

Expert Workshop on Public-Private Partnerships: Engaging with the Media in Countering Terrorism

19-20 October 2009
Hofburg (Neuer Saal), Vienna, Austria

ANNOTATED AGENDA

19 OCTOBER	
08:30 – 09:30	Registration of participants
09:30 – 10:00	<p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dionyssios Kyvetos, Deputy Head of Mission, Permanent Mission of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship ▪ Anvar S. Azimov, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE ▪ Paul Fritch, Director, Office of the OSCE Secretary General
10:00 – 11:00	<p>Session I: Co-operating with the media in reporting and countering terrorism – challenges and opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yuri Alekseyev, Head of Department and Deputy Head of the Apparatus of the National Anti-Terrorism Committee (NAC) of the Russian Federation ▪ Roland Bless, Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM) ▪ David Kaplan, Director, International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), The Center for Public Integrity <p><i>Moderation: Raphael Perl, Head on Anti-Terrorism Issues, OSCE Action against Terrorism Unit</i></p>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30	Session I (continued): Discussion and questions from the floor
12:30 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 15:30	<p>Session II: Public-private partnership initiatives with the media in preventing terrorism and promoting tolerance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dunja Mijatović, Director of Broadcasting, Communication Regulatory Agency, Bosnia and Herzegovina; former Chairperson of the Council of Europe Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis (MC-S-IC) ▪ Leonid Zolotarevskiy, Secretary of the Presidium, International Academy of Television and Radio (IATR) ▪ Alison Bethel McKenzie, Deputy Director, International Press Institute (IPI) <p><i>Moderation: Alex Schmid, Director, Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI) and Editor, Perspectives on Terrorism (PT) journal</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:00	Session II (continued): Discussion and questions from the floor

20 OCTOBER	
09:30 – 10:30	<p><i>Session III: Identifying effective ways to ensure provision and dissemination of accurate and timely information to the public in the event of a terrorist incident</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aleksandr Bazavliuk, Under-Secretary General, Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) ▪ Randy Atkins, Director, "News & Terrorism: Communicating in a Crisis" programme, U.S. National Academies ▪ Luis Rodríguez Aizpeolea, Journalist, El País <p><i>Moderation: Dardis McNamee, Director, Vienna Journalism Institute</i></p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:00	<i>Session III (continued): Discussion and questions from the floor</i>
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:00	<p><i>Session IV: The way forward – improving relationships, understanding and communication between media, civil society and governmental agencies involved in combating terrorism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ John Toker, Director of Communications for Counter Terrorism, Cabinet Office, United Kingdom ▪ David Crawford, European Investigative Correspondent, The Wall Street Journal ▪ Kadri Gürsel, Columnist, Turkish daily Milliyet <p><i>Moderation: Brigitte Nacos, Adjunct Professor of Political Science, Columbia University and author of the book "Mass-Mediated Terrorism: the Central Role of Media in Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism"</i></p>
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee Break
15:30 – 16:30	<i>Session IV (continued): Discussion and questions from the floor</i>
16:30 – 17:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Closing session</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raphael Perl, Head on Anti-Terrorism Issues, OSCE Action against Terrorism Unit

Background

Free and independent media is a key foundation of a functioning and pluralistic democracy. Respect for basic OSCE commitments such as freedom of expression and freedom of the media is essential to successfully implement any governmental long-term strategy designed to address terrorism. However, as repeatedly acknowledged by the OSCE Ministerial Council, although States are primarily responsible for preventing and countering terrorism and for managing the consequences of terrorist attacks, they should draw on the support of the private sector, including the media, to successfully counter such threats.

The media has immense potential as a counter-terrorism resource; precise and rapid dissemination of information to the public in the event of a terrorist attack can prevent panic, reduce confusion, streamline response efforts and save lives. At the same time, sensationalist reporting can play into the hands of terrorists by promoting their messages, spreading panic and jeopardizing counter-terrorism operations. Furthermore, communication between the media and counter-terrorism officials is often restricted by lack of co-operation and transparency, stemming from a number of

legitimate concerns from each side as well as a mutual lack of understanding of their respective goals and responsibilities.

Terrorists are increasingly using media coverage as an amplifying tool for purposes such as incitement, recruitment, fundraising and spreading propaganda. It is therefore crucial to engage, on a voluntary basis and with respect for their working methods, with the media to reject terrorism by promoting an open and pluralistic debate of legitimate public issues. It is equally important to engage with the media and civil society in promoting non-violence and tolerance of ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural diversity.

The OSCE Madrid Ministerial Council Decision on Public-Private Partnerships in Countering Terrorism ([MC.DEC/5/07](#)) recognizes the role of media and educational institutions in encouraging pluralistic debate with a view to promoting ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural diversity and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. It also 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, inter alia, promoting public awareness and outreach through the media and educational institutions, while respecting cultural and religious diversity.

The OSCE Helsinki Ministerial Council Decision on Further Promoting the OSCE's Action in Countering Terrorism ([MC.DEC/10/08](#)) calls upon the OSCE participating States to continue promoting public-private partnerships with civil society, media, the business community and industry in countering terrorism, including through the dissemination of lessons learned and exchange of relevant information and national best practices both at the OSCE and national, subregional and regional levels, where appropriate. In addition, it tasks the Secretary General and relevant OSCE executive structures to support the organization in 2009 of expert-level seminars, workshops and simulations, within available resources, that would encourage public-private partnership initiatives in such areas as co-operating with civil society and the media in countering terrorism.

In June 2009, the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE circulated a Food for Thought paper among OSCE participating States for an expert workshop on Public-Private Partnerships: Engaging with the Media in Countering Terrorism (PC.DEL/432/09). At subsequent Security Committee meetings a number of participating States expressed strong support for the Russian initiative.

Objective and Expected Outcome

The main goal of the workshop is to exchange relevant information, share lessons learned and good practices on the topic and identify ways in which the OSCE, with a multidimensional approach, can support, facilitate and enhance the impact of existing efforts while respecting relevant OSCE commitments, especially in the areas of freedom of expression and information as well as freedom of the media, and without duplicating existing OSCE activities or those of other international and regional organizations.

This 2-day workshop, which is organized with partial financial support from the Moscow City Government of the Russian Federation, will provide a unique forum for dialogue in this regard as well as an opportunity to explore ways on how participating States can continue promoting public-private partnerships with the media and civil society in countering terrorism at the national and sub-regional levels in the OSCE area.

In order not to duplicate efforts, relevant international, regional and national bodies already active in the field, as well as relevant media representatives and non-governmental organizations, will be invited to present on their ongoing work and results, thus providing participating States with a

view of relevant cutting edge developments including research, programmatic activities and anticipated initiatives.

Specifically, the workshop will aim to:

- Bring to light challenges and opportunities for public-private partnerships with the media in reporting and countering terrorism;
- Increase the understanding of the different roles of the media and governmental agencies in rejecting terrorism, as well as in promoting non-violence, non-discrimination and tolerance of ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural diversity and solidarity with victims of terrorism;
- Identify good practices for developing and maintaining effective communication and understanding between the media, civil society and governmental agencies involved in combating terrorism;
- Elaborate on options for further OSCE involvement in promoting public-private partnership initiatives with the media and civil society in countering terrorism at the national and subregional levels.

Session I: Co-operating with the media in reporting and countering terrorism – challenges and opportunities

The first working session serves to frame the overall discussion of the workshop by focussing on the challenges and opportunities for public-private partnerships between governmental agencies, the media and civil society in reporting and countering terrorism. The presentations and discussions will highlight existing case studies and good practices on how to develop and maintain such voluntary partnerships. The session will furthermore address the added value that increased public-private co-operation brings to all involved parties as well as to the public.

These issues will be looked at through the different perspectives of national authorities, media outlets as well as relevant inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Session II: Public-private partnership initiatives with the media in preventing terrorism and promoting tolerance

The second session of the workshop will showcase and discuss how state authorities can engage with the media and civil society in rejecting terrorism, while at the same time respecting basic OSCE commitments such as freedom of expression and independence of the media.

Furthermore, presentations and discussions will address existing or planned public-private initiatives that focus on the role that media and educational institutions can play in encouraging pluralistic debate with a view to promoting ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural diversity and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism and taking into account the importance of respecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Session III: Identifying effective ways to ensure provision and dissemination of accurate and timely information to the public in the event of a terrorist incident

Working session III covers lessons learned on how public-private partnership initiatives between government bodies and the media can be implemented to ensure effective provision and

dissemination of accurate and timely information to the general public in a time of crisis, based on mutual trust and understanding of their respective goals and responsibilities.

Relevant actors will be invited to share their respective approaches and experiences in dealing with this issue from both a national and international perspective, including training initiatives and issues pertaining to the solidarity with victims of terrorism.

Session IV: The way forward – improving relationships, understanding and communication between media, civil society and governmental agencies involved in combating terrorism

The last session of the workshop will elaborate on options for further OSCE involvement in promoting public-private partnership initiatives with the media and civil society in countering terrorism at the national and subregional levels in accordance with the Helsinki Ministerial Council Decision on Further Promoting the OSCE's Action in Countering Terrorism ([MC.DEC/10/08](#)).

Participants will explore the possibility of the OSCE supporting, facilitating and enhancing on-going efforts while respecting relevant OSCE commitments and without duplicating existing OSCE activities or those of other organizations.

Organizational Modalities

The workshop will consist of four main sessions as outlined above. Each session will have three presenters and a moderator who will introduce the topic of the session as well as stimulate and focus the dialogue between participants.

To facilitate discussion within time constraints, each presenter will have to limit their presentation to a maximum of 20 minutes, but all are encouraged to provide more exhaustive written remarks which can be provided to all participants to permit questions and comments from the floor (limited to 5 minutes per intervention). Presenters and other participants providing written documentation to be circulated should do so to the workshop points of contact (see below) by Friday 9 October 2009 at the latest.

Please note that active discussion between participants is considered an important aspect of the workshop. Participants are therefore strongly encouraged to come prepared to discuss and share specific experiences, to identify needs and areas for possible improvement and to define possible policy responses to such needs. Simultaneous interpretation in English, Russian and French will be provided throughout the workshop.

A workshop report, including a list of participants with contact information, will be circulated to all registered participants shortly after the event.

Workshop Points of Contact

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