



**Before we do so, however, I want to briefly own analysis of the impacts of the pandemic on terrorism, counter-terrorism and CVE.**

**We have published three reports on this vital topic over the past year, based on our engagement with all our partners (particularly Member States).**

**Our latest report was published just last week.**

**I would like to begin by looking at the impact on terrorist and violent-extremist activity.**

**Stringent border-control measures and restrictions have curtailed terrorist movements and activities, reducing the number of terror attacks carried out in non-conflict areas.**

**However, we have also seen evidence of terrorists and violent extremists seeking to exploit the social restrictions and political instability resulting from the pandemic.**

**Terrorist groups have integrated COVID-19 into their propaganda and promoted disinformation and conspiracy theories, both online and offline.**

**And, in several regions, violent anti-lockdown protests have been held, including by vocal, organized groups advocating anti-Government and anti-establishment ideologies.**

**The protestors have included extreme right-wing (or racially and ethnically motivated) terrorists and violent extremists.**

**In conflict-affected States, pre-existing trends of significant terrorist violence have continued.**



**the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions on humanitarian access and outreach in several regions.**

**Some of the affected communities include camps for refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as the detention camps in Iraq and Syria housing ISIL-associated women and children.**

**The already unsustainable conditions in those camps are worsening, leaving these populations vulnerable to a growing risk of disease, violence (including sexual and gender-based violence), and radicalization to violence.**

**It is vital that humanitarian action be unimpeded and safeguarded.**

**Pandemic-related restrictions should contain provisions to ensure that humanitarian and health care workers are able to reach populations in need.**

**Human rights also featured heavily in our latest report, which was based in part**

**Seventy-eight per cent of respondents stated that COVID-19 restrictions had created human rights challenges in their region.**

**Many States have also implemented policies and emergency measures that have been criticized for potential human rights abuses.**

**Securitized responses, including arrests or detentions using COVID-19 measures, can create fear among vulnerable populations, as well as among human rights defenders and civil society representatives.**

**These measures have also contributed to a further shrinking of civic space and curtailed freedoms of movement, assembly and speech, often impacting the work of civil society organizations.**

**They have also impeded the vital work of CVE programmes that involve engagement with communities, youth, women and marginalized groups.**

**notes the gendered impacts of the pandemic, which threaten the hard-won progress of previous years.**

**Globally, women are facing a greater care burden and greater economic insecurity.**

**Violence against women has also increased at an alarming rate during the pandemic, both online and offline.**

**And in some conflict areas, the security situation and disruptions to the delivery of humanitarian aid have had a disproportionately high impact on women and girls.**

**It is vital that Member States integrate gender considerations into all current policies against COVID-19, as well as into all post-pandemic recovery efforts.**

**Our latest report also considers the potential long-term impacts of the pandemic.**

**Of course, one critical challenge will be and already has proven to be the detrimental impacts on the global economy.**

**Economic downturns exacerbate poverty and inequalities and can potentially increase grievances that may fuel radicalization to violence.**

**Many**

**The only way to overcome those obstacles is through strong cooperation at the local, national, regional and international levels.**

**As we all move towards normal , it is essential that this cooperation continue to include close engagement with a b7E0.364h**