

TEXTE DE POLITIQUE GÉNÉRALE

Commission: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Council

Question: *Towards a strategy of coopération between the OSCE and the European Union to counter terrorism and cyberwarfare?*

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International terrorism is one of the greatest threats to international peace and security. For France, fighting terrorism is a very real threat and it is becoming one of its priorities. The September 2001 attacks in the United States marked a turning point in the international fight against terrorism. Since then, international jihadist networks inspired by al-Qaeda have multiplied the number of attacks in France (Montauban and Toulouse in March 2012, Charlie Hebdo and HyperCacheren January 2015, Paris and Saint-Denis in November 2015, Nice in July 2016, Strasbourg Christmas Market in December 2018).

Since terrorist groups represent a global threat today, France is mobilizing its partners to strengthen international cooperation in the fight against terrorism in many areas. For example, the prevention of radicalization and the fight against terrorist propaganda. France is conducting a high-level dialogue with its main partners in the field of radicalisation prevention. The country is also participating in multilateral discussions on the issue. The fight against the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes is one of the major axes of our action in the field of counter-terrorism.

France is conducting a high-level dialogue with digital companies, in particular in order to obtain a rapid and sustainable removal of terrorist content online.

In the fight against terrorism, we support and strengthen our partners to combat foreign terrorism.

France is also fighting against the financing of terrorism. Terrorist groups need to finance themselves and they use all the means at their disposal, including new technologies to collect and transfer funds. This is why, since 2018, France has mobilized countries determined to identify and dry up all sources of terrorist financing.

In parallel with military action, French diplomacy is actively seeking, with its partners, political solutions, the only ones capable of putting a lasting end to conflicts and to prevent the emergence or strengthening of terrorist actors.

France is also acting at the European level to improve and strengthen the tools available to the European Union in the fight against terrorism. In recent years, several notable advances have been possible thanks to the mobilization of France and its partners: the creation of a European PNR (for a better control of the air travel); strengthening cooperation with digital platforms to combat the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes; strengthening of measures to combat arms trafficking...

Finally, France contributes financially to the OSCE. (si es francia que contribuye al budget está bien la frase tachada, pero si es Estados Unidos no es importante) In 2020, France contributed more than €14 million to the organization's budget out of an overall budget of approximately €140 million in mandatory contributions.

France is one of the largest contributors to the OSCE. In addition, the country finances projects under national voluntary contributions, to carry out concrete actions on the ground and in support of autonomous institutions.

To conclude, France supports the strategy of coopération between the OSCE and the European Union to counter terrorism and cyberwarfare. France has been very affected by terrorism through the years just like many other countries of the UE. The OSCE proposes solutions and has objectives that are in line with those of France. Plus, this country is already financially investing in the OSCE to deal with international security problems, and terrorism/ cyberwarfare is one of the most important.