



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**High-Level Meeting on the occasion of the Special Meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the United Nations Security Council**

**Madrid, 28 July 2015**

**National statement by Ireland**

Ireland supports the efforts of the international community to address the threat from terrorism, recognising that this is a multi-faceted and decentralised threat.

The growth of Daesh, persistent conflict and instability in many regions, including in the Middle East, and the decentralised threat from radicalised individuals are strong, shared concerns.

Ireland is keenly aware of the current threat from international terrorism and violent radicalisation and our authorities work closely with their international counterparts in taking actions to identify and disrupt the threat.

In working to counteract this threat we must all be conscious of the need to ensure the protection of and respect for fundamental rights and freedoms. It is important also to ensure that whole social or faith communities are not stigmatised by the actions of extremists.

Ireland is very conscious of the potential dangers that 'foreign terrorist fighters' and radicalised individuals may present and that the threat can affect any state. An important focus of international actions must be to tackle the phenomenon of 'foreign terrorist fighters', which includes measures on border security and on improving access to information for police and security services.

Another key focus will be on enhancing actions to counteract the use of the internet by terrorists. There can be no doubt that the online environment is a fertile ground for Daesh and similar groups to disseminate propaganda and to recruit people to their cause. To tackle this we must, at a global level, seek to develop better public and private sector partnerships, especially with the ICT and online industries. It will be essential to enhance the capacity to counter the extremists' narrative and to remove illegal, radicalising online content, while ensuring respect for fundamental rights and freedoms in communication.

The threat from terrorism remains one of the most serious to international peace and security and Ireland supports the continued determination of the international community to work together to defend fundamental rights and freedoms.

END