



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

# 139<sup>th</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 14-18.10.2018

## Panel discussion

### *The role of Parliaments in combating terrorism and violent extremism*

*Tuesday, 16 October 2018, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Salle Genève, CCV Annexe building, CICG*

#### Concept note

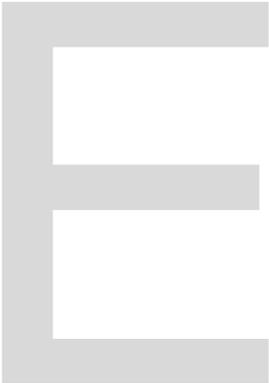
Terrorism has been a primary concern for the global community for a long time, and increasingly so in the past two decades. The 12 resolutions on counter-terrorism adopted by the IPU since 1996 highlight the need for cooperation with relevant United Nations (UN) organizations to support and unite efforts to combat this scourge. This is foreseen through the implementation of UN strategies, including the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as of the recommendations for IPU Members in the resolutions adopted both within the IPU and the UN. All these resolutions lay the foundations for a comprehensive and integrated response to terrorism at the national and international levels.

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is a milestone in the multilateral counter-terrorism domain. It underscores the role parliamentarians and legislative bodies should play in its implementation and in ensuring that States comply with their obligations under international law.

In October 2015, the IPU held a high-level panel discussion on parliamentary action in meeting international commitments to counter terrorism. The panel discussion evaluated the current threat of terrorism, identified implementation gaps, and empowered parliamentarians worldwide by familiarizing them with the major UN counter-terrorism resolutions. The panellists made several recommendations to ensure that parliamentary resolutions were transformed into a concrete plan of action, including the establishment of a dedicated body within the IPU to deal with preventing and countering terrorism. The recommendations stressed the importance of facilitating the exchange of relevant information and good practices between parliaments and parliamentarians, and of facilitating dialogue between parliamentarians, practitioners, and civil society.

This panel discussion comes in a context of robust cooperation between the IPU and the UN embodied in a proposed trilateral agreement between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT) and the IPU, which will be presented to the Governing Bodies at the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly.

The discussion will provide a platform to prompt meaningful exchanges to allow Members to better understand their role in the field of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. The dialogue will also highlight the role that the IPU and the UN can play in order to better equip parliaments in this field.



#IPU139

### **Modalities**

The participants will receive information about the proposed trilateral agreement between the IPU-UNOCT-UNODC through a presentation by the Secretariat and a video clip.

The participants will then hear a presentation on the work of other United Nations agencies and other organizations regarding counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism (UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP, the World Bank, etc.).

The third part of the panel discussion will consist of a presentation on the trends of terrorism by the Institute for Economics and Peace and a presentation on the cultural misuse of terrorism.

Lastly the participants will also hear the stories of victims of terrorism from different regions of the world.