

PRESS RELEASE

Heads of United Nations Counter-Terrorism Bodies conclude trilateral joint consultations with Spain and strengthen partnership to support victims of terrorism

Madrid, 14 February 2018 ó On Thursday, a high-level delegation composed of the heads of the main counter-terrorism bodies at the United Nations concluded high-level consultations in Spain at the invitation of the Government. The consultations sought to strengthen the partnership between the United Nations and Spain to support victims of terrorism, and discuss common priorities such as Foreign Terrorist Fighters, countering/preventing violent extremism, aviation security, human rights, and civil society engagement.

The delegation to Madrid was jointly led by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT); H.E. Mr. Gustavo Meza-Cuadra Velásquez, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Peru to the United Nations serving as the Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC); and Ms. Michèle Coninsx, Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

The high-level delegation met with Mr. Josep Borell, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain; General Felix Sanz Roldan, Director of the National Intelligence Centre; Mr. Jesús Alonso Cristobal, Chief Prosecutor of the National Court (Audiencia Nacional) and other high-ranking officials of the ministries of Foreign Affairs and Interior, as well as intelligence and law enforcement agencies. They also met with civil society organizations and victims of terrorism.

The delegation thanked the Government of Spain for its support towards international efforts to prevent and fight terrorism. "We are pleased to have concluded these consultations, which have provided an opportunity to discuss the Madrid Guiding Principles to address the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, the respect of human rights while countering terrorism and the participation of civil society in these efforts."

At a ceremony paying tribute to the victims of terrorism in Spain and around the world, held at the Ministry of Interior, Mr. Voronkov said, "We are pleased to have concluded these consultations, which have provided an opportunity to discuss the Madrid Guiding Principles to address the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, the respect of human rights while countering terrorism and the participation of civil society in these efforts." This has cont(wo)-u00000912 0 62 79q0o00

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