

**Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member  
States**

**By**

**Markus Lutz, Counsellor, Delegation of the European Union to  
the**

**Mr / Madam Chair,**

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Candidate Countries North Macedonia , Montenegro , Serbia , Albania , Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Georgia, as well as Andorra, Monaco and San Marino align themselves with this statement.

[As this is our first statement in the Sixth Committee this year, let me take this opportunity to congratulate you and the Bureau on your appointments. We look forward to working with you.]

Despite our collective international efforts, the threat from terrorism and violent extremism continues to evolve,

politically motivated violent extremism including from far-right and far-left groups and the potential misuse of

approach. As such, a new EU Agenda for Preventing and Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism is being developed to provide a strategic framework for the years to come.

As part of the implementation of our current Counter-Terrorism Agenda, the European Commission has launched several initiatives to strengthen security, including a

Recognising that

Allow me to highlight four key points of paramount importance to the work of this Committee:

**First**, any measures taken to prevent and counter terrorism must strictly comply with the rule of law and all obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law. Counter-terrorism efforts must never serve as a pretext for human rights violations. On the contrary, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is the cornerstone of sustainable counter-terrorism strategies, enhancing their legitimacy and

of protecting and rehabilitating all victims of terrorism, viewing them as key agents in preventing further terrorist acts. Furthermore, we note that journalism is fundamental for sustainable development, human rights protection and democratic consolidation.

**Third**, we must protect the humanitarian space. The adoption of Security Council Resolution 2664 in December 2022 introduced a humanitarian carve-out from UN sanctions regimes, which has facilitated the delivery of humanitarian assistance to those in need in situations where sanctions



efforts to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism, in a manner compliant with international law. We stand ready to work collaboratively with all partners to strengthen our collective security and uphold the values that unite us.

I thank you.