



**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN**  
**ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE**  
برلمان البحر الأبيض المتوسط

**1st Standing Committee on Political and Security related Cooperation**

**“Countering the evolving threat of terrorism in the Euro-Mediterranean region”**

Rapporteur: Hon. Gennaro Migliore (Italy)

**Recommendations**

I, the Rapporteur on Counter-Terrorism, on behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM),

- a. *Recalling* the commitments expressed by the Assembly through PAM resolutions on counter-terrorism, and the international legal obligations for all States under the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolutions, namely 1373 (2001), 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017), 2462 (2019), 2482 (2019);
- b. *Alarmed* by the resurgence of activities of terrorist organizations, including "Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)", Al-Qaeda, and their affiliates;
- c. *Concerned* by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and by the resulting socio-economic crisis, on security and factors leading to violent extremism;
- d. *Deeply concerned* by the unresolved status of the thousands of ISIL survivors and their accompanying family members detained in Syria and Iraq;
- e. *Concerned* by the questionable security of the detention structures, used to hold ISIL terrorists, under control of non-state actors, and by the repeated jailbreak attempts by dangerous radicalized individuals;
- f. *Convinced* that battlefield detention is not a sustainable option, and can only be a temporary measure;
- g. *Concerned* by the status of the detention camps in North-Eastern Syria and Iraq, where thousands of women and children are living in dire humanitarian conditions, and where radical violent ideologies remain persistent;
- h. *Convinced* that international cooperation and the full implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions are needed to prevent a magnified terrorist threat in the future;
- i. *Aware* of the fact that thousands of persons convicted of terrorism-related offences are serving their sentences throughout the PAM Region, and will be eligible for release in the near future;
- j. *Concerned* about the potential threat posed by terrorist recidivism, in light of the recent attacks in Austria and UK, among others, carried out by recently released terrorist convicts;

- k. *Committing* to the need to implement effective long-term solutions to prevent the threat of terrorist recidivism;
- l. *Alarmed* by the display of improved military capabilities and by the ability to seize and control territory by terrorist organizations in the Western Sahel, the Lake Chad Basin, East Africa, and Mozambique, which may result in the establishment of a foothold for terrorist groups to organize and export terror throughout the PAM Region;
- m. *Convinced* that international efforts to promote security in the affected parts of Africa must also address the root causes of instability, including governance vacuums, persistent lack of development, environmental degradation, lack of opportunities for youth, exploitation of local conflicts by global terrorist actors, ties between terrorist groups and transnational organized crime, arms proliferation, and diminishing trust in state institutions;
- I. ***Call*** on PAM Parliaments to pass the necessary legislation to comply with the obligatory provisions of relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions including 1373(2001), 2178(2014) and 2396(2017), 2462(2019), 2482(2019), as well as with the commitments made in the framework of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;
- II. ***Encourage*** PAM Parliaments to engage in constructive dialogue to explore viable options to take responsibility for their nationals being held in warzones, and to bring terrorist to justice, in order to prevent future terrorist threats;
- III. ***Encourage*** PAM Parliaments to prioritize the resolution of the status of children in camps in Syria and Iraq. They should be treated first and foremost as victims, and their treatment should be determined with the best interests of the child as the primary consideration;
- IV. ***Call*** on PAM Parliaments to address the cross-border nature of child exploitation and recruitment by terrorist groups, by ensuring assistance to unaccompanied children on the move, strengthening national mechanisms of birth registration, and supporting programs that provide shelter, food, sanitation, health/psychological services and education to children;
- V. ***Call*** on PAM Parliaments to support policy and legal frameworks, which ensure that entities contributing to the prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration processes have the necessary resources and expertise;
- VI. ***Encourage*** PAM Parliaments to take proactive measures and adopt legislative strategies to reduce the risk of terrorist recidivism, including the re-evaluation of the effectiveness of deradicalization programs, while ensuring that such measures are conducted in full compliance of national constitutional norms and international human rights obligations;
- VII. ***Encourage*** reinforced international cooperation, and allocation of the necessary financial resources, to support local actors to address the factors leading to the rise of violent extremism and terrorist activities in the affected parts of Africa;
- VIII. ***Invite*** PAM Parliaments to reinforce their commitment to PAM activities on counter-terrorism, including through the work of the PAM Special Parliamentary Committee on Counter-Terrorism, and strengthen PAM partnerships with key national and international actors.