



Egyptian House of Representatives - Presidency of the PA-UfM

Chambre des Représentants d'Égypte - Présidence de l'AP-UpM

مجلس النواب المصرى - رئاسة الجمعية البرلمانية للاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Parliamentary Assembly- Union for the Mediterranean

Assemblée Parlementaire – Union Pour la Méditerranée

الجمعية البرلمانية للاتحاد من أجل المتوسط

Draft Statement
The Fifth Summit of Speakers of the Parliaments
of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the
Mediterranean
Cairo 28April 2018
"Counter-Terrorism in the Euro-Mediterranean Region"

We, the Speakers of the Parliaments of the countries of the Union for the Mediterranean, meeting in the Fifth Summit of Speakers of the Parliaments of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean in Cairo on 28 and 29 April 2018 in order to discuss the topic "Counter-Terrorism in the Euro-Mediterranean Region", agreed on:

- 1) The necessity to face the tremendous threats resulting from The escalation of terrorism and the extremism leading to terrorism in the Euro-Mediterranean region since this growing phenomenon is still causing death, destruction and instability in the countries and regions all over the world where terrorist and criminal groups are active;
- 2) The importance of promoting cooperation between the parliaments of the countries of the Union for the Mediterranean in combating terrorism and the extremism leading to terrorism in order to exchange expertise and best practices;
- 3) The need for a comprehensive approach for fighting terrorism and the extremism leading to terrorism through uprooting terrorism and addressing its different causes within a framework that respects the rule of law and human rights;
- 4) Encouraging member states to develop comprehensive national strategies for fighting terrorism and the extremism



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- leading to terrorism while according priority to preventing, combating and confronting terrorist acts;
- 5) Strong condemnation of all terrorist acts and incitement to commit terrorist acts, whatever the excuses used in justifying them are, and stressing that terrorism cannot be associated with any particular religion, culture or civilization;
 - 6) Strong condemnation of the extremist ideology instigating violence and terrorism and recognizing its principal role in committing the terrorist acts;
 - 7) The importance of enhancing cooperation to address the phenomenon of the so-called foreign terrorist fighters who travel to conflict zones for terrorist purposes then return to their countries of origin or move on to other different countries, through fostering national legislation as well as police and judicial cooperation between the countries of the Union for the Mediterranean;
 - 8) Affirming the importance of strengthening legislations needed to control terrorism financing and money laundering and to prevent terrorist organizations from obtaining their sources of funding through criminal activities such as organized crime, smuggling and ransom payment;
 - 9) Stressing the need to bolster coordination and cooperation among all institutions of the UfM states to exchange information and expertise in the field of counter-terrorism and extremism leading to terrorism;
 - 10) Emphasizing the importance of preventing the misuse of information and communication technologies by terrorists and terrorist organizations, whether in collecting their donations, promoting their extremist violence-inciting ideology, recruiting individuals to commit their terrorist acts. We also emphasize the need to maximize the



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use of social media for the promotion of peace and convergence of views and the importance of countering terrorist propaganda and extremist ideology on the Internet by developing a counter-rhetoric that refutes the content that incites violence and terrorism on social media؛

- 11) Calling for the promotion of cultural and educational cooperation and dialogue among religions and civilizations between the two shores of the Mediterranean, with a view to consolidating the concepts of respect for the other and cultural diversity, especially among young people. This is particularly important in refuting the ideology of terrorism and extremism؛
- 12) Advocating the involvement of various actors in the fight against terrorism and extremism leading to terrorism such as clerics, education and culture bodies, relevant civil society institutions, the media, Internet service providers, youth, women and others to ensure the implementation of a comprehensive strategy to combat terrorism and extremism leading to terrorism in all its aspects؛
- 13) Expressing solidarity with the victims of terrorism and the importance of giving priority to defending their rights and ensuring their welfare؛
- 14) Focusing on the importance of international and regional forums and dialogues for cooperation in the fight against terrorism based on a comprehensive approach to combating terrorism, which will play an important role in bringing views together and working towards finding common solutions among UfM various states؛
- 15) Requesting the General Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean to continue studying the joint projects and initiatives that could contribute to enhancing joint cooperation to combat terrorism and extremism leading to terrorism.