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Documentation of the Work of the Human Rights Council (HRC)



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Conference B

Human Rights Council (HRC)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

- I. Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism
- II. Contribution of Firearms Regulation to the Protection of Human Rights
- III. Human Rights Violations and Abuses against Rohingya Muslims and Other Minorities in Myanmar

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
HRC/1/1	Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism	Adopted without a vote
HRC/1/2	Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism	Adopted without a vote
HRC/1/3	Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism	32 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 5 abstentions
HRC/1/4	Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism	34 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 3 abstentions
HRC/1/5	Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The Human Rights Council held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism
- II. Contribution of Firearms Regulation to the Protection of Human Rights
- III. Human Rights Violations and Abuses against Rohingya Muslims and Other Minorities in Myanmar

The session was attended by representatives of 38 Member States. On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of I, II, III, beginning discussion on the topic of “Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism.”

The debate on Monday focused on aspects such as economic inclusion, youth empowerment, and long-term approaches to foster development and inclusive societies in order to prevent radicalization. By Tuesday, the Dais had received a total of 7 proposals covering a wide range of subtopics, such as prevention approaches, socioeconomic factors conducive to extremism, and the enhancement of social inclusion. The body debated meticulously the different aspects encompassed in the topic at hand. The atmosphere in the committee was one of collaboration and by the end of the session on Tuesday evening, multiple working papers had merged.

On Wednesday, 5 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, 1 of which had amendments. The committee adopted 5 draft resolutions following voting procedure, 3 of which received unanimous support from the body. The resolutions adopted represented a wide range of issues, including a comprehensive definition of non-violent extremism, prevention and rehabilitation strategies, and the promotion of socioeconomic rights. The body showed significant interest in the topic during their deliberations, striving to find holistic solutions to a complex and passionate subject. Endurance, perseverance, and determination were the main drivers of the debate, all while remaining diplomatic during deliberations. The committee strived to achieve consensus and worked diligently to find short-term and long-term solutions that showed foresight and tenacity.



Code: HRC/1/1

Committee: Human Rights Council

Topic: Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism

1 *The Human Rights Council,*

2
3 *Guided by the principles of international peace and stability enshrined in Article 1 of the Charter of the United*
4 *Nations (1945) and article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), which focuses on the universal*
5 *right of expression,*

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7 *Bearing in mind the universal principles of interpretation of international law stated in the Vienna Convention on the*
8 *Law of Treaties (1969),*

9
10 *Underlining the relevance of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination*
11 *(1965) in the protection of the right to non-discrimination in the prevention and countering of violent extremism*
12 *(PCVE),*

13
14 *Reminding Member States that the lack of a universal definition of terrorism should not prevent collective action on*
15 *PCVE,*

16
17 *Taking into account Human Rights Council resolution 30/15 (2015) defining violent extremism, but also*
18 *acknowledging the ambiguity of the definition in its lack of differentiation between violent extremism and non-*
19 *violent extremism,*

20
21 *Recalling the definition established by General Assembly resolution 52/164 (1997) of a terrorist contained in the*
22 *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (1997), which could guide a definition for*
23 *terrorism,*

24
25 *Further recalling General Assembly resolution 70/254 (2016) that stresses the importance of not associating violent*
26 *extremism with any religion, nationality, civilization, or ethnic group,*

27
28 *Recognizing that the national interpretation of violent extremism varies based on differing political, social, and*
29 *economic aspects of each Member State,*

30
31 *Further recognizing that violent extremism is significantly different from both terrorism and non-violent extremism,*

32
33 1. *Invites Member States to employ the definition for violent extremism outlined in Human Rights Council*
34 *resolution 30/15 as a foundation for further elaboration in order to lessen the ambiguities regarding the*
35 *difference between violent and non-violent extremism, and in order to contrive a more comprehensive*
36 *definition of violent extremism that incorporates Member States individual distinctions;*

37
38 2. *Suggests that Member States approach their interpretation of the term “violent extremism” stated in resolution*
39 *30/15 in the scope of the following interpretation principles:*

40
41 a. *The universal principle of good faith stated in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969);*

42
43 b. *The general principle of equity in international law implying that Member States shall observe*
44 *international legislations in accordance with their national development conditions;*

45
46 c. *The principle of non-discrimination based on protected categories such as race, gender, age, religion,*
47 *and country of origin, as stated in the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of*
48 *Racial Discrimination (1965);*

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- d. The plurality of violent extremist manifestations relative to regional, economic, political, and social distinction of every Member State;
- e. The term “extremism” is not in all situations related to manifestations of violence and could result in non-violent extremism under the following circumstances:
 - i. Extremism that does not directly threaten economic, political, and social stability of Member States;
 - ii. Extremism that expresses an individual faith respectful of Member States’ national laws and individual fundamental human rights, rather than promoting ideas that may threaten national, regional, and global peace and stability.



Code: HRC/1/2

Committee: Human Rights Council

Topic: Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism

1 *The Human Rights Council,*

2
3 *Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), which acknowledges the inherent dignity and equality*
4 *of all peoples and ensures the right of every person to life, liberty, and security,*

5
6 *Deeply disturbed by recent acts of violent extremism across the international community,*

7
8 *Bearing in mind the global commitment to *The World Summit, The Responsibility to Protect* (2005) which outlines*
9 *the responsibility to protect human rights and prevent mass atrocities,*

10
11 *Expressing its appreciation with the Secretary-General's *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism* (2015) and its*
12 *pivotal role in addressing the prevention of violent extremism, and adopting a cohesive approach to support national,*
13 *regional and global efforts to prevent violent extremism,*

14
15 *Recalling that Human Rights Council resolution 30/15 (2015) states that violent extremism is “any activities that*
16 *deprive fundamental human rights, endanger legitimate governments, and threaten territorial integrity and security,”*

17
18 *Emphasizing the role that leaders in the private sector can play in preventing extremist groups from recruiting*
19 *members on the internet and conditions conducive to violent extremism,*

20
21 *Alarmed by the frequent misuse of development and humanitarian aid, as outlined by the 2012 ECOSOC High-Level*
22 *Panel on Accountability and Transparency, and the eventuality for such aid to finance and aid extremist groups or*
23 *ideologies,*

24
25 *Emphasizing the *UN Political Declaration and Action Plan against Money Laundering* (1998) and its relevance in*
26 *preventing money laundering, a practice that could aid organizations that promote violent extremism,*

27
28 1. *Urges all Member States to combat the spread of violent extremism through international cooperation to*
29 *promote and preserve all human rights;*

30
31 2. *Calls upon Member States to form a Commission on the Promotion of Human Rights through Violent*
32 *Extremism Prevention (PHREP) consisting of Member States that will:*

33
34 a. *Promote social cohesion and enhance interfaith and intercultural understanding;*

35
36 b. *Counter terrorism by sharing information regarding the recruitment and financing of violent extremism*
37 *on the national, regional, and local levels between local communities, religious institutions, and non-*
38 *governmental and civil society organizations;*

39
40 c. *Identify and empower marginalized populations in order to prevent recruitment by extremist*
41 *organizations;*

42
43 3. *Encourages Member States to create a database on a voluntary basis, reflective of the Netherlands Counter*
44 *Extremism Project, in efforts to counter recruitment, financial networking and instigator of extremist entities as*
45 *pivotal measures towards securing human rights in the interests of international peace and cooperation;*

46
47 4. *Expresses its hope that technology companies will continue to collaborate with Member States to more*
48 *effectively combat the promotion of violent extremism and the subsequent recruiting of members by:*

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- 50 a. Providing opportunities and platforms to denounce violent extremist ideology in online spaces;
51
52 b. Empowering citizens to advocate for the importance of human rights;
53
- 54 5. *Encourages* Member States to implement transparent and effective secure electronic payments:
55
56 a. Drawing inspiration from programs, including Pay Gov India, to ensure monetary aid reaches
57 vulnerable and marginalized populations, rather than potentially being misused by violent extremist
58 groups to further their goals;
59
60 b. Through a collaboration between national governments and the United Nations Development
61 Programme (UNDP);
62
- 63 6. *Recommends* promoting regional cooperation to counter violent extremism and promote human rights through
64 identifying the root causes of violent extremism, sharing effective PCVE strategies, and pursuing solutions by:
65
66 a. Supporting the implementation at the regional level of the Secretary-General's *Plan of Action to*
67 *Prevent Violent Extremism* and the UN *Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy* through conventions such
68 as the *African Union Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism*, the *Arab Convention*
69 *on the Suppression of Terrorism*, and the *ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism*;
70
71 b. Utilizing regional cooperation for the development of effective regional strategies to prevent and
72 counter violent extremism (PCVE) that:
73
74 i. Assess the regional causes of violent extremism;
75 ii. Emphasize the aspect of prevention through identifying populations vulnerable to violent and
76 extremist messaging and communication strategies;
77 iii. Ensure the annual updating of Member State's PCVE regional strategies;
78
- 79 7. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote the
80 aforementioned guidelines and suggestions to eradicate extremist organizations and promote human rights
81 worldwide.



Code: HRC/1/3

Committee: Human Rights Council

Topic: Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism

1 *The Human Rights Council,*
2
3 *Guided by the Charter of the United Nations (1945) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)*
4 *(1948),*
5
6 *Appealing to Member States to uphold human rights by ensuring that measures taken against extremist entities*
7 *uphold international law,*
8
9 *Stressing moral, ethical, and political responsibility of sovereign Member States to uphold article 3 of the UDHR*
10 *which asserts that all individuals have a right to life, liberty, and security,*
11
12 *Acknowledging that violent extremism directly affects a majority of Member States and remains a threat to the*
13 *peace, territorial integrity, and security of Member States by destabilizing the legitimacy of constituted*
14 *governments,*
15
16 *Stressing the integral role of criminal justice courts and the rule of law to realize the right of all individuals to equal*
17 *treatment before the law, which is emphasized by articles 6 and 7 of the UDHR, as well as Sustainable Development*
18 *Goal (SDG) 16, which aims to promote peace, justice, and strong institutions,*
19
20 *Reiterating its commitment to countering radical extremism in all its manifestations regardless of the underlying*
21 *cause,*
22
23 *Underlining the importance of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and*
24 *fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism in regards to gathering, requesting, receiving, and exchanging*
25 *information and communications from and with all relevant sources,*
26
27 *Recognizing education as an efficient way to promote human rights in countering violent extremism in accordance*
28 *with SDG 4, which is quality education,*
29
30 *Affirming its condemnation to entities granting monetary, political, and material support to extremist groups,*
31
32 *Dismayed at the suffering of all persons, families, and communities affected by violent extremism, and reaffirming*
33 *its profound solidarity, in particular with groups most vulnerable, such as women and youth,*
34
35 *Underlining the importance of addressing the root causes of violent extremism as a way to strengthen positive social*
36 *ties in order to minimize individuals' susceptibility to extremist recruitment,*
37
38 *Aware that the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PoAPVE) (2015) stresses that*
39 *marginalized individuals are especially vulnerable to extremist ideologies and recruitment,*
40
41 *Recognizing that, according to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights' Human*
42 *Rights Standards and Practice for Police, police forces have direct contacts with the communities, as well as with*
43 *the government and therefore play an essential role in countering violent extremism by identifying and protecting*
44 *people who are particularly vulnerable to radicalization,*
45
46 *Appealing to police forces in Member States to promote human rights in their work environment and community,*
47
48 *Stressing the importance of Clause 54 of the PoAPVE, which highlights the ability for education to promote social*
49 *inclusion and tolerance through creating cultural awareness and the celebration of diversity,*

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Recognizing also the potential of education, as well as rehabilitative, and counselling services to prevent the radicalization of individuals vulnerable to violent extremism,

Underlining the PoAPVE, which stresses the benefits of decreasing the unemployment rate amongst young people leading to lower rates of radicalization,

Expressing that the use of modern technology and social media as a means for communication can be beneficial for the socialization of individuals, as well as an important tool for education,

Guided by Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on the “Maintenance of international peace and security,” which affirms the importance of encouraging the participation of youth when implementing peace agreements and recognizes that their marginalization is detrimental to building sustainable peace in all societies,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to empower their youth in order to promote mutual respect and peace among their peers by:
 - a. Establishing youth councils at a local level that allow adolescents to participate in political decision-making;
 - b. Setting up educational programs and awareness-raising campaigns regarding the harmful consequences of harassment and discrimination;
 - c. Teaching students in schools and universities techniques to detect and discern misinformation, which discredits individuals or specific groups, that is spread on various forms of media;
 - d. Offering courses in primary and secondary schools about how to use social media in a responsible way;
2. *Encourages* Member States to uphold the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization’s (UNESCO) Global Citizenship Education (GCED) and to extend it by including further measures that aim at providing youth with quality tools and understandings of human rights in order to allow them to engage constructively in civic structures and inclusive political processes by:
 - a. Designing public educational programs and campaigns that will teach youth the skills to engage in dialogue and face disagreement in a critical and discerning manner;
 - b. Conceiving conferences in partnership with local schools and universities to discuss the topic on violent extremism and strengthening human rights by:
 - i. Inviting experts on human rights and counter-terrorism to develop ideas regarding an approach to extremism that involves both subjects;
 - ii. Establishing roundtables between local leaders and students to design peaceful approaches to counter-extremism;
 - c. Engaging with the Learning About Multimedia Project (LAMP) in order to expand media literacy and comprehension skills among the youth, allowing them to create and challenge media messages through online tools and resources;
3. *Proposes* the implementation of a Turn Your Back on Extremism (TUBE) strategy under the guidance of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, which aims at creating a community-based education approach to address the underlying causes of violent extremism by:
 - a. Following the MercyCorps' initiative in Nigeria and interviewing former extremist group members and those who resisted recruitment, in order to collect data and information on what pushes individuals

- 106 towards recruitment and what causes them to resist, to further use this information for educational
107 purposes;
108
- 109 b. Addressing youth education by implementing educational forums in primary and secondary public
110 schools that will share the collected data with students through the TUBE strategy, in order to
111 strengthen anti-terrorist recruitment sentiments;
112
- 113 4. *Invites* Member States to provide professional education and training for police forces and counter-terrorism
114 task forces to better recognize vulnerable groups and promote respectful practices and values by:
115
- 116 a. Creating and providing their own Police Force Training Guides that focus on:
117
- 118 i. The recognition and definition of fundamental human rights;
119 ii. The importance of promoting human rights;
120 iii. How to promote human rights within their specific work environment and the entire
121 community;
122
- 123 b. Invites Members States to consider and adopt measures similar to the one taken by the African Mission
124 in Somalia (AMISOM) toward their police forces by having Community Agents Forces, which will
125 have the primary responsibility to educate people about their rights and the resources that police agents
126 represent for community members in the midst of countering violent extremism;
127
- 128 5. *Recommends* Member States to work cooperatively with regional and international NGOs to create and
129 maintain public programs that would further improve the capability of communities to engage and support
130 residents, offer safe spaces where citizens can interact to enhance each individual's sense of belonging, and
131 reduce cases of discrimination through the implementation of community-based educational projects, such as:
132
- 133 a. After-school activities in public schools, that allow children from different ethnic and religious
134 backgrounds to participate in a forum for cultural exchange;
135
- 136 b. Administering the municipal-based workshops NGOs Unite for Peace, which aim at countering violent
137 extremism and building resilience to extremist influence through education, sports, and culture while
138 promoting peace;
139
- 140 c. Promotion of weapons regulation to preserve safe spaces and provide a safe environment for
141 education, including:
142
- 143 i. Introducing educational campaigns in schools about the effects and the proper usage of
144 firearms and the importance of firearms regulations;
145 ii. Initiating local talks and discussion for raising awareness on the international and regional
146 regulations of illicit weapons trade;
147
- 148 6. *Urges* all capable Member States to implement education, rehabilitation, and counselling programs within
149 prisons to prevent the radicalization of prisoners through:
150
- 151 a. The introduction of basic numeracy and literacy programs coordinated by professional education
152 providers;
153
- 154 b. The creation and implementation of vocational training programs coordinated by professional
155 education providers and the improvement of prison facilities that are compatible with such vocational
156 training programs;
157
- 158 c. The provision of basic education resources and tools to prisoners, including:
159
- 160 i. Educational books;
161 ii. Basic stationery;

- 162 iii. Tools to develop soft skills for vocational training;
163 iv. Computers and relevant software;
164
165 d. The expansion of the use of modern technologies by prisoners for educational purposes;
166
167 e. The creation of programs that seek to develop modern computer literacy skills for released prisoners
168 for improved social reintegration;
169
170 f. The implementation of mandatory counselling programs and anti-radicalization programs by
171 professional counselors for prisoners, who have been identified as being at risk to:
172 i. Promote integrative and healthy community relations by monitoring and improving
173 individuals' mental and emotional well-being;
174 ii. Develop individuals' interpersonal skills.
175



Code: HRC/1/4

Committee: Human Rights Council

Topic: Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism

1 *The Human Rights Council,*

2
3 *Reaffirming* the primary responsibility of Article 1 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) and Security Council
4 resolution 2331 (2016) on “International Security,” which enshrine the responsibility of all bodies of the United
5 Nations to strengthen and promote international security and address threats to the rights of all global citizens,

6
7 *Recognizing* the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948), which emphasizes that all human beings
8 have a right to life, liberty, and security of person, and are born free and equal in dignity and rights,

9
10 *Reminding* Member States of Human Rights Council resolution 31/30 (2015) on the “Effects of terrorism on the
11 enjoyment of all human rights,” which deplores all acts of violence that impede upon the rights of any and all human
12 beings regardless of ethnicity, religion, and class,

13
14 *Acknowledging* the Secretary-General’s *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism*, directly labeling violations of
15 human rights, poor governance, and prolonged and unresolved conflicts as conditions conducive to violent
16 extremism,

17
18 *Taking note of* the need for further international cooperation between Member States and civil society organizations
19 (CSOs) that target victims that have been affected by violent extremism, such as the CSO Empowering Pakistan’s
20 Civil Society to Counter Global Violent Extremism,

21
22 *Conscious* of the potential for progressive actions in promoting and protecting human rights in counter-terrorism
23 initiatives,

24
25 *Draws attention* to the need for increased societal protection of victim’s human rights through non-governmental
26 organizations (NGOs), international organizations (IOs), and collaboration with the Security Council’s efforts for
27 peacebuilding in post-conflict societies to provide relief efforts for victims,

28
29 *Acknowledging* General Assembly resolution 51/75 (1997), which outlines the need for humanitarian assistance and
30 notes that reintegration of refugees is needed in order to regain a sense of purpose and inclusion to prevent both the
31 displaced and welcoming parties from becoming vulnerable to extremist ideologies,

32
33 *Taking into account* General Assembly resolution 71/1 on “New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants”
34 (2016), which highlights the displacement of citizens of Member States as a consequence of violent extremist acts
35 and conflict, and the fact that these citizens often, after facing violent extremism and conflict, succumb to forced
36 migration from their Member States,

37
38 *Deeply conscious* of the instability of conditions and environments experienced by victims affected by violent
39 extremism, as highlighted in its resolution 31/30 (2015) on the “Effects of Terrorism on the Enjoyment of all Human
40 Rights,”

41
42 *Fully alarmed* by the significant lack of communication amongst communities, cultures, and individuals pertaining
43 to the effects of violent extremism, as highlighted in the Secretary-General’s *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent*
44 *Extremism*, particularly areas one, two, and three,

45
46 *Highlighting* Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 2331 (2016) on “Women, Peace and Security” and the
47 “Maintenance of International Peace and Security” respectively, which acknowledge the important role played by
48 women in the prevention of conflicts and peacebuilding initiatives that foster positive relations between parties
49 facing resettlement because of violent extremism and those welcoming it,

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1. *Reiterates* the importance of the promotion and protection of global safety and human rights as enumerated within article 1 of the *United Nations Charter*, as well as Security Council resolution 2331 (2016) in our duty as Member States;
 2. *Invites* Member States to consider utilizing the following guidelines to further alleviate the consequences of violent extremism and assist victims in achieving their ability to retain basic human rights in post-conflict situations through:
 - a. Partnering with counter-extremism programs, in addition to organizations that focus on implementing practices for the protection of victims, who are exposed to violent extremism, by examining and eliminating the recruitment strategies of violent extremist groups;
 - b. Working in collaboration with the UN Peacekeeping Commission to target the needs of victims that reside in areas affected by violent extremism and conflict;
 - c. Alleviating tension in regions, that have been affected or destroyed by violent extremism through partnerships with organizations such as Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Ad Hoc Advisory Groups;
 - d. Creating pathways of stability for people that have been greatly affected by violent extremism, including resettlement programs and scholarships, facilitated by nations that are both willing and able to accommodate these victims;
 - e. The evaluation of areas affected by violent extremism within Member States at the local level to determine the causes of violent extremism rising in these specific areas through:
 - i. Utilizing the Universal Periodic Review to identify strategic areas where growth is necessary;
 - ii. Basing rehabilitative efforts in schools, prisons and community centers;
 - iii. Focusing and facilitating inclusive dialogue on extremist ideologies present in communities;
 3. *Encourages* collaboration between NGOs, IOs, Member States and organizations of the wider United Nations system to focus on implementing humanitarian efforts that focus on the protection of human rights by:
 - a. Continuously improving collaborations with NGO partners, promoting national partners as first responders in emergency operations, as elaborated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);
 - b. Partnering with organizations such as United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the Centre for Health Market Innovations as a mean of providing health technologies and services to states suffering financially after conflicts;
 - c. Assistance in areas of education, that have been eradicated by violent extremism through the use of multilateral programs, such as the Global Partnership for Education, which are concerned with the promotion of education in need;
 4. *Emphasizes* the importance of collaboration between Member States and UNHCR’s efforts in refugee resettlement that provides safe relief for these citizens, through programs that promote human rights for victims of violent extremism such as:
 - a. The International Rescue Committee, which assists citizens whose lives have been affected by conflict due to violent extremist acts to recover and regain control of their future;
 - b. Refugees International, which supports and aids displaced and stateless people;

- 105 c. Exodus Refugee, which is an inclusive organization that welcomes refugees of every faith, country,
106 culture, language, and political opinion, therefore allowing them to have the opportunity to fulfill their
107 basic human rights, that they were denied of in their previous home states;
108
- 109 5. *Calls upon* all Member States to ensure access to fundamental needs, such as access to water, sanitation, food,
110 and shelter to the victims, both before and after violent extremist acts, by remaining cognizant of the essential
111 rights of their citizens;
112
- 113 6. *Encourages* all Member States to create opportunities for psychological and emotional rehabilitation of victims
114 of violent extremism by cooperating with NGOs focusing on victim rehabilitation and recovery, such as the
115 Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism (ADVT), which strives for the recognition of the terrorism
116 victim status, and providing an emotional support through meetings between those victims as an example to
117 follow;
118
- 119 7. *Calls upon* Member States to continue streamlining gender within negotiations regarding the human rights of
120 those in areas affected by violent extremism conducted by the Human Rights Council and the United Nations in
121 general, through:
122
- 123 a. Strengthening the role of women within dialogue regarding rehabilitation of states affected by
124 extremism;
125
- 126 b. Facilitating collaboration with NGOs that focus on victim relief for families highly affected by violent
127 extremism.



Code: HRC/1/5

Committee: Human Rights Council

Topic: Protecting and Promoting Human Rights to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism

1 *The Human Rights Council,*

2
3 *Guided by the principles of peace and security highlighted in Chapter 1, Article 1 of the *Charter of the United**
4 *Nations, which are directly threatened by the existence of violent extremism, and by Human Rights Council*
5 *resolution 31/30 on “Effects of Terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights” (2016),*

6
7 *Recalling education as a fundamental right for all human beings, including women and children, as stated in article*
8 *23 and article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948) and the role that the United Nations*
9 *Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and its programs, such as the Forum on Global*
10 *Citizenship Education and the Global Education First Initiative, play in promoting universal education, as it can play*
11 *a vital role in preventing violent extremism,*

12
13 *Contemplating General Assembly resolution 41/128 on the “Declaration on the Right to Development” (1986),*
14 *stressing the responsibility of all Member States to create conditions conducive to the achievement of the right to*
15 *development for all peoples and promote development efforts in developing nations,*

16
17 *Acknowledging that the *Declaration on the Right to Development* also recommends Member States to undertake*
18 *necessary measures and techniques to lift populations out of poverty by providing economic opportunities through*
19 *the support for entrepreneurship, improved access to employment, and access to education and health in order to*
20 *realize and ensure that at-risk communities have an active role in development,*

21
22 *Recalling the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) (1966), which is aimed at*
23 *protecting economic and social rights, including the right to work, and which resulted in the creation of the*
24 *Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by the United Nations Economic and Social Council*
25 *(ECOSOC) to monitor the implementation of the Covenant,*

26
27 *Acknowledging article 3 of the ICESCR, which calls for Member States to ensure the equal right of men and women*
28 *to the enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights,*

29
30 *Calling attention to article 9 of the ICESCR, which recognizes the right to social security,*

31
32 *Acknowledging that the Human Rights Council was created by General Assembly resolution 60/251 (2006) to serve*
33 *as a forum for Member States through its Special Procedures, especially those that request assistance for protecting*
34 *particularly disenfranchised groups,*

35
36 *Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 30/15 of 2 October 2015 on “Human rights and preventing and*
37 *countering violent extremism,” which encourages governments to shift away from security-only approaches and to*
38 *place a greater focus on implementing the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PoAPVE) strategies that*
39 *are effective and human rights-based,*

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41 *Approving of the PoAPVE presented by the Secretary-General and its emphasis on the role that economic stability*
42 *plays in preventing violent extremism,*

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44 *Noting Section B of the PoAPVE, which addresses the root causes of violent extremism in the form of the seven*
45 *priority areas of preventing violent extremism, especially education, skilled development and employment*
46 *facilitation,*

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48 *Underlining that poor economic opportunity is a critical factor in the spread of violent extremism, as expressed in*
49 *the PoAPVE,*

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Guided by the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 1, aimed at the elimination of poverty, and the enhancement of employment amongst youth,

Expressing satisfaction at the implementation of regional development plans, such as the *African Union Commission Strategic Plan 2014-2017* and similar regional initiatives such as the *New Economic Plan for African Development* (NEPAD) of July 2001,

Cognizant of Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on “Maintenance of international peace and security,” which states that the youth's voice is crucial for the development of legislation protecting human rights at all levels,

Observing the past efforts by UN-Habitat's Urban Youth Fund, which supports new and innovative ideas and solutions for job creation, and accordingly its financial and logistical support to organizations that seek to empower the youth globally,

Applauding the efforts by forums and associations, such as the European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (EfVET), to incorporate and facilitate intergenerational mentoring as a method of improving opportunities for youth in economic and civil sectors,

Recognizing the efforts of the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Special Unit for Microfinance (SUM) and its MicroStart Programme in decreasing economic barriers to populations susceptible to violent extremism through microfinance and to increase access to vocational training,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2016 on the *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, which seeks to prevent and combat global terrorism through state capacity building within the framework of human rights and international law,

Affirming General Assembly resolution 70/291 on the “United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review” (2016), focused on the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by all Member States and the need for a new preventive approach to counter-terrorism and the issue of violent extremism,

Alarmed at the recent terrorist attacks by two young radicalized Kyrgyz and Uzbek men in St. Petersburg and Stockholm, which left over 18 dead and numerous civilians wounded,

Bearing in mind the mandate of UNDP as a catalyzer of the PoAPVE, especially action points regarding good governance, the engagement of communities, and education, as well as skill development,

Taking into consideration that the prevention of violent extremism should begin at the level of local governments and communities in order to effectively counter this issue through preventative measures, as local governments are particularly suited to engage with at-risk groups,

Concerned by the high number of persons that are socially excluded as a result of insufficient governmental identification, according to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) report on *Analysing and Measuring Social Inclusion in a Global Context* (2010), particularly in developing countries, and as a result are denied access to basic services such as health care and employment, which might then lead to social marginalization and therefore contribute to the rise of violent extremism,

1. *Reminds* all Member States of our prior condemnation of all acts of violence and extremism that infringe upon the fundamental human rights of individuals, in line with Human Rights Council resolution 31/30 (2016) and the *Thematic Study on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under Article 11 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, on Situations of Risk and Humanitarian Emergencies* of 30 November 2015;
2. *Encourages* Member States to voluntarily request additional reporting through its Special Procedures in identifying root causes of radicalization for groups such as ethnic, religious, and cultural minorities, which are susceptible to radicalization due to insecurity of access to their fundamental human rights;

- 106 3. *Invites* Member States to progress toward the achievement of SDG 1 by participating in the elimination of
107 poverty through providing training and educational opportunities for local leaders with the ability to establish
108 community centers for employment, providing young unemployed workers with the necessary tools and
109 information to access job markets;
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- 111 4. *Strongly urges* financially solvent, willing, and able Member States to assist developing nations by providing
112 financial aid for developmental initiatives that are in line with the goals expressed by the PoAPVE, especially
113 those that will bolster the ability of citizens to take part in the private sector through leadership and
114 entrepreneurship;
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- 116 5. *Welcomes* interregional cooperation between existing regional frameworks, similar to the African Union Plan
117 for Development (NEPAD) and the Central Asia Regional Economic Program, for the global promotion of
118 economic opportunities, especially entrepreneurial education and provision of loans to start small businesses,
119 for communities that suffer from conditions such as poverty, hunger, and a lack of economic access, which may
120 place them at a high risk for being targeted by violent extremist organizations' recruitment activities;
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- 122 6. *Encourages* all willing and able Member States to increase their pension provisions and facilitate banking and
123 financial services, especially to rural and impoverished populations, to aid unlocking regional manufacturing
124 and trade and increase employment opportunities;
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- 126 7. *Invites* Member States to work alongside SUM and the MicroStart Programme to increase support for those
127 most at risk of engaging in and being affected by acts of violent extremism including women, youth, and other
128 vulnerable populations, to reduce economic factors conducive to violent extremism, by:
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- 130 a. Expanding the MicroStart Programme to provide technical assistance and training to allow more
131 people to access microfinancing opportunities and allow them to become more engaged in their
132 communities;
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- 134 b. Promoting and expanding MicroStart's current partnerships with NGOs on the provision of support for
135 these vulnerable populations to encourage more technical and financial support for individuals from a
136 wider range of nations;
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- 138 8. *Urges* Member States to seek stronger collaborations on messages and areas of operation with UNESCO's
139 Youth Empowerment Programme to strengthen programs such as the United Nations Information Center
140 (UNIC) country programs and promote youth involvement in local governments in order to prevent
141 radicalization by incentivizing civic engagement through:
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- 143 a. Providing more opportunities for internships, jobs, or training;
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- 145 b. Partnering with organizations and political mentors to develop an understanding of government
146 systems, functions, and legislation;
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- 148 c. Encouraging engagement with the private sector to provide resources to the Youth Empowerment
149 Programme to strengthen its ability to adequately provide fundamental services;
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- 151 9. *Promotes* the creation of National Emerging Leaders Conferences (NELC) for Human Rights, in collaboration
152 with the World Youth Alliance (WYA), an annual forum, within each Member State, which will convene
153 policymakers and youth in order to engage them into decision-making, specifically in the implementation of
154 counter-recruitment policies by approaching specific human rights promotion problems, with the aid of Human
155 Rights Watch (HRW) which will collaborate in the overview of the implementation of the policies in the
156 specific country;
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- 158 10. *Recommends* the cooperation of Member States with different educational initiatives, such as the UNESCO's
159 Forum for Global Citizenship Education and the Global Education First Initiative, by supporting programs and
160 directives that lessen the impact of violent extremism, especially on the groups most vulnerable to violence such
161 as women, youth, and ethnic, cultural, and religious minorities through the following ways:

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- a. Strengthening local CSOs and NGOs that promote the achievement of Member States' national education policies with a focus on vulnerable groups;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to increase collaboration and support for CSOs that promote educational opportunities for women and children;
 - c. Enrichment of human development in health, security, and equality;
 - d. Social empowerment of youths and minorities to feel included and accepted in their community;
 - e. Provision for the opportunity of these at-risk groups to positively contribute to society;
 - f. Local, community-based awareness and combating of notorious extremist media aimed at recruitment from localized communities;
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11. *Calls for* cooperation so that youth are able to find employment in legitimate sectors and do not turn to violent extremism in order to provide for themselves, especially between the UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund and other programs including UNDP and the many relevant United Nations Programmes on Youth, such as the program promoting skill-building and employment generation for youth in the short and long terms, the program supporting youth participation in politics and decision-making, and the program supporting community action for integration of marginalized minority and at-risk youth;
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12. *Calls upon* Member States to create economic opportunities, especially through the sharing of best practices for business-friendly policies and programs through the utilization of relevant programs, especially under the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which operates within Member States to allow at-risk populations such as refugees to seek both change and improvement leading them away from violent extremism and developing a system by utilizing resources from the UNDP;
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13. *Encourages* Member States to implement programs, especially private-public partnerships, similar to the EfVET Intergenerational Mentoring for Entrepreneurs program, pairing unemployed youth with elder experienced workers in cooperation with civil society organizations and local businesses in order to reduce unemployment and improve social inclusion amongst youth vulnerable to joining violent extremist groups;
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14. *Further encourages* expansion of activities from NGOs promoting vocational training and for other NGOs to expand promotion of employment skills to help citizens achieve individual economic goals, such as home and business ownership, through increased partnerships with Member States, as well as with local businesses and activist NGOs;
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15. *Draws attention* to the ongoing need for the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to incorporate the goals of the *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review (2016)* on preventive approaches to counter-terrorism and violent extremism in order to protect and promote human rights, through methods such as collaborating with the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre's strategy on technical and vocational education and training to increase vocational training program opportunities for former extremists with the intention of reducing the recidivism of violent extremists, ultimately enhancing public safety;
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16. *Calls upon* the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Counter-Terrorism Centre's Strategy on Technical and Vocational Education and Training to promote, implement, and improve upon current vocational education and training facilities, specifically bringing about opportunities for women and youths, to address poverty across the globe, which is a root cause of violent extremism, thus aiding in the prevention of violent extremism by not only protecting and improving human rights, but by improving overall economic stability through:
 - a. The strengthening of access to vocational jobs in nations currently struggling to utilize these opportunities, especially access to technical and entrepreneurial education;
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- 218 b. The inclusion of cultural, religious, ethnic, social, and political groups, increasing the overall
219 workforce, as these populations are most at risk for radicalization or being subjected to violent
220 extremism;
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- 222 17. *Requests* Member States utilize the National Human Rights Institutions Forum to develop frameworks for local
223 civil society and businesses to promote the importance of the culture of human rights in promoting social
224 inclusion, with particular attention to the freedom of expression, social and economic inclusion, and access to
225 fundamental resources such as food, water, and energy;
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- 227 18. *Encourages* Member States to promote human rights through social inclusion of all parts of society as
228 highlighted in ICESCR by ensuring that all citizens have an officially recognized unique social security number,
229 as well as a birth certificate, as these are the very fundamental cornerstones for accessing social services such as
230 education, freedom of movement across borders in accordance with international law, official employment, and
231 health care services, by:
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- 233 a. Encouraging and inspiring Member States to ensure that all citizens are officially recognized by
234 sharing of effective practices and experiences between Member States, on how to successfully
235 implement birth certificates, such as in the case of the highly successful Unique Identification
236 Authority of India program (UIDAI) that has managed to include 98% of the population within a
237 period of two years, ensuring the whole population with equal opportunities for accessing basic
238 services such as health care and official employment;
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- 240 b. Emphasizing inclusive approaches, such as a national unified security number, which represent a
241 preventative measure against the rise of violent extremism in vulnerable groups, as it increases social
242 inclusion through the acquisition of fundamental documentation and, therefore, reducing the risk of
243 marginalization of citizens;
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- 245 19. *Expresses* its beliefs in the necessity of regional awareness programs on violent extremism in areas proximate to
246 conflicting, fragile regions, such as but not limited to, Central Asia and certain parts of Africa, under the
247 mandate of the UNDP, in order to deprive extremist recruiting groups its breeding ground, by:
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- 249 a. Raising the awareness of violent extremism among women, since the number of women joining
250 extremist groups, such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Da'esh), has dramatically
251 increased over the past years;
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- 253 b. Organizing pre-departure sessions for migrant workers leaving for countries, such as Russia or
254 Kazakhstan, in order to prevent false expectations of a higher socioeconomic status, since this has
255 often led to increased vulnerability to recruitment by extremists;
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- 257 c. Organizing police trainings in order to improve early identification of extremist ideologies and groups;
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- 259 d. Organizing information initiatives tackling violent extremism in schools, universities, and other CSOs.