

Reinhard Uhrig/Ben Hiller

## OSCE Action against Terrorism: Consolidation, Continuity, and Future Focus

In December 2012, after discussions lasting more than a year, the participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) made a significant step towards enhancing the profile and identifying the added value of the OSCE's contribution to global efforts to eradicate terrorism.

All 57 participating States adopted the OSCE Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism<sup>1</sup> (referred to from here on as the Consolidated Framework), which provides the OSCE with a new blueprint for its contribution to efforts to combat terrorism. Importantly, while the Consolidated Framework gives OSCE executive structures renewed direction, this sharpened profile in terms of counter-terrorism activities also allows for more targeted and strengthened co-operation with key partners and organizations.

Building on past commitments and mandates related to the fight against terrorism and pertinent work carried out by the Organization, the Consolidated Framework highlights operational principles and identifies the strategic focus of future OSCE counter-terrorism activities. In short, the Framework consolidates existing mandates into a single strategic vision, provides continuity, and sets the course for OSCE action against terrorism in the future.

### *Why Is the Consolidated Framework Important?*

#### *Consolidation*

The Consolidated Framework brings the *acquis* of previous political decisions into a single strategic statement or vision. Over the years, the participating States have adopted some 52 political commitments and principles in a variety of areas relevant to the fight against terrorism, across the three dimensions of the OSCE. They address the conditions that may encourage, enable, foster, and sustain terrorism and states' capacities to prevent and combat terrorism. In parallel, the participating States have tasked OSCE executive structures with assisting participating States in their efforts to address the aforementioned areas in all three OSCE dimensions.

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1 Cf. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Permanent Council, *Decision No. 1063, OSCE Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism*, PC.DEC/1063, 7 December 2012, at: <http://www.osce.org/pc/98008>.

With an ever increasing number of commitments and tasks, it became apparent in the past couple of years, that it was “high time” to underscore – in one document and in clear language – to states and international partners what the profile, comparative advantages, and unique organizational strengths of the OSCE are related to countering terrorism. A clear organizational profile is particularly important at a time when fewer resources are available, while an increasing number of actors seek to contribute to global efforts against terrorism.

Certainly as far as the OSCE executive structures were concerned, having witnessed a multi-year zero-growth policy for the Organization running in parallel with an increase in tasks as the terrorist threat was growing, there was a real worry that at some point the OSCE executive structures could become overwhelmed and that efforts were spread too thinly to be effective. Coupled with an increased demand for effectiveness and a growing number of international actors active in the field of countering terrorism, the Organization was in danger of doing too much to achieve too little.

The objective of the Consolidated Framework is therefore twofold: It gives the Organization a clear and instantly recognizable profile in the area of preventing and countering terrorism founded on its existing mandates, principles, and comparative advantages, while, at the same time, also setting the course for the future in terms of strategic priorities for OSCE executive structures.

### *Continuity*

The Consolidated Framework reiterates the relevance and full applicability of the OSCE’s trademark concept of common, comprehensive, co-operative, and indivisible security with regard to the fight against terrorism.

The OSCE’s multidimensional approach underlines that alongside politico-military aspects of security, the protection and promotion of human rights as well as economic development and environmental sustainability are inextricable parts of security and stability. It prescribes an effective framework for coherent and sustained actions to prevent and combat terrorism at a regional level while ensuring respect for the rule of law, human rights, and fundamental freedoms; to identify and address the factors conducive to the spread of terrorism; and to explore synergies in addressing new and emerging transnational threats and challenges to security and stability.

The Consolidated Framework also underlines the fact that multi-stakeholder dialogue and collaboration are required at all levels in order to meet modern security threats and challenges – collaboration that is indispensable on multiple levels: between countries, within countries, among international organizations, but also between state authorities, the private sector, civil society, and the media. Most fundamentally, the Consolidated Framework affirms that the OSCE is a platform for such multi-stakeholder dia-

logue, as well as for awareness raising, exchange of expertise, and networking. This is rooted in its status as the largest, most inclusive, and comprehensive regional security organization.

In performing this task, the OSCE can draw on a unique set of complementary executive structures, including the Secretariat's Transnational Threats Department (TNTD), the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Affairs (OCEEA), the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and the Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM). Each of these possesses recognized expertise in the relevant area and has access to extensive networks of experts in the public and private sectors, civil society, and the media, which facilitate the delivery of counter-terrorism activities at the regional, subregional, and national levels.

One of the Organization's key assets, which is also relevant in the area of counter-terrorism activities, remains its wide presence in the field. This allows the OSCE to assess and respond to specific national requirements and to run numerous programmes that contribute to strengthening states' capacities to prevent and combat terrorism.

### *Partnerships*

The Consolidated Framework underscores the leading role of the United Nations in international efforts to eradicate terrorism. In it, the participating States reiterate that the relevant UN conventions and protocols, together with Security Council Resolutions, constitute the primary international legal framework for the fight against terrorism. It notes that the OSCE approach to the fight against terrorism corresponds to the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in addressing not only manifestations of terrorism, but also the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.

As a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, it is vital that the OSCE co-operate and co-ordinate its activities with UN entities involved in counter-terrorism and with relevant specialized organizations in implementing capacity-building activities. OSCE efforts to support the UN in the global fight against terrorism are most clearly reflected in the work on the ratification and implementation of the UN conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, one of the major requirements of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 (UNSCR 1373). Likewise the OSCE and the UN work closely together on enhancing international legal co-operation in criminal matters related to terrorism; strengthening national efforts to implement UNSCR 1540 on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD); as well as other regional efforts related to the implementation of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy.

The OSCE also regularly supports UN Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) country visits to OSCE participating States. The most

recent such visits were paid to Serbia (2013), Albania and Kyrgyzstan (2012), and Greece (2010). The purpose of OSCE participation, apart from helping CTED to get the correct picture of each country's need in terms of counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance, is to avoid duplication of efforts and to identify additional areas for counter-terrorism co-operation between the OSCE and the visited state.

In terms of internal partnerships and co-ordinated organizational output, the Consolidated Framework stresses the role of the OSCE Secretariat in ensuring the facilitation of cross-dimensional and cross-institutional co-ordination of all OSCE counter-terrorism activities. Specifically, the TNTD/Action against Terrorism Unit (TNTD/ATU) is confirmed as the principal focal point, information resource, and implementation partner of OSCE counter-terrorism activities.

#### *Future Focus*

The Consolidated Framework identifies eight strategic focus areas for counter-terrorism activities on the part of the OSCE and its executive structures. It does so under the premise that the threat of terrorism is multi-faceted and evolving and that the OSCE therefore needs to remain flexible in its thematic focus and in responding to the various concerns and needs of its broad membership.

#### *Promoting the Implementation of the International Legal Framework against Terrorism and Enhancing International Legal Co-operation in Criminal Matters Related to Terrorism*

The promotion of the legal approach to countering terrorism will remain a major component of the OSCE's work in the area. In their first consensually agreed OSCE anti-terrorism documents, the participating States determined that all counter-terrorism actions must be carried out within the confines of international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law. The universal implementation of the international legal framework against terrorism deprives terrorists of safe havens, and allows national authorities to pursue and prosecute terrorists even beyond national boundaries based on the uniform criminalization of terrorist acts.

The TNTD/ATU, together with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), assists participating States in ratifying the Universal Anti-terrorism Instruments (UATIs). Specifically, the OSCE collaborates with relevant national institutions, and offers drafting advice to bring national criminal legislation in line with these instruments. The results of this work

are encouraging: While the ratification rate of the UATIs in the OSCE region was 65 per cent in 2001, in 2012 it was 96 per cent.<sup>2</sup>

Efforts to assist states in translating the UATIs into national law are complemented by endeavours to enhance co-operation between states in criminal matters related to terrorism. The participating States committed themselves to co-operate actively and fully among themselves, in accordance with applicable rules under domestic and international law, in efforts to find and to bring to justice perpetrators, organizers, supporters, and sponsors of terrorist acts, on the basis of the principle *to extradite or prosecute*. Jointly with the UNODC, the OSCE contributes to enhancing cross-border judicial counter-terrorism co-operation through the exchange of experiences on extradition processes and mutual legal assistance. So far the TNTD/ATU has organized more than 42 conferences, workshops, and capacity-building events at national, regional and OSCE-wide level, focusing on the implementation of the Legal Framework and the use of its tools for co-operation in criminal matters. More than 2,300 experts from the OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation have participated in these activities.

Most recently, and building on the high ratification rate of the UATIs in the OSCE region, the OSCE is focusing on streamlining and reinforcing preventive measures that are related to the UATIs. For instance, in May 2012, the TNTD/ATU, jointly with the UNODC, held a conference on *Enhancing Implementation of Universal Anti-terrorism Instruments on Terrorist Use of Explosive Substances* in Vienna, focusing on preventive aspects related to the investigation and the control of explosive substances and their precursors. This workshop is being followed up with a series of national roundtables.

The underlying rationale of these activities is that the criminalization of certain terrorist activities, such as the use of explosives, does not necessarily always translate into practical, proactive, and co-operative steps related to controlling such materials, especially if they are legally available, as is the case, for instance, with ammonium nitrate fertilizers. These roundtables look at how to better enable co-operation to prevent terrorists getting their hands on such materials through enhanced co-operation and raising awareness among relevant industries.

#### *Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism, Following a Multidimensional Approach*

The effective prevention of terrorism requires countries to counter violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT) – an approach that was re-affirmed through the Consolidated Framework.

While the topic featured indirectly in various work streams of different OSCE executive structures, in 2007 and 2008, countering VERLT emerged

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2 With reference to the first twelve UATIs, in force in 2001.

distinctly on the OSCE's counter-terrorism agenda, when participating States explicitly called on the Organization to counter VERLT from a multidimensional perspective and pledged to use OSCE executive structures in countering VERLT in their respective countries. Since then, a series of initiatives have sought to establish a distinct OSCE contribution to countering VERLT.

The TNTD/ATU established an overall awareness-raising and capacity-building programme with the inter-related objectives of (1) promoting a multidimensional understanding of VERLT, driven by more than just intelligence and law enforcement, to inform the formulation of context-specific preventive actions that complement the criminal-justice response to VERLT; (2) addressing human-rights aspects and supporting the formulation and implementation of human-rights compliant policies and measures to counter VERLT; and (3) encouraging multi-stakeholder collaboration, in terms of both a whole-government approach and co-operation between public authorities and civil society, the media, and the business community at national and local levels.

Taking this programme forward, the TNTD/ATU first organized a series of four VERLT-related regional and sub-regional conferences and workshops between 2008 and 2010 to facilitate the exchange of views, lessons learned, and good practices related to VERLT and effective countermeasures. This was followed by more targeted activities that harnessed the OSCE's multidimensional expertise to tackle specific VERLT-related issues. For instance, in 2011-2012, the TNTD/ATU and ODIHR organized two expert round-tables focusing on preventing female terrorist radicalization and the role and empowerment of women in countering VERLT; a third round-table in late 2012 discussed youth engagement in countering VERLT. Current work also focuses on the use of community policing to prevent terrorism and counter VERLT through the organization of national seminars and the development of a guidebook to provide guidance to policy-makers and senior police professionals.

Furthermore, the TNTD/ATU seeks to engage interested participating States in more systematic, tailored capacity-building projects, where possible in co-operation with relevant OSCE field operations. Bosnia and Herzegovina has, for instance, requested the OSCE's assistance in elaborating and implementing a National Action Plan to Counter VERLT. The OSCE Office in Tajikistan has been carrying out the first ever OSCE VERLT field programme since 2010. It consists of three stages: a survey-based country-wide assessment of VERLT trends;<sup>3</sup> targeted capacity-building activities for government and civil-society stakeholders; and support for the formulation of a national counter-radicalization policy.

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3 See Michael Taarnby, *Islamist Radicalization in Tajikistan, an Assessment of Current Trends*, Dushanbe 2012. The report was based on a survey conducted by the Centre for Socio-Political Studies "Korshinos", which was supported and funded by the OSCE Office in Tajikistan, with a contribution from the Government of Denmark.

### *Preventing and Suppressing the Financing of Terrorism*

OSCE participating States have repeatedly emphasized that money laundering and the financing of terrorism are threats to security and have reaffirmed their commitment to combat these threats through the Consolidated Framework. Co-ordinating closely with the UNODC, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF), the IMF, the World Bank, and other partners, the OCEEA has developed a range of activities to support the fight against both money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

These activities, which include legislative reviews, needs assessments, and capacity building for the implementation of international commitments, have been conducted in or with all of the participating States that host field operations. The OCEEA has supported the creation and development of financial intelligence units (FIUs), provided assistance to participating States seeking to join the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units,<sup>4</sup> and trained countries on the process of conducting national risk assessments on money laundering and the financing of terrorism, with the aim of allocating resources where they are most needed. The OCEEA fosters inter-agency co-operation to ensure that the financing of terrorism is effectively detected and prosecuted as well as international co-operation to support countries in investigating cross-border cases.

A key focus of the OSCE's future activities in countering the financing of terrorism will focus on preventing the abuse of non-profit organizations (NPOs) for purposes of financing terrorism. By providing public services and working to improve quality of life, often at the local level, NPOs serve as a vital complement to the economic and social activities of the public and private sectors. The abuse of NPOs for terrorism financing, however, can damage the reputations of NPOs and lead to criminal prosecution, and may have serious security consequences both nationally and internationally. Because the continued financial viability of NPOs depends on donors maintaining confidence in the non-profit sector, countries and NPOs face the challenge of effectively policing NPOs for abuse, while allowing them to continue their crucial work.

The OSCE has previously promoted international best practices on combating the abuse of NPOs. For instance, in 2009, the TNTD/ATU and the OCEEA jointly organized an OSCE-wide workshop in Vienna to raise awareness among both state and civil-society representatives of the importance of preventing the abuse of NPOs for terrorist financing, and of methods for doing so. In 2010, the TNTD/ATU also organized a panel discussion on the transparency of the non-profit sector during the annual general meeting of the International Committee on Fundraising Organizations (ICFO) – an association of national accrediting and monitoring bodies. In addition, in June

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4 The Egmont Group is the umbrella organization for international FIUs, see: <http://www.egmontgroup.org>.

2011, an issue of the TNTD/ATU Counter Terrorism Network Electronic Journal was devoted to the implementation of FATF Special Recommendation VIII on NPOs.

### *Countering the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes*

The internet is a key strategic device and tactical facilitator for terrorists – and this threat is likely to grow with the proliferation of new technologies. Terrorists go online to identify, recruit, and train new members, to collect and transfer funds, to organize attacks, and to incite violence.

The OSCE participating States committed themselves to exchanging information on the use of the internet for terrorist purposes and to identify possible strategies to combat this threat, while ensuring respect for relevant international human-rights obligations and standards. They further decided to intensify their action by enhancing international co-operation on countering the use of the internet for terrorist purposes and to explore the possibility of more active engagement of civil society institutions and the private sector in work related to this topic. The Consolidated Framework identified the need to further assist states in their endeavours.

The TNTD/ATU assists states in their efforts by facilitating the exchange of information on potential threats and trends and best practices in countering terrorist use between authorities, the private and public sectors, and civil society in close co-operation with partner structures such as ODIHR and RFOM. So far, TNTD/ATU has organized or facilitated two OSCE-wide and five national workshops (in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Kyrgyzstan) on this topic, and on cyber-security in general. The national events, in particular, offer host countries an opportunity to take stock of their overall national cyber-security efforts and to identify potential gaps.

In 2012, the ATU also organized a series of online expert forums on the latest developments and responses related to terrorist use of the internet. The forum discussions focused on four key issues: use of the internet as a tactical facilitator by terrorists, the use of social networking tools for terrorist purposes, right-wing violent extremism/terrorist use of the internet, and public-private partnerships to combat terrorist use of the internet. A consolidated report highlighted key recommendations and potential policy options.

The comparative advantage of OSCE efforts related to terrorist use of the internet is that they are embedded within the Organization's broader efforts to promote a comprehensive approach to (cyber-)security. It allows a specific perpetrator group to be looked at in a cross-dimensional and integrated way that recognizes interlinkages between cyber-threats and perpetrators, and stresses the need for human-rights-compliant responses – a key comparative advantage when looking at future endeavours in this area.



*Promoting Dialogue and Co-operation on Counter-Terrorism Issues, in Particular through Public-Private Partnerships between State Authorities and the Private Sector, as well as Civil Society and the Media*

The primary responsibility for preventing and countering terrorism, as well as for managing the consequences of terrorist acts, rests with states. However, given the nature and scale of today's constantly evolving terrorist threat, states alone cannot successfully counter terrorism without deploying the full range of national power, which requires them to draw on the resources of the business community and civil society as a whole. The international community recognizes the importance of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in countering terrorism; for instance in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and the OSCE participating States once again underlined the strategic benefits of such partnerships in the Consolidated Framework.

Based on its platform for co-operative security, the OSCE strives to involve the private sector as much as possible in all its counter-terrorism activities. And while co-operation with the private sector, as well as civil society and academia, is a thread that runs through all OSCE counter-terrorism activities, such partnerships were also picked out as topic in their own right in two OSCE-wide workshops. In 2007, the OSCE organized a high-level political conference *Partnership of State Authorities, Civil Society and the Business Community in Combating Terrorism*; and a follow up conference was organized in 2008 to consolidate the positive momentum achieved and discuss opportunities and projects for public-private co-operation in specific fields, including with the media and civil society in countering VERLT, in protecting critical infrastructure and major events against terrorist attacks, and in countering the financing of terrorism.

As a result of the first conference, in 2007 the OSCE States adopted a decision on PPPs in countering terrorism, which acknowledges the usefulness of joint counter-terrorist efforts by government bodies and the private sector (civil society and the business community) in the form of voluntary co-operation, based upon the principles of partnership and mutual trust, in order to provide better security and benefits to all parties. Based on this decision, the OSCE is organizing thematic workshops to further raise awareness, identify priority areas for partnerships, disseminate good practices, and support networking. Looking at the future, a particular focus when it comes to promoting PPPs will include preventing the abuse of NPOs for the purpose of terrorist financing.

*Strengthening National Efforts to Implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) on Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction*

The participating States identified the OSCE as a key asset in promoting the implementation of UNSCR 1540 at the regional level. Ten years prior to the adoption of UNSCR 1540 in 2004, the OSCE States had already affirmed their commitment to preventing the proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery by agreeing on the 1994 Principles Governing Non-proliferation. Based on this work, the OSCE States adopted a mandate to facilitate regional implementation of UNSCR 1540, providing assistance to those states that require it.

In 2010, a four-year project to support the implementation of UNSCR 1540 was created to strengthen OSCE expertise, and to transform existing political tasking into concrete assistance activities and support for global processes. For instance, in 2011, in order to define the OSCE's role in these global efforts, the OSCE held a *Workshop to Identify the Proper Role of the OSCE in Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540*. It provided a comprehensive platform for exchanging views on policy issues, implementation practices, and needs for further dialogue, cooperation, and assistance among national representatives and international organizations involved in implementing UNSCR 1540 – including the OSCE.

Since 2011, the OSCE's Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) has been instrumental in facilitating assistance to interested participating States in implementation of the Resolution, by, for instance, providing them with assistance in developing their voluntary National Action Plans. More specifically, advice and technical assistance is currently being provided to more than a dozen OSCE participating States. The 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts, together with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), have played a vital role in these activities and provided expertise to support the OSCE participating States in their implementation efforts.

*Strengthening Travel Document Security*

Almost all cross-border criminal activities involve false identity or travel documents. Enhancing Travel Document Security (TDS) is therefore an integral part of addressing transnational threats, including terrorism. With the Consolidated Framework, participating States have reaffirmed that TDS will remain a vital component of preventing terrorist movement and will therefore remain high on the OSCE agenda.

Over the years, the TNTD/ATU has developed a comprehensive TDS programme to assist states in this area. So far the TNTD/ATU has conducted over 50 TDS capacity-building activities in 18 countries. Importantly, while the ATU is leading this effort, the security of documents and associated pro-

cesses and controls has the potential to impact positively on eradicating many additional transnational threats as well as terrorism. Consequently TNTD/ATU TDS activities involve several other executive structures as well as field operations.

The TDS programme comprises several interrelated components: To help secure identities, the OSCE improves the documents, civil and population registration systems, and other methods and processes used to verify and/or validate a citizen's identity during the travel document application process. As part of enhancing the security of the travel document itself, the OSCE supports the introduction of electronic Machine Readable Travel Documents (eMRTDs) with biometric identifiers and participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization Public Key Directory (ICAO PKD), allowing effective validation of the authenticity of electronic security features and biometric data stored in eMRTDs at the border. To strengthen border security, the OSCE facilitates access to international passport control databases and modernizes border equipment in order to better inspect, capture, verify, share, and analyse information on cross-border movements. Moreover, the OSCE trains border officers in identifying forged documents with the use of basic forensic tools.

With a view to the future of travel documents, the OSCE has two clear strategic goals: to strengthen identity management, and to bring border controls up to speed on biometrically enabled travel documents. A negative trend related to the former is that the enhanced physical security of travel documents may lead individuals or groups who wish to use travel documents for terrorist activities or other illegal purposes to apply for legitimate documents under false identities. Worryingly, some states have decided to introduce eMRTDs without integrating them with or using identity-management data from existing passport-issuing databases or other databases that could prove an applicant's identity beyond reasonable doubt – though these databases might themselves be insufficiently protected against abuse. Claiming and establishing one's identity has become a ubiquitous task and one which will only grow in importance. To accommodate wider implications of the development of identity management systems and identity or travel documents, the TNTD/ATU promotes a comprehensive approach to identity management, not only for purposes of travel-document security but also in other areas that require the protection of identities in line with human-rights concerns.

The second strategic goal will be to centralize information about passport bearers and travel documents as part of modernizing a country's travel document inspection process, thereby allowing this information to be accessed and an inspection carried out via a single, machine-assisted transaction. In this way, the border control officer is able to ensure the authenticity of the passport, conduct law-enforcement and database checks and, critically, verify identity by matching the document to the bearer. The machine-assisted check ensures consistency and standardization of the data being checked and

recorded and makes control procedures faster and more comprehensive. The OSCE will increasingly focus on assisting states in bringing their border controls up to speed and suggesting how most effective use can be made of the new technologies being enabled by the introduction of biometric passports.

*Promoting and Protecting Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in the Context of Counter-Terrorism Measures*

The OSCE's approach to countering terrorism links guarantees of human rights to effective protection from terrorism. OSCE States have repeatedly acknowledged this link, stressing that counter-terrorism measures that do not protect human rights are counter-productive and that responses to the threat of terrorism must not unlawfully infringe upon, damage, or destroy the very standards, principles, and values of human rights, the rule of law, and pluralistic democracy. With the OSCE Consolidated Framework, the OSCE States have once again committed themselves to preventing and combating terrorism in full compliance with OSCE human-dimension commitments and international human-rights standards.

In line with the OSCE's comprehensive and multidimensional approach to security threats, human rights are an integral part of all OSCE anti-terrorism action across all of the three dimensions. Nevertheless, of special relevance are the contributions of the ODIHR that aim to strengthen compliance with international human-rights standards and OSCE commitments relating to the protection of human rights in the fight against terrorism. Most ODIHR activities in this field are implemented by the ODIHR Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism Programme.

ODIHR provides advice and analysis on key human-rights issues as well as on the conditions that may foster and sustain terrorism. ODIHR has produced a number of background papers and has organized expert meetings focusing on civil society, victims of terrorism, incitement to terrorism, and international co-operation in counter-terrorism, among other topics. Most recently, ODIHR and the TNTD/ATU have organized a series of expert meetings on the role of women and young people in countering VERLT. In addition, ODIHR and TNTD are jointly elaborating a guidebook for policy-level officials and senior police professionals on *Preventing Terrorism and Countering VERLT: a Community Policing Approach*.

ODIHR has also developed a training manual and module on *Countering Terrorism, Protecting Human Rights*. The module provides law-enforcement officials and counter-terrorism practitioners with a better understanding of the main human-rights concerns that may arise in the anti-terrorism context as well as ways to ensure that such rights are protected. The module has also been adapted for delivery to border officials. ODIHR also supports the implementation of the training module as a sustainable compon-

ent of national training programmes. In particular, ODIHR and the relevant OSCE field operation assisted the main law enforcement-training institutions of Tajikistan in elaborating a specific course on these issues as part of their regular curricula. In 2013, in co-operation with the TNTD/SPMU, ODIHR will publish a new manual focusing on *Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Investigations*, which will be utilized for future training sessions.

Upon request, ODIHR also assists OSCE participating States in drafting anti-terrorism legislation and strengthening existing legislation in line with international human-rights standards. The online legislative database ([www.legislationline.org](http://www.legislationline.org)) is intended as a resource for lawmakers in the OSCE region to support the implementation of relevant anti-terrorism instruments.