relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations as well as representatives of civil society, including youth, academia, private sector and media, will be invited separately by the Chairmanship and encouraged to bring their perspectives and ideas to the discussion.

Please note that active discussion between participants is considered the most beneficial aspect of this conference. Participants are therefore invited to discuss and share specific experiences, to identify needs and areas of possible improvement, and to utilize panel experts as resources. To promote interactive discussion, formal **statements and interventions** in response to speakers and discussants should focus on concrete examples and recommendations, and be as concise as possible, not exceeding **two to three minutes**.

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and Russian.

Moderators

Each session will be chaired by a moderator who will introduce the keynote speakers and a discussant who will facilitate a reaction on the keynote discussions. Moderators will also strictly enforce time limits and will ensure that speakers, discussants and participants limit their presentations and contributions to substantive issues only. Moderators are expected to serve as rapporteurs in the sense of summarizing the presentations and discussions, as well as suggesting how the OSCE, building on its expertise and structures, could continue working in this field, complementing efforts of international/regional organizations. These conclusions will be presented by moderators to the participants in the concluding session. Moderators should receive keynote speakers' and discussants' short biography beforehand to be able to introduce them to the audience.

Keynote Speakers

Each working session will have a limited number of keynote speakers. Speakers will limit their presentations to concrete examples, good practices and lessons learnt that enrich OSCE's discussions. They will make every effort to include suggestions for potential policy recommendations, and/or follow up activities for/with the OSCE, offer thoughts for further consideration, and suggest possible national and/or regional and international action for meeting the challenges.

Each keynote presentation should be of maximum 6-8 minutes. Keynote speakers should then be ready to engage in debate, including with the discussant, following their presentations. Keynote presentations and remarks should be sent to Irina.Donciu@osce.org and Koen.DeSmedt@osce.org two weeks in advance. Keynote speakers are expected to agree to circulate their remarks to all participants. The institutional background of each speaker will be introduced by the moderator allowing the speaker to devote his presentation fully and only to the topic itself.

Discussants

The discussant's primary role will be to help the audience understand the complexity of the topic and, in particular, the significance of the keynote presentations by offering constructive critique. The discussant will, in a maximum of 6-8 minutes, pose challenging questions, and identify key themes across the presentations. The discussant will raise critical issues for both the keynote speakers and the audience to consider, and encourage participants to contribute with their views and experience. The discussant will propose new ideas, and offer alternative views. By reflecting on points highlighted by keynote speakers and the discussions, the discussant will provide concise remarks, focusing on recommendations and suggestions for concrete follow-up action.

Statements/contributions from the floor

Participants are invited to contribute to the discussions with statements/short contributions. They will **not be more than 2-3 minutes**. Institutional background/promotion of the activities of other organizations should be avoided. They will focus on concrete examples and lessons learned directly related to the subject of the session. They may include suggestions for potential policy recommendations and/or follow-up action in the form of deliverables. Delegations, non-governmental experts, and international and regional organizations are requested to pre-register their intention to contribute with short statements from the floor using the registration form.

Side Events

There are rooms available for six (6) side events should participants wish to organize one. Requests are processed on a first come, first served basis upon receipt of the side event registration form and in co-ordination with the OSCE Chairmanship.

Note: In order to allow for interactive discussions, the OSCE Chairmanship welcomes proposals from the OSCE participating States, international organizations and civil society before **April 17, 2017** and will invite a limited number of keynote speakers for each working session. As in the past conferences, early identification of pre-registered interventions from the floor of 2-3 minutes will help the conference to organize the sequence of the responses and allow the discussant and keynote speakers to adequately respond to the questions and raise points for later recommendations. Please contact before the above indicated deadline the OSCE Secretariat who will work with the Chairmanship to accommodate the proposals in the annotated agenda.