

**FORUM:** Disarmament and International Security Committee (GA1)

**QUESTION OF:** Preventing online radicalization

**MAIN SUBMITTER:** United Kingdom

**CO-SUBMITTED BY:** Belgium, Kingdom of Sweden, Germany, France, United States of America, Republic of India, Spain

**THE DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE,**

*Bearing in mind* that radicalization is a phased and complex process in which an individual or a group embraces a radical ideology or belief that accepts, uses, or condones violence, including acts of terrorism, to reach a specific political or ideological purpose,

*Recognizing* that radicalization leading to violent extremism and terrorism is a phenomenon of concern in the EU Member States and beyond,

*According to figures*, there are many terrorist groups that through internet platforms including social media, can abuse innocent people,

*Wishing to raise awareness* while radicalization is not a new phenomenon, the trends, means and patterns of radicalization evolve, and responses must be adapted,

*Recognizing* that the internet and social media are important platforms assisting radicalization, as they help the rapid and large-scale global distribution of hate messages and spread of terrorism,

*Expressing concern* at the impact that those extremist violent messages praising terrorism have, especially on younger people, who are particularly vulnerable and easily influenceable,

*Underlining* the role of education and public awareness campaigns in preventing radicalization online,

1. *Urges* member states to raise awareness for radicalization through ways such as but not limited to:
  - a) educational programs included in the curriculum of the educational system of each state will try to:
    - i. inform students and generally the next generation about the risks the internet may present in the 21<sup>st</sup> century;
    - ii. encourage them to take action, by training and creating networks of young activists to defend human rights online;
    - iii. train them to be responsible, critical, and law-abiding internet users;
  - b) hosting conferences in which experts will make speeches so as all ages can have a scientific point of view about the topic;
  - c) improvement of existing youth awareness programs promoting media and internet education;
  - d) providing communities with practical information and tools for staying safe online, considering policies, technologies and tools that can help counter violent extremism online;
  - e) establishing an online platform for raising awareness about internet safety;
  
2. *Calls* member states to establish as a priority an action plan to implement and evaluate national and international strategies for combating online radicalization and particularly the recruitment to terrorism, on the basis of :
  - a) the exchange of best practices and the pooling of skills within the UN;
  - b) the evaluation of measures undertaken in the Member States;
  - c) cooperation with third countries and international organizations, on a basis of full respect for international human rights conventions and through a multistakeholder and multisectoral participative and consultative approach;
  - d) the development by the Member States of an effective and intensive communication strategy on preventing online radicalization and recruitment citizens by terrorist organizations;

3. ***Further calls*** on the Member States to coordinate their strategies and share the information and experience at their disposal, to implement good practices at both national and international level, to cooperate with a view to taking new steps in combating online radicalization and recruitment to terrorism by:
  - a) updating national prevention policies and putting networks of practitioners in place,
  - b) fostering and strengthening cross border cooperation among law enforcement authorities in this regard,
  - c) providing adequate resources and training to police forces working on the ground;
  
4. ***Recalls*** that internet companies and service providers have a legal responsibility to cooperate with Member State authorities by:
  - a) deleting any illegal content that spreads violent extremism, expeditiously and with full respect for the rule of law and fundamental rights, including freedom of expression,
  - b) internet referencing and strict monitoring,
  - c) making it possible to promote radicalization prevention messages aimed at countering messages that praise terrorism,
  - d) automatically removing content that encourages radicalization may the user enable it;
  
5. ***Proposes*** that measures are introduced, tackling the misuse of information and propaganda through mean such as but not limited to:
  - a) the assurance that the States' laws and practices eliminate safe havens for those who criminally misuse information technologies,

- b) law enforcement cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of international cases of criminal misuse of information technologies should be coordinated among all concerned States,
- c) the exchange of information between States regarding the problems that they face in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies,
- d) law enforcement personnel should be trained and equipped to address the criminal misuse of information technologies,
- e) legal systems should protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of data and computer systems from unauthorized impairment and ensure that criminal abuse is penalized,
- f) legal systems should permit the preservation of and quick access to electronic data pertaining to particular criminal investigations;
- g) mutual assistance regimes should ensure the timely investigation of the criminal misuse of information technologies and the timely gathering and exchange of evidence in such cases,
- h) the general public should be made aware of the need to prevent and combat the criminal misuse of information technologies;
- i) to the extent practicable, information technologies should be designed to help to prevent and detect criminal misuse, trace criminals and collect evidence through surveillance,
- j) the fight against the criminal misuse of information technologies requires the development of solutions taking into account both the protection of individual freedoms and privacy and the preservation of the capacity of Governments to fight such criminal misuse,
- k) the use of surveillance in order to combat online radicalization,
- l) internet companies and services to crack down on low to high level extremist movements;

6. ***Suggests*** the introduction of measures allowing internet users to easily and quickly report content expressing radical beliefs on the internet and on social

media platforms, while respecting human rights, especially freedom of expression, such as but not limited to:

- a) national hotlines dedicated to this use,
- b) the help center of each app/website,
- c) a website created and run by the UN designed for receiving and processing such reports, not only by individuals but also reports forwarded by private entities mentioned in subclauses (i) and (ii) for further investigation.

**FORUM:** Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (GA3)

**QUESTION OF:** The question of legal aid in promoting access to justice

**SUBMITTED BY:** Afghanistan

**CO-SUBMITTED BY:** Cuba, Myanmar, Estonia, Ethiopia, Russian Federation

**THE SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE**

*Having regard,* to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other UN human rights treaties and instruments,

*Noting,* The United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal that endorses an essential element of a fair, humane and efficient criminal justice system that is based on the rule of law,

*Taking into account,* the work of the ICCPR which ensures that effective measures are taken when rights are violated, in particular, through judicial, administrative or legislative authority,

*Further recognizing* the European Convention on Human rights, specifically article 6, which provides a detailed right to a fair trial, including the right to a public hearing before an independent and impartial tribunal within reasonable time, the presumption of innocence, and other minimum rights for those charged with a criminal offence,

*Bearing in mind,* The Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment (1988) convention in which it is stated the fundamental right of each citizen to free legal aid by promoting access to justice,

*Reaffirming,* the work of the European Court of Human Rights, which based on the European convention on human rights, monitors the acts of each member state and dictates possible breaches of the legal framework,

*Congratulating,* the International Legal Foundation (ILF) which focuses on establishing and strengthening criminal legal aid systems around the world, has provided direct legal aid services through its multiple in-country offices.

*Guided by,* the principles and the objectives of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

1. *Encourages* the UN to continue following their previous services and more specifically:

- a) promoting cross-regional experience exchange among experts from governments, academia, civil society and the private sector through organizing conferences, seminars, and trainings and development of guidance materials,
  - b) assessing legal aid systems and assisting governments in enhancing access to legal aid at all stages of the criminal justice process through legal and policy advice, and development of action plans,
  - c) the capacity of institutions and individual service providers through training and advice, and supporting providers in developing specialized services, including for women, children and victims of crime,
  - d) supporting legal empowerment, including through legal information activities,
  - e) data collection and analysis on legal aid, particularly through the UNDP/UNODC Global Study on Legal Aid;
2. **Invites** Member States, in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders as appropriate:
- a) the development of national, regional and international specialized networks of legal aid providers to exchange information,
  - b) the development shares good practices and expertise, in order to:
    - i. establish a global virtual network,
    - ii. facilitate legal aid providers at the national, regional and international levels to establish contact;
3. **Urges** all member states to raise awareness and knowledge of their citizens regarding the fundamental right of legal aid if needed, which would be achieved by:
- a) government-sanctioned awareness campaigns, through means such as:
    - i. paper media such as newspapers and magazines, to reach LEDCs and inform them about the aforementioned issue,
    - ii. radio and TV channel announcements where experts could be featured to provide professional information,
    - iii. social media aiming to reach the younger generations;
  - b) raising awareness through the educational system when coming to children's education, through clubs, webinars, and extracurricular activities,
  - c) national and international channels,

- d) Campaigns made by politicians and prominent figures, aiming to:
  - i. increase citizens' safety and awareness regarding the issue,
  - ii. encourage and protect the fundamental rights,
  - iii. overcome misconceptions that exacerbate the situation,
  - iv. coordinate international efforts;
  
- 4. **Encourages** member states to increase the knowledge of justice personnel, namely diplomats, law enforcement officers and lawyers, on the right of access to justice with legal aid by means such as:
  - a) creating international or national courses regarding it,
  - b) integrating a specialized legal department on human rights in each non-governmental organization and on each member states instruments;
  
- 5. **Suggests** the creation of a Legal Aid body, that will work alongside each country's government and the International Human Rights Organization, consisted of lawyers experienced on the issue of the legal aid which be responsible for:
  - a) managing the oversight of legal aid providers,
  - b) collecting data from the public complaint mechanisms in order to handle complaints against them,
  - c) filling a yearly report to the responsible authority,
  - d) monitoring the legislations of member states,
  - e) implementing an effective framework;
  
- 6. **Suggests**, the creation of public complaint mechanism, conducted by the legal aid body and the UN, where citizens will be competent to report a violation concerning the right of legal access with aid, this mechanism will be consisted by:
  - a) 24/7 free telephone lines,
  - b) a platform that users will chat with others and with supervisors,
  - c) social media account , easily found on all apps;



7. **Requests**, the establishment of an international forum, which its role and duty will be to:
  - a) provide expert advice and recommendations to the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee, and to the various programs, funds and agencies of the United Nations System through the Council,
  - b) raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities related to the surety of legal aid within the UN system;
  
8. **Emphasizes**, the need for monetary contributions and funding between Member States and the World Bank that will invest in the advancement of projects in protecting the fundamental right of legal aid, with special focus towards LEDCs, to ensure the maintenance of facilities and personnel trained up to international standards with:
  - i. the employment of information-sharing schemes,
  - ii. the participation and the promotion of campaigns, aiming to the empowerment and the insurance of the right to legal aid in LEDCs,
  - iii. the investment of funds under the observance of the UN, that will aim at the support of already applied measures and legislations;
  
9. **Calls** members states to ensure that the international legislation contains precise and binding rules regarding:
  - a) suspects and accused persons who lack sufficient resources to pay for the assistance of a lawyer have the right to legal aid when the interests of justice so require,
  - b) conducting of means test, a merits test, or both to determine whether legal aid is to be granted based on the criteria of:
    - i. the income,
    - ii. The capital and family situation of the person concerned,
    - iii. the costs of the assistance of a lawyer,
    - iv. the standard of living in that Member State,
  - c) the providing of legal aid without undue delay, and at the latest before questioning by the police, by another law enforcement authority or by a judicial authority, or before the investigative or evidence-gathering acts;

**FORUM:** Special Political and Decolonization Committee (GA4)

**QUESTION OF:** Reconsidering the sovereignty of Western Sahara

**SUBMITTED BY:** United Kingdom

**CO-SUBMITTED BY:** Belgium, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, India, Japan, Niger, Russia, United States of America

**THE SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE,**

*Noting* with satisfaction the past efforts of the United Nations to find a lasting political solution to the matter of Western Sahara's self-determination,

*Having examined* the United Nations Chapter and more specifically Chapter XI, which considers Western Sahara a non-self-governing territory,

*Aware of* the European Union's substantial economic interests in Morocco,

*Deeply concerned* about the possibility of jeopardizing the European Union's relations with Morocco, a highly privileged EU partner,

*Welcoming* all efforts of the Secretary-General to continue the peacekeeping operations under close review,

*Alarmed by* the continued hardships faced by Sahrawi refugees, as well as their dependency on external humanitarian assistance,

*Deeply disturbed* by the recent reescalation of the conflict in Western Sahara and the effective termination of the 1991 ceasefire,

*Deploring* the blockade of the El Guerguerat crossing by the Polisario Front,

*Keeping in mind* relevant Security Council Resolutions 690, 2414, and 2548,

*Keeping in mind* relevant General Assembly Resolutions 1541, outlining that the self-determination of a non-self-governing territory may be achieved through independence, integration, or free association,

*Emphasizing* that the region of Western Sahara was part of the pre-colonial Kingdom of Morocco and has never been an independent country in its history,

*Approving* of the Kingdom of Morocco's valid claim to Western Sahara after control of the region was handed over to the Kingdom after Spain withdrew,

*Taking into account* the recent decision by former US President Donald Trump to recognize Moroccan sovereignty over Western Sahara,

*Noting with regret* the recognition of the Polisario Front as the government of Western Sahara by the African Union,

*Noting* that Morocco sent troops into the UN-monitored buffer zone.

1. ***Reaffirms*** its support for the work of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) towards making it possible for a plebiscite to be held in the region in order for:
  - a) the Sahrawis to determine freely their future political status, ideally as a self-governing territory in free association with Morocco,
  - b) a democratic form of government to be implemented;
  
2. ***Suggests*** an agreement of free association as the most appropriate and feasible solution for the territorial dispute in Western Sahara, with Western Sahara being recognized as a self-governing territory in free association with Morocco and under Moroccan sovereignty, and that this agreement would include:
  - a) a high degree of autonomy for the local Sahrawi people, including:
    - i. full legislative autonomy,
    - ii. a regional government controlled by the Polisario Front or by whomever else the people of Western Sahara vote for in free and fair elections to be their government,
  - b) special representation of the Sahrawi people in Moroccan politics,
  - c) the Moroccan state retaining sovereignty of Western Sahara and being responsible for external affairs and defense;
  
3. ***Emphasizes*** the imperative need for all military agreements to be fully respected, by calling on all parties involved to:
  - a) avoid the undermining of UN facilitated negotiations and adhere to all regulations,
  - b) refrain from actions which would destabilize the process of decolonization in Western Sahara and inflame the ceasefire,
  - c) engage with the Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) in a productive way, ensuring a smooth cooperation of Morocco with the UN;

4. ***Urges*** all member states and relevant organizations, such as the WFP and the Human Rights Watch to:
  - a) fund programmes, which aim at the coverage of humanitarian needs of refugees in Western Sahara,
  - b) implement credible measures to ensure the protection of human rights by:
    - i. maintaining close coordination with Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,
    - ii. promoting the freedoms of expression and association;
  
5. ***Reminds*** all belligerent parties involved, including Morocco, Algeria, and the Polisario Front, to abstain from actions that violate international humanitarian law, such as:
  - a) the targeting of civilians,
  - b) acts of terror within the region,
  - c) mistreatment of prisoners of war by the Polisario Front and Algeria, including:
    - i. forced labour,
    - ii. torture,
    - iii. mutilations,
    - iv. murders;
  
6. ***Urges*** both Moroccan and Polisario forces to retreat behind the UN buffer zone and to comply by the 1991 ceasefire, seeing as hostilities have recently been resumed after a peaceful 30 years;
  
7. ***Further urges*** both sides to come to an agreement regarding voter eligibility for the Western Sahara referendum, suggesting that all residents, including women, of Western Sahara who are 18 years of age or older and not convicted of a crime be able to vote freely for the future and political status of their country;
  
8. ***Fervently endorses*** United Nations initiatives, including:
  - a) the peacekeeping mission in Western Sahara which was recently renewed,

- b) the work of the personal envoy of the Secretary-General in Western Sahara,
- c) the prospect of a revival of the ceasefire between the two sides;

9. ***Endorses*** the establishment of accountability measures on those responsible for crimes against humanity in order to:

- a) prevent further escalations of violent actions in the long run,
- b) ensure that all atrocities are followed by consequences such as:
  - i. investigations conducted by prosecutors of the relevant nations,
  - ii. trials,
  - iii. enforcement of sanctions,
  - iv. cooperation with the United Nations Security Council and the International Criminal Court;

**FORUM:** Legal Committee (GA6)

**QUESTION OF:** Reforming the criminal justice system to improve rehabilitation and develop alternatives to imprisonment

**SUBMITTED BY:** Myanmar

**CO-SUBMITTED BY:** Cuba, DPRK, Kenya, Mexico, India, United Kingdom

**THE LEGAL COMMITTEE,**

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948,

*Deeply concerned* about human rights violations occurring in prisons worldwide,

*Noting with satisfaction* various efforts from other United Nation bodies,

*Reminding* all nations that the UN faces many obstacles and is in need of reforming the criminal justice systems.

1. ***Calls upon*** all member states to favor alternatives to imprisonment for nonviolent, minor charges, in order to decrease overcrowding in state prisons, such as but no limited to:
  - a. probation measures and house arrest,
  - b. community service hours,
  - c. rehabilitation facilities for individuals with substance abuse problems,
  - d. mental health institutions for mentally ill perpetrators,
  - e. financial sanctions,
  - f. minimum security prisons,
  - g. placing perpetrators of violent crimes in pre-trial custody;
  
2. ***Strongly encourages*** the UN to provide funding to Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDC's) to help them reform their justice system and therefore improve their economy, by means such as but not limited to:
  - a. collecting funds from the financial sanctions and organising fundraiser activities with funds going to government-owned charities or other reliable appointed charities in the same field of work,
  - b. launching a public campaign for crime prevention in said countries;

3. **Proposes** the annual supervision of correctional facilities and their staff by the UN Secretary - General, who will report and document the findings to the UN to ensure that no human rights violations are taking place in said facilities, by means such as but not limited to:
  - a. increasing the security staff to prisoner ratio for both the prisoners' and staffs' safety,
  - b. having government officials frequently and thoroughly inspect the hygiene and living conditions inside the prisons at a constant rate of once every 2-3 months a year,
  - c. introducing productive activities to engage the prisoners, to improve their mental wellbeing and help them stop engaging in corrupt activities;
  
4. **Requesting** that investigations take place by the government on supervisors and staff of the prisons to ensure they are safe from any sort of danger, defined as physical or mental harm, both from the prisoners as well as the poor facilities through means such as but not limited to:
  - a. frequent inspections by government officials or other authorities relevant,
  - b. selection of properly educated staff inside the correctional facilities such as those with degrees, diplomas and other identification certifying that they are apt and know the field of work well enough to be apart of the facility staff;
  
5. **Encourages** all member states to prioritize removing the stigma that exists concerning ex-convicts and therefore facilitating social integration for prisoners, by means such as but not limited to:
  - a. assuring the public that they no longer pose a threat to society by ensuring that they received a punishment fitting of the crime they committed,
  - b. increasing media coverage to help combat the great amount of misinformation concerning ex-convicts;
  
6. **Urges** the punishment of all unfair judges by means such as but not limited to:
  - a. having to pay fees according to the severity of the crime,
  - b. indefinite suspension and or loss of their license based on the following:
    - i. severity of misjudgment,
    - ii. severity of the crime incorrectly judged,
    - iii. the evaluation of their current and past work done by a specialist in the field, such as a law professor, judge or professional in a similar career path/with a similar degree in a field in which they are presently working in at the time of evaluation, with a right of legal conviction;

7. ***Encourages*** all member states to prioritize the elimination of violent fights among the convicts by means such as but not limited to:
  - a. separating the criminals into different sectors of the correctional facilities, based on how significant the crime that the individual committed was,
  - b. improving the living conditions and respect the human rights in order to create a more operative and friendlier environment;
  
8. ***Suggests*** that if the decision of the court is deemed unfair by any parties involved, it will get re-evaluated by another judge or professional in the same field in order to be reconfirmed and looked over thoroughly, free of charge.