

**Commission** : OSCE : Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe Council

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

**Author** : Greece

Greece is a country in the south-east of Europe, bordering the countries of Turkey, North Macedonia, Albania and Bulgaria. It is located at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa. We have access to the Aegean Sea and Mediterranean Sea, Greece has the longest coastline on the Mediterranean Basin, featuring thousands of islands. We have been members of the European Union since 1981 and OSCE participants since 1973. The nation's capital is Athens, the cradle of democracy, as well as its largest city. The total population is near 10.7 billion, of which 93% of them are christians. Greece is a unitary parliamentary republic governed by liberal-conservative political party New Democracy (ND), the president of the government is Katerina Sakellariopoulou (first woman to become president of the Hellenic Republic), and the current prime minister is Kyrkos Mitsotakis.

Greece has been a country ruled by the Ottoman Empire for many centuries and has direct access to the Mediterranean Sea. It has been a threatened country by many national terrorism organizations such as SPF, Rubicon... For that, we are prepared and willing to collaborate with other countries and participate in the combined project between the European Union and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) to plan a strategy of cooperation to fight terrorism and cyberwarfare.

The security, policy defence and legitimate interest for peace of Greece are delegated to the Hellenic National Defence General Staff (HNDGS). Its objective is to maintain peace, security and order and also to act before and after in order to prevent or take measures on possible attacks of all kind against the Hellenic Republic. About jihadist terrorism, Greece is aware that it represents a major threat not only to national security, freedom and democracy of the countries in the European Union but also for all the muslims countries that suffers it. Our nation also recognise that jihadists only represent a small part of muslims community. With that, the measures taken do not have a point on discriminating them and only want to minimize their threat. About pirates attacks, due to the proximity of our nation to the Mediterranean Sea, we feel very exposed to this type of altercations made by pirates coming from Africa, Minor Asia and other Muslims countries, who attack our commercial boats.

In order to prevent all the issues that can arise and mentioned above, Greece has already started naval operations of observations and surveillance and increased its naval presence in the Mediterranean Sea. We also have improved our protection of high value units. In addition, we control the sea lines of communication and increase the number of maritime inspections operations and counter-terrorism operations. For possible attacks made on land and in our cities, the Greek government has developed more systems of cybersecurity in our country and increased the security of potential targets such as museums, political and social places and monuments by multiplying the number of cameras, security personal...By doing this, we minimize the risk of a terrorist attack even before it happens.

A very important element in the fight against terrorism and cyberwarfare is working with international associations and countries to exchange information about terrorist associations or other criminal associations. Greece wants to improve international cooperation and sharing of information with the objective to combat terrorism and cyberwarfare. Our government agree with the OSCE in promoting a co-operative and co-ordinated approach to reject terrorism at all levels, including co-ordination between national authorities, co-operation between states, co-operation with relevant international organizations, and, when needed establishment of public-private partnerships between state authorities, the private sector, civil society and the media.

In conclusion, we are a country worried about the problems that the OSCE is suggesting. Greece is aware of importance of counter-terrorism and cyberwarfare in our age and has take measures in order to prevent and also eradicate it. The Greek government strongly believes that cooperation between all the countries of the European Union and OSCE members is necessary to preserve freedom, order and democracy in our nations.