

# GROUP OF FRIENDS OF PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

## Launch of Group of Friends of PVE

The threat posed by terrorist networks such as ISIL, al-Qaida and “home-grown terrorists” remains a global security threat. Their ideologies of intolerance and violence pose a challenge to our shared values of peace, security, human rights, and the rule of law. Preventing and countering violent extremism is a key priority for the Norwegian government. A comprehensive approach that addresses all forms of extremism is necessary. It is crucial to mobilize and engage civil society, youth, women, faith leaders and local communities. This is a central feature in Norway’s whole of society approach, as reflected in the Government’s National Action Plan against Radicalization and Violent Extremism. In 2015 the Government launched its White Paper “Global security challenges in Norway’s foreign policy” with the aim of strengthening Norway’s contribution to international stability, peace and development. We have recommended that a whole of society approach be included in the mandate of the recently established UN Office for Counterterrorism (UNOCT).

### Group of Friends of Preventing Violent Extremism

The Group of Friends of Preventing Violent Extremism as and when conducive to terrorism (PVE) seeks to promote a comprehensive approach to terrorism and violent extremism, that addresses the underlying conditions that drive individuals to radicalize and join violent extremist groups. The Group shall seek a balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, with appropriate attention to all four pillars, as well as the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

We are grateful to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their partnership in this endeavor.

<http://bit.ly/Friends4PVE> // #Friends4PVE

LAUNCHED IN NEW YORK, 28 SEPTEMBER 2017

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## Norway's Main Contributions

- Member of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIL since its formation in September 2014.
- Support to the establishment of the UN Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT), cooperation with CTITF and CTED.
- Support to the Global UN study on Foreign Fighters, (published in July 2017).
- Observer and contributor to the work of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF).
- Chair of the OSCE Security Committee (2017-2018?), with a specific focus on preventing violent extremism, radicalization, gender, security sector governance and reform.
- Co-host of the high-level meeting on Youth, Peace and Security and SCR 2250 on the margins of the 72th UN General Assembly, including financial support for a Progress Study on the Resolution.
- Convening of the European Conference on Countering Violent Extremism in June 2015 which gathered more than 350 participants from 40 countries.
- Convening of the Youth Against Violent Extremism Conference in June 2015 which gathered more than 200 youth leaders and led to the establishment of the Youth Civil Activism Network (YouthCAN) which consists of over 1 000 youth activists from 125 countries.
- Established the Women's Alliance for Security Leadership (WASL) in partnership with the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN).
- Founding partner and donor to the Strong Cities Network of mayors municipal-level policy makers and practitioners united in building resilience to counter violent extremism. More than 100 cities have joined the network.
- Founding partner and donor of the Global Solutions Exchange (GSX), a mechanism for regular high-level civil society-government dialogue on issues related to preventing violent extremism. Supporter of and donor to Institute for Security Studies (ISS) and their work on strengthening the preventive and legal measures taken by African countries in addressing violent extremism. Supporter of and donor to the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF). Partnership with UN Women.

Internationally renowned cross-disciplinary research center for the study of right-wing extremism, hate crime and political violence (C-REX) and the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI).

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