



## General Assembly

Twelfth Session

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### Security Council

This is a special part of the United Nations. The UN created this group to try to protect peace. They decide what is a danger to peace. There are 15 members of the Security Council: 5 are permanent and 10 change every two years. The permanent members are China, France, Russia, United Kingdom and the US. The other members are Bolivia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Senegal, Sweden, Ukraine, and Uruguay.

This group helps peace in several ways. They ask states to solve problems peacefully. They also advise states to do something different or offer ways to resolve the situation. If a problem becomes bad the Security Council recommends sanctions. This means other states will punish the country in a non-violent way. An example might be not buying the country's products or not allowing a country's sports teams to compete internationally. If things get really bad the Security Council recommends the use of force to bring back international peace and security. All the states of the UN must follow what the Security Council decides.

All the permanent members of the Security Council get a veto. This means no resolutions can pass unless all the permanent members agree. All the other members get one vote. They have passed resolutions on peacebuilding, the situation in Western Sahara, and starting peacekeeping operations.

### Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts

#### Background

Terrorism is the use of violence to change politics. The word comes from the Latin word *terrere* (to frighten). This is what terrorism is trying to do. It is trying to scare people into doing what they want. For this reason, terrorism is sudden, directed towards civilians, and shocking. It is not usually done by states. It is done by groups who want to force states to change. Terrorist groups can have one person or thousands. This makes it hard for states to stop.

Terrorism upsets the international community. In 1936, the League of Nations started to create a convention. This convention was going to punish people involved in terrorism. As you can see, the world has wanted to do something for many years. The convention was never ratified. Since 1963, there have been 15 conventions about counter-terrorism. These conventions cover hostages, financing, hijacking planes, and other situations.

Terrorism is a focus of the Security Council. It became more of an issue on September 11<sup>th</sup>. On September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001, the terrorist group Al-Qaeda attacked the US. Terrorists destroyed the Twin Towers in New York City. 2977 people died. This started the Global War on Terror. The United States and other states began a new effort. They searched for terrorists and tried to stop them. This resulted in the invasion of Afghanistan and the Iraq War.

In 2013 US President Obama said the War on Terror was over. He said states should focus on specific targets and not terrorism in general. Other states agree. States need to work together to stop terrorism. Terrorism is a global problem and a “war” cannot stop it. It is much better to cut their sources of money. Although countries have been working together there were over 1000 terrorist attacks in 2016.

Since 2001 the Security Council has passed 32 resolutions related to terrorism.

- The UN created the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2006 to help stop terrorism. There are four things that it focuses on:
  - 1) Stopping the root causes of terrorism
  - 2) Actions to stop terrorism
  - 3) Strengthening countries so they can stop terrorism
  - 4) Protecting human rights and the rule of law
- States with a lot of deaths from terrorism create refugees. Syria has 4 million refugees. Many of these people are in refugee camps or trying to reach Europe. Some states are afraid to take in these people because they think they might be terrorists.
- The West has less to worry about when it comes to terrorism. Since 2000, only 2.6% of total deaths from terrorism have been in the West.
- A lone wolf attack is when one person does a terrorist act alone. This is the most common type of terrorist act in the West.
- 72% of terrorism related deaths happen in just five countries: Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, Nigeria and Afghanistan.
- 74% of deaths are due to only four groups: ISIS, Boko Haram, the Taliban and Al-Qaeda. There were 270 other groups that did an attack in 2015.
- The cost of all terrorist attacks in 2015 was US\$89.6 billion. Imagine what else that money could have been used for.
- ISIS is a terrorist group acting in Turkey. The Kurdistan Workers’ Party is another terrorist group attacking Turkey in order to get their own country. Together they increased the number of terrorism-related deaths in the country from 20 to 337.
- Since the November 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris, France has been in a state of emergency. Many people in the Muslim community in France feel their rights are being violated.
- A state of emergency allows the police extra powers to search and arrest people.
- The US says Sudan, Iran and Syria have supported terrorist groups.

### **Financial Support of Terrorism**

- ✓ In 1999, the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism was created.
- ✓ It asks states to stop terrorists who raise money by saying they are a charity.
- ✓ The Security Council wants more done. They want to freeze the bank accounts of terrorists. They also want states to stop the transfer of money across borders.

**Foreign Terrorist Fighters**

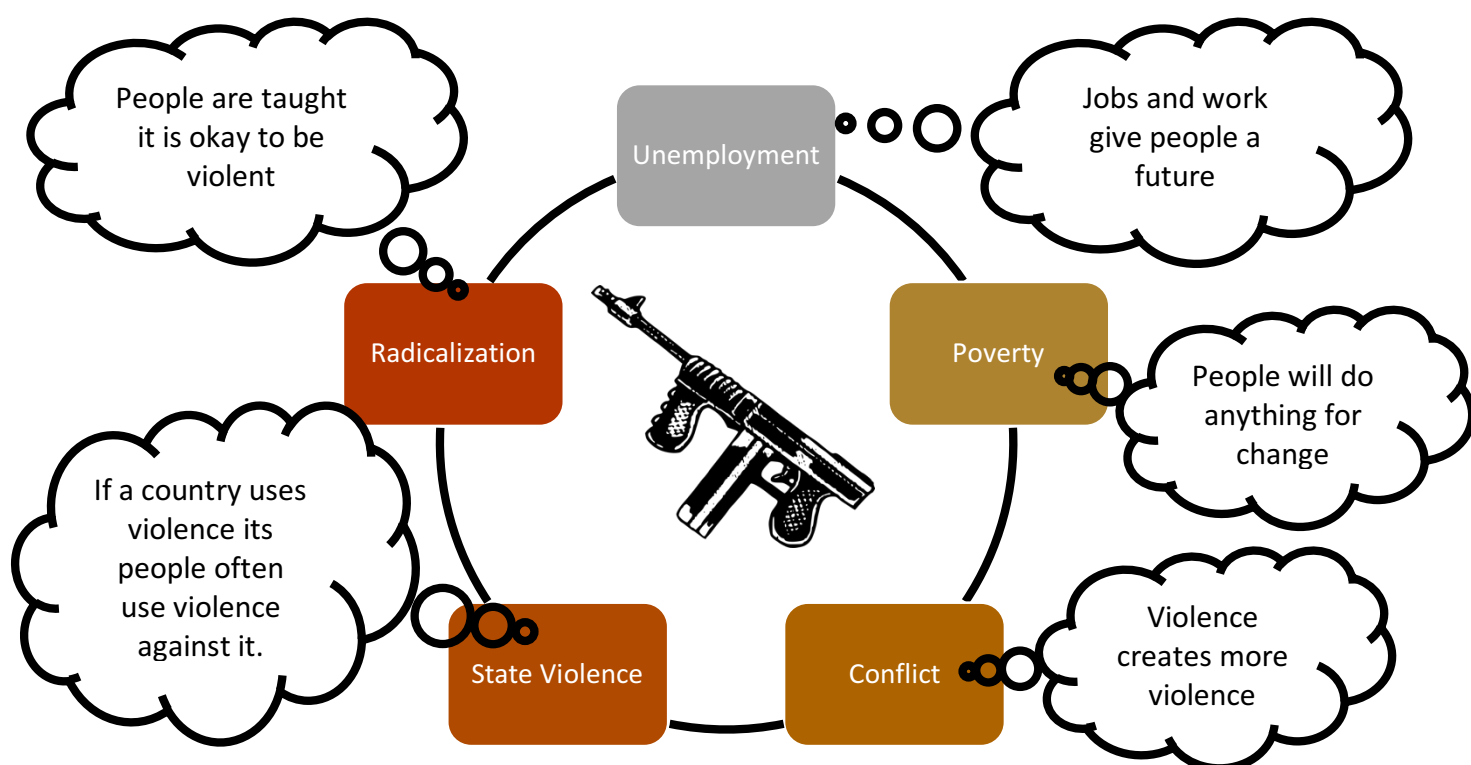
- ✓ Terrorists need new members all the time. They are always recruiting. One problem is people moving from one state to another in order to be involved in terrorism. They can get training and become very dangerous.
- ✓ Over 30 000 people from 100 countries have left to pursue terrorist actions. Many are young people.
- ✓ Both men and women are convinced that becoming a terrorist is a good thing.
- ✓ Terrorists might return to their home countries to commit acts of terrorism.

**Sharing Information**

- ✓ The Security Council would like states to improve how they communicate and work with one another to stop terrorism.
- ✓ There is a group called Five Eyes (FVEY). This is made up of Canada, the UK, Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. They share information, monitor cell phones and the internet.
- ✓ A lot of people think FVEY gets too much information and do not always have a good reason to share it. However, their work probably stops some terrorist acts.

**Definition of Terrorism**

- ✓ The UN has never created an official definition of what terrorism is.
- ✓ Many countries in the Middle East believe that people fighting to create a homeland for their ethnic group should not be labelled terrorists.
- ✓ Many Western countries believe that all armed groups that target civilians should be called terrorists.

**Root Causes of Terrorism**

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## Guiding Questions

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1. Does your country have a problem with terrorism? Its neighbours?
2. How do you think the word terrorism and terrorist should be defined?
3. What are the reasons some states have a lot of terrorism and some do not?
4. Look at the root causes of terrorism. What can be done to solve each of these problems?
5. How can states work together to stop international terrorism?
6. How can people most at risk be protected?
7. China, Russia, France, the UK and the US all have vetoes. What can they agree on? What will they disagree on? How can they work together?
8. Does the problem exist in your community?
9. How does being a delegate from a different country help you understand this problem in your community?
10. How do the choices you make in your life help resolve this problem?

## Resources

Title	Hyperlink	How is it helpful?
<b><i>Security Council</i></b>	<a href="http://www.un.org/en/sc/">http://www.un.org/en/sc/</a>	UN main page about what the Security Council does.
<b><i>What We Investigate: Terrorism</i></b>	<a href="https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/terrorism">https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/terrorism</a>	The FBI's website on terrorism and their role in investigations.
<b><i>Counter Terrorism Committee</i></b>	<a href="https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/">https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/</a>	UN committee on how to stop terrorism. Includes information on some of the focus areas.
<b><i>2016 Terrorist Attacks</i></b>	<a href="https://storymaps.esri.com/stories/terrorist-attacks/?year=2016">https://storymaps.esri.com/stories/terrorist-attacks/?year=2016</a>	An interactive map that shows all the terrorist attacks in 2016.
<b><i>Global Counterterrorism Forum</i></b>	<a href="https://www.thegctf.org/">https://www.thegctf.org/</a>	A group of 29 countries and the EU working to end Terrorism.
<b><i>Global Terrorism Index 2016</i></b>	<a href="http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Global-Terrorism-Index-2016.2.pdf?utm_content=buffer93890&amp;utm_medium=social&amp;utm_source=twitter.com&amp;utm_campaign=buffer">http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Global-Terrorism-Index-2016.2.pdf?utm_content=buffer93890&amp;utm_medium=social&amp;utm_source=twitter.com&amp;utm_campaign=buffer</a>	A very large report about terrorism in 2016. There are some helpful graphics and bulleted information which can be helpful for research.
<b><i>Globally, Terrorism is on the Rise</i></b>	<a href="http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-11-17/global-terrorism-index-increase/6947200">http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-11-17/global-terrorism-index-increase/6947200</a>	Australian newspaper article looking at some of the trends in terrorism.
<b><i>French Parliament Votes to Extend State of Emergency</i></b>	<a href="https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/14/french-parliament-votes-to-extend-state-of-emergency-until-after-2017-elections">https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/14/french-parliament-votes-to-extend-state-of-emergency-until-after-2017-elections</a>	The Guardian article about how France has been under a state of emergency for the last two years.
<b><i>What We Do: International Terrorism</i></b>	<a href="https://www.mi5.gov.uk/international-terrorism">https://www.mi5.gov.uk/international-terrorism</a>	Official website of MI5 (UK Security Service). It highlights how they combat international terrorism. A lot of background information.



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**Resolution 2341 (2017)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 7882nd meeting, on  
13 February 2017**

*The Security Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [1373 \(2001\)](#), [1963 \(2010\)](#), [2129 \(2013\)](#) and [2322 \(2016\)](#),

*Reaffirming* its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States in accordance with the United Nations Charter,

*Reaffirming* that terrorism in all forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever, wherever and by whomsoever committed, and *remaining determined* to contribute further to enhancing the effectiveness of the overall effort to fight this scourge on a global level,

*Reaffirming* that terrorism poses a threat to international peace and security and that countering this threat requires collective efforts on national, regional and international levels on the basis of respect for international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

*Stressing* that the active participation and collaboration of all States and international, regional and subregional organizations is needed to impede, impair, isolate, and incapacitate the terrorist threat, and *emphasizing* the importance of implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS), contained in General Assembly resolution [60/288](#) of 8 September 2006, and its subsequent reviews,

*Reiterating* the need to undertake measures to prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by denying terrorists access to the means to carry out their attacks, as



outlined in Pillar II of the UN GCTS, including the need to strengthen efforts to improve security and protection of particularly vulnerable targets, such as infrastructure and public places, as well as resilience to terrorist attacks, in particular in the area of civil protection, while recognizing that States may require assistance to this effect,

*Recognizing* that each State determines what constitutes its critical infrastructure, and how to effectively protect it from terrorist attacks,

*Recognizing* a growing importance of ensuring reliability and resilience of critical infrastructure and its protection from terrorist attacks for national security, public safety and the economy of the concerned States as well as well-being and welfare of their population,

*Recognizing* that preparedness for terrorist attacks includes prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery with an emphasis on promoting security and resilience of critical infrastructure, including through public-private partnership as appropriate,

*Recognizing* that protection efforts entail multiple streams of efforts, such as planning; public information and warning; operational coordination; intelligence and information sharing; interdiction and disruption; screening, search and detection; access control and identity verification; cybersecurity; physical protective measures; risk management for protection programmes and activities; and supply chain integrity and security,

*Acknowledging* a vital role that informed, alert communities play in promoting awareness and understanding of the terrorist threat environment and specifically in identifying and reporting suspicious activities to law enforcement authorities, and the importance of expanding public awareness, engagement, and public-private partnership as appropriate, especially regarding potential terrorist threats and vulnerabilities through regular national and local dialogue, training, and outreach,

*Noting* increasing cross-border critical infrastructure interdependencies between countries, such as those used for, inter alia, generation, transmission and distribution of energy, air, land and maritime transport, banking and financial services, water supply, food distribution and public health,

*Recognizing* that, as a result of increasing interdependency among critical infrastructure sectors, some critical infrastructure is potentially susceptible to a growing number and a wider variety of threats and vulnerabilities that raise new security concerns,

*Expressing concern* that terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure could significantly disrupt the functioning of government and private sector alike and cause knock-on effects beyond the infrastructure sector,

*Underlining* that effective critical infrastructure protection requires sectoral and cross-sectoral approaches to risk management and includes, inter alia, identifying and preparing for terrorist threats to reduce vulnerability of critical infrastructure, preventing and disrupting terrorist plots against critical infrastructure where possible, minimizing impacts and recovery time in the event of damage from a terrorist attack, identifying the cause of damage or the source of an attack,

preserving evidence of an attack and holding those responsible for the attack accountable,

*Recognizing* in this regard that the effectiveness of critical infrastructure protection is greatly enhanced when based on an approach that considers all threats and hazards, notably terrorist attacks, and when combined with regular and substantive consultation and cooperation with operators of critical infrastructure and law enforcement and security officials charged with protection of critical infrastructure, and, when appropriate, with other stakeholders, including private sector owners,

*Recognizing* that the protection of critical infrastructure requires cooperation domestically and across borders with governmental authorities, foreign partners and private sector owners and operators of such infrastructure, as well as sharing their knowledge and experience in developing policies, good practices, and lessons learned,

*Recalling* that the resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) called upon Member States to find ways of intensifying and accelerating the exchange of operational information, especially regarding actions or movements of terrorist persons or networks; forged or falsified travel documents; traffic in arms, explosives or sensitive materials; use of communications technologies by terrorist groups; and the threat posed by the possession of weapons of mass destruction by terrorist groups and to cooperate, particularly through bilateral and multilateral arrangements and agreements, to prevent and suppress terrorist attacks,

*Noting* the work of relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, entities, forums and meetings on enhancing protection, security, and resilience of critical infrastructure,

*Welcoming* the continuing cooperation on counter-terrorism efforts between the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular on technical assistance and capacity-building, and all other United Nations bodies, and *strongly encouraging* their further engagement with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system,

1. *Encourages* all States to make concerted and coordinated efforts, including through international cooperation, to raise awareness, to expand knowledge and understanding of the challenges posed by terrorist attacks, in order to improve preparedness for such attacks against critical infrastructure;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to consider developing or further improving their strategies for reducing risks to critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks, which should include, inter alia, assessing and raising awareness of the relevant risks, taking preparedness measures, including effective responses to such attacks, as well as promoting better interoperability in security and consequence management, and facilitating effective interaction of all stakeholders involved;

3. *Recalls* its decision in resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) that all States shall establish terrorist acts as serious criminal offences in domestic laws and regulations,



and *calls upon* all Member States to ensure that they have established criminal responsibility for terrorist attacks intended to destroy or disable critical infrastructure, as well as the planning of, training for, and financing of and logistical support for such attacks;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to explore ways to exchange relevant information and to cooperate actively in the prevention, protection, mitigation, preparedness, investigation, response to or recovery from terrorist attacks planned or committed against critical infrastructure;

5. *Further calls upon* States to establish or strengthen national, regional and international partnerships with stakeholders, both public and private, as appropriate, to share information and experience in order to prevent, protect, mitigate, investigate, respond to and recover from damage from terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure facilities, including through joint training, and use or establishment of relevant communication or emergency warning networks;

6. *Urges* all States to ensure that all their relevant domestic departments, agencies and other entities work closely and effectively together on matters of protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations as well as those Member States and relevant regional and international organizations that have developed respective strategies to deal with protection of critical infrastructure to work with all States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and entities to identify and share good practices and measures to manage the risk of terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure;

8. *Affirms* that regional and bilateral economic cooperation and development initiatives play a vital role in achieving stability and prosperity, and in this regard calls upon all States to enhance their cooperation to protect critical infrastructure, including regional connectivity projects and related cross-border infrastructure, from terrorist attacks, as appropriate, through bilateral and multilateral means in information sharing, risk assessment and joint law enforcement;

9. *Urges* States able to do so to assist in the delivery of effective and targeted capacity development, training and other necessary resources, technical assistance, technology transfers and programmes, where it is needed to enable all States to achieve the goal of protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks;

10. *Directs* the CTC, with the support of the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) to continue as appropriate, within their respective mandates, to examine Member States efforts to protect critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks as relevant to the implementation of resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) with the aim of identifying good practices, gaps and vulnerabilities in this field;

11. *Encourages* in this regard the CTC, with the support of CTED, as well as the CTITF to continue working together to facilitate technical assistance and capacity building and to raise awareness in the field of protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks, in particular by strengthening its dialogue with States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and

working closely, including by sharing information, with relevant bilateral and multilateral technical assistance providers;

12. *Encourages* the CTITF Working Group on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure including Vulnerable Targets, Internet and Tourism Security to continue its facilitation, and in cooperation with other specialized United Nations agencies, assistance on capacity-building for enhancing implementation of the measures upon request by Member States;

13. *Requests* the CTC to update the Council in twelve months on the implementation of this resolution;

14. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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