



Countering Terrorism and Other Transnational Threats: Towards a Rule of Law Based Approach?

AGENDA

Tuesday, 6 April 2010
From 1:00 pm to 2:45 pm

"Member States have united to fight pandemics, poverty, climate change and terrorism. We can and must do the same to counter organized crime. ... In this work, we should not focus only on what we are battling against; we must never lose sight of what we are fighting for — justice and the rule of law."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon addressing the UN Security Council, 24 February 2010

SPEAKERS

Amb. Mike Smith, Executive Director, UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate

Mr. Alistair Millar, Director, Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation

Ms. Joanne Mariner, Director, Terrorism and Counterterrorism Program, Human Rights Watch

Mr. James Cockayne, Senior Fellow and Director, New York Office, Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation

In recent months the United Nations has taken a number of steps to reshape its approach to countering terrorism and transnational threats. These have arguably increased transparency, brought increased focus on capacity-building with member states, and highlighted links between terrorism, transnational crime, conflict and instability. The measures include:

-- Support from the General Assembly for increased resources for implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. A new head for the UN's Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force has been appointed, who boasts extensive experience in counter-terrorism capacity-building at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

-- a Review of arrangements relating to the Security Council's Resolution 1540, involving extensive consultation with parties outside the Security Council;

-- Security Council Resolution 1904 (2009), increasing transparency in the Council's procedures for listing and delisting alleged terrorists, including by creating a new position for an Ombudsperson; and

-- two Security Council Presidential Statements 2009/32 and 2010/4, encouraging the Secretariat to integrate its efforts to combat terrorism and transnational crime with its conflict prevention and conflict management efforts." (S/PV.6277, p. 3)

Do these developments suggest the emergence of a new approach to countering terrorism and other transnational threats, based more firmly in multilateral efforts to foster the rule of law?

In this lunchtime discussion, leading experts and UN practitioners will consider these developments and the future direction of the UN's efforts to counter terrorism and transnational threats. The Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation will be welcoming a new Director to the New York Office, Mr. James Cockayne.

**Venue: Church Center for the United Nations, 2nd Floor
777 United Nations Plaza, corner of 44th Street and First Avenue
New York NY 10017**