



7 December 2018. Michèle Coninx, Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) and Executive Director of the [Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate \(CTED\)](#) briefed the media in Brussels about the current global terrorism threat, CTED's work in this critical area and the importance of global responses in countering terrorism. According to Coninx, the current terrorism threat including from terrorist fighters, is serious, global and needs to be contained. She underlined that “because of the splintering of the activities and different methods used by terrorist groups it becomes a thing of high risk. [...] If we don't contain the problem it will bounce back in our faces.”

By monitoring the implementation of [resolution 1373 \(2001\)](#) , the CTED plays an important role in supporting countries to implement a number of measures intended to enhance their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities at home, in their regions and around the world. The CTED has currently visited 100 of the 193 UN member states and Coninx stressed that “the visits are not inspections, they are meant to support the member states”.

In order to assess the situation within the member states, the CTED conducts country visits where they talk with the national and local authorities, but also with the civil society. During the briefing Coninx pleaded for a whole-society-approach in which “all layers of society have a role to play, going from the educational authorities, the families, to the religious leaders and the

mayors at national, regional and international level. We have to strive for a multi-disciplinary approach with public-private partnerships.”

This is also why the CTED has launched an initiative called [Tech Against Terrorism](#), a forum bringing together high-tech companies, the public sector, the civil society and academia to exchange strategic information on terrorist trends and threats. Countering current threats of terrorism is “a difficult exercise, but it is not mission impossible. [...] A one-size fit all approach is not possible (...) we need tailored solutions”.