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REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO NATIONAL STRATEGY AGAINST TERRORISM

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**REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO NATIONAL STRATGEY AGAINTS
TERRORISM**

2012-2017

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ACRONYMS

OPM	Office of Prime Minister
MoIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
KP	Kosovo Police
KIA	Kosovo Intelligence Agency
KC	Kosovo Customs
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MKSF	Ministry for the Kosovo Security Forces
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
KARPNS	Kosovo Agency for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety
MF	Ministry of Finance
KJC	Kosovo Judicial Council
KPC	Kosovo Prosecutorial Council
ICITAP	International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
EULEX	European Union Rule of Law Mission
MCYS	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
MLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
TRA	Telecommunications Regulatory Authority
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MLGA	Ministry of Local Government Administration
MCR	Ministry for Community and Return
KAS	Kosovo Agency of Statistics

SUMMARY:

Based on the importance the living has in a peaceful and multiethnic country to the citizens of Kosovo, that ensures their welfare and guarantees the freedoms foreseen in the constitution, it is crucial that the state and the society establish institutional mechanisms and coordinate activities to cope with the security challenges in general as well as for undertaking measures to prevent and counter terrorism in particular, a phenomenon which nowadays is regarded as one of the major threats against the national and international peace.

Coping successfully with terrorism, as one of the most serious threats in the contemporary world, is possible only with a systematic, planned and coordinated engagement at the national level and in the international aspect.

The global terrorism can strike any country while there is an international consensus that the terrorism is unacceptable. The vast majority of states do not support the terrorism. Kosovo will work with Governments and other international institutions to address the common concerns about the threats, even with countries that have not recognised Kosovo. International cooperation is essential to defeat the terrorism.

The state of Kosovo vows to maximally be committed in preventing and combating this phenomenon in our country, but aims as well to be an important partner and an integral part of the international efforts against terrorism.

With the purpose to more successfully address this phenomenon, the Government has set as a objective to draft this strategy. This strategic document contains the strategic objectives, the specific objectives, determines the mechanisms, methods and the manner through the action plan with the view to enforce an effective policy against terrorism at the national and international level.

The National Strategy against Terrorism complements and primarily is coordinated with the Republic of Kosovo Security Strategy and as well with other strategies as follows:

- i) Republic of Kosovo National Strategy against Organised Crime;
- ii) Republic of Kosovo National Strategy on Crime Prevention;
- iii) National Strategy on Integrated Border Management;
- iv) Republic of Kosovo National Strategy against Drugs;
- v) National Strategy against Trafficking in Human Beings;
- vi) National Strategy on Community Safety etc.

The constitution of the Republic of Kosovo guarantees that “no one can be discriminated on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political thought or others national or social origin, association with any community, property, economic and social status, sexual orientation, birth, disability or another personal status”.

Also, the Security Strategy of the Republic of Kosovo determines the willingness of the Republic of Kosovo institutions for good Governance, and for cooperation and a unified approach of the institutions to cope with the security challenges in the Republic of Kosovo.

The coordination of the National Strategy against Terrorism with other national strategies, in particular with the ones against organised crime, against drugs, against trafficking in human beings etc, is of an particular importance since in many countries is noted a trend of approximation of terrorist organisations with the criminal ones. Through organised crime, particularly the money laundering, to terrorists are enabled to conceal and legitimize crime products. Trafficking with drugs and drugs cultivation provides the terrorists with valuable sources of revenues which they convert into funds for terrorist training purposes, for the provision of logistic equipments and technology and the provision of the necessary infrastructure.

The threat from terrorism in Kosovo is local and global as well. It is necessary a more transnational approach in order to cope and diminish the threat.

Terrorism of any kind does not enjoy the support of the majority of Kosovo citizens. These citizens expect that the Government of Kosovo and the law enforcement agencies do everything possible to provide to them security and at the same time to respect the civil freedoms and human rights.

INTRODUCTION:

Terrorism nowadays is considered as one of the most serious threats against the national security of each country, but is also one of the most serious threats against the international security especially taking into account the global trends of the violent extremism and terrorism.

In this context, even Kosovo is not immune against this threat or phenomenon. The Government of the Republic of Kosovo is aware of the seriousness of this threat and has set clear policies for preventing and combating this phenomenon. To address more successfully this phenomenon, the Government has decided to develop this strategic document with the purpose to enable a more efficient use of the material, financial and human resources in preventing and combating the terrorism.

This strategy aims at strengthening the institutional mechanisms dedicated to prevent and counter the terrorism, increasing the institutional cooperation and coordination at the national level and establishing the international cooperation.

This strategy is a document which defines the strategic objectives, the specific objectives, the basic principles, the responsible institutions and the methods for attaining the success in preventing and combating terrorism.

The National Strategy against Terrorism 2009-2011 of the Republic of Kosovo, has contributed in establishing the necessary institutional capacities for preventing and combating terrorism, by establishing the adequate mechanisms, necessary human resources, and the physical, technical and technological infrastructure.

These established mechanisms are operational already, however there is a need to further strengthen them.

Although this strategic document is designed for a period of five years, the strategic document shall be revised and reassessed in annual basis.

SITUATION ANALYSIS:

The political, economical and social context in the Republic of Kosovo remains without significant changes since 2009, therefore further situation analysis in terms of terrorism, which is presented when drafting the National Strategy against Terrorism 2009-2012, remains without major changes.

Interethnic relations between the two largest communities continue to remain tense especially at the northern part of the country, where the extremist groups are still present and active, which are disposed to use the violence for achieving their political goals. So far, there have been registered several cases of the violence against citizens, against institutions of the Republic of Kosovo and against the international presence in the Republic of Kosovo. These acts of violence may boost violent reactions.

Challenge still remains the protection of the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo from the influence of extremist ideologies based on intolerance, hatred, and violence to achieve political and ideological goals by misusing the religion.

The Republic of Kosovo may be threatened also by various groups or international terrorist organisations, which may target the large international presence in Kosovo because of their commitment in the global fight against terrorism.

The geostrategic position of Kosovo except that creates the possibility to make our country as a target transit country for illegal activities and various traffics, this position also poses a risk for spreading the terrorist syndrome particularly the one based on the religious fundamentalism. In

this light, the religious composition of our population with Muslim majority can be used as an alibi to change the focus from other elements that are present in Kosovo and in region for various political purposes.

Based on the current assessments, the Republic of Kosovo is better positioned in comparison to other countries but however is considered to not be immune against terrorism, therefore the national institutions in cooperation with international institutions must be careful and must track the activities of the organisations and groups that can help in recruiting and financing individuals for various terrorist activities.

Fundamental Principles

The National Strategy against Terrorism and the Action Plan are led by the following principles:

The principle of constitutionality and legality - Actions undertaken to counter the terrorism must be based on the provisions provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, the applicable legislation and the international agreements.

The principle of human rights and freedoms - Meaning guaranteeing the rights and freedoms of all individuals during all phases of the institutional involvement in preventing and combating the terrorism.

The principle of cooperation - The Government of the Republic of Kosovo is committed in respecting the cooperation and coordination of activities between national institutions and the international cooperation in the fight against terrorism.

Participation – Meaning the inclusion of all institutions, other mechanisms as well as the society in general, in preventing and combating terrorism at the national and international level.

The principle of continuity - Meaning the ongoing commitment of all institutions and of various stakeholders.

The principle of reliability – The responsible institutions for the prevention and fighting of terrorism should have caution in building the confidence when preserving the integrity of investigations, the integrity of data and of information from the misuse by those who have access to them.

The principle of proportionality - Meaning exercising the authority of institutions dealing with prevention and fighting terrorism, only then when is necessary and only up to the necessary

extent in order to achieve the legitimate objectives, by appropriate tools and methods, in the shortest time possible.

THE METHODOLOGY:

Institutional Mechanisms

The institutional mechanism shall imply all mechanisms which have roles and are important in the coordination of activities in the fight against terrorism.

The institutional stakeholders involved in drafting and enforcing state policies in the prevention and fight against terrorism, are, but not limited only to:

Ministry of Internal Affairs - through its mechanisms assists in providing information and undertakes activities for preventing, protecting, tracking and responding to all terrorist activities.

Kosovo Intelligence Agency – is a body which gathers, analyzes and delivers information with the view to prevent the terrorist activities taking place at the expense of security of the Republic of Kosovo and the global security.

Ministry for the Kosovo Security Forces - through its mechanisms assists the national institutions in preventing terrorisms, while with its units takes actively part in the protection and response against potential terrorist attacks.

Ministry of Finances - through its mechanisms, the Kosovo Customs, the Financial Intelligence Unit and the Tax Administration, which by exercising their function of controlling the goods and persons at the border crossing points and within the territory of Kosovo, contribute in the prevention, identification, investigation and blocking of financial sources of terrorist activities.

The National Coordinator against Terrorism – The National Coordinator is an individual body responsible for the coordination, cooperation, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of policies, activities and actions related to the fight against terrorism.

The Secretariat of the National Coordinator against Terrorism – The principal duty and responsibility of the secretariat is to collect information and data from other institutions in order to analyse and evaluate such information, and prepare analytical reports for the National Coordinator.

Ministry of Justice - Develops policies, enables the preparation and implementation of the legislation in the field of Justice.

Police - Is an institutional mechanism within the framework of Ministry of Internal Affairs which deals with prevention, tracking and combating of terrorism.

Prosecutions and Courts - Are the responsible institutions for the investigation, prosecution of terrorists, their adequate punishment, and confiscation of properties and assets acquired by the means of terrorist activities.

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology - Has an important role in the prevention of terrorism through education, through curriculums, through inter-curricular approach and other various extracurricular activities.

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports - Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports in the fight terrorism, has the role in organising awareness (campaigns) activities with the youth and informal groups, with the view to raise the awareness on the risk of terrorism and its prevention.

Ministry of Local Government Administration - through mechanisms of local authorities will assist in identifying the elements which may lead to terrorist activities, and to actively participate in preventing, preparing or responding against terrorist activities.

Kosovo Agency for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (KARPNS) - Permanent implementation and advancement of measures through which the nuclear and radioactive security is guaranteed, including radiation protection and nuclear safety, for effective prevention or elimination of misusing the radioactive and nuclear material.

ICITAP- Assists in the professional and transparent development of law enforcement institutions in order to protect the human rights, to counter corruption and to diminish the threat of terrorism.

EULEX- Is the European Mission for Rule of Law. Its main aim is to assist and support the Kosovo authorities in the field of rule of law, especially in the field of police, judiciary and customs.

OSCE - Monitoring the rule of law and establishing independent law enforcement institutions, further development of the public security sector, including police, customs and correctional services.

In addition to the aforementioned institutions, an important role in the prevention and fight against terrorism, have other national and international institutions present in Kosovo and abroad.

Legal Framework

The National Strategy against Terrorism is based on the applicable legislation where included but not limited only to:

The Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo,

The Criminal Code of Kosovo,

The Code of Criminal Procedure of Kosovo,

Law on 03/L-063 on the Kosovo Intelligence Agency,

Law on Courts,

Law no 03/L-225 on State Prosecutor,

Law on the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council,

Law no 03/L-223 on the Kosovo Judicial Council,

Law no 03/L-224 on the Special Prosecution Office of the Republic of Kosovo,

Law no 03/L-053 on the Jurisdiction, Case Selection and Case Allocation of EULEX Judges and Prosecutors in Kosovo,

Law no 04/L-076 on Police,

Law no. 04/L-015 on Witness Protection,

Law no 04/L-043 on Protection of Informants,

The Code on Juvenile Justice,

The Customs and Excise Code,

Law no 03/L-191 on Execution of Penal Sanctions,

Law no 03/ L-183 on Implementation of International Sanctions,

Law no 03/L-137 on the Department of Forensic Medicine,

Law no 03/L-142 on Public Peace and Order,
Law no 03/L-196 on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing,
Law no 03/L-231 on Police Inspectorate of Kosovo,
Law no 04/L-030 on Liability of Legal Persons for Criminal Offences,
Law no 04/L-031 on International Legal Cooperation in Criminal Matters,
Law no 04/L-052 on International Agreements,
Law no 04/L-072 on State Border Control and Surveillance,
Law no. 04/L-017 on Free Legal Aid,
Law no 04/L-093 on Banks, Microfinance Institutions and Non Bank Financial Institutions,
Law no 02/L-57 on Institutions of Culture,
Law no 04/L-57 on Freedom of Association in Non-Governmental Organizations,
Law no 04/L-064 on Kosovo Forensic Agency,
Law no 04/L-053 on Kosovo Public Safety Agency,
Law no 04/L-094 on the Information Society Services,
Law on Classification of Information and Security Clearances,
Law on Security Force Service.

VISION AND MISSION

Vision

The vision of this strategy is to create a safe environment in which the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo will be protected from the threats of terrorism.

Mission

The mission of this strategy is:

- Setting the objectives and the strategic priorities for preventing and combating terrorism;
- Establishing effective and efficient capacities to cope with terrorism;
- Developing and strengthening the partnership at the national, regional and international level in the field of counter-terrorism;

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Prevention

Identification and minimization the factors and causes which may lead to the creation of a favourable environment for posing and spreading the ideas of violent extremism.

- Timely identification the factors and causes that may encourage citizens to violent extremism and radicalization.
- Promotion of democratic values, equality and ethnic and interreligious tolerance.
- Identification, monitoring and tracking of various forms of global influence that affect the radicalization of individuals or certain groups.
- Reaction and opposition to the ideology that propagates or supports the violence, hindering the exercise of impact and coping with the threat posed by those who promote it.
- Strengthening the institutional, regional, international cooperation and coordination, as well as of international organisations.
- Establishing and strengthening the capacities of the Republic of Kosovo in identification and prevention.

II. Pursuit

Pursuit, investigation and bringing to the justice individuals or groups who pose a terrorist threat or who commit terrorist acts.

- Preventing, hindering and investigating violent extremists or terrorists from influencing, recruiting, planning and building legitimacy within the territory of the Republic of Kosovo.
- Establishing partnership with the community, and inter-institutional, regional and international cooperation and coordination, and of international organisations.
- Establishing and strengthening the capacities of the Institutions of the Republic of Kosovo in identification, prevention, detection and pursuit.

III. Protection

Strengthening the protective measures against the potential terrorist attacks against the Republic of Kosovo and its interests within and abroad.

- Protection of the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo, their property as well as the protection of the critical infrastructure from all the terrorist acts.
- Prevention of acquisition and using the strategic goods, dual use goods, and weapons of mass destruction.
- Establishment of security measures along the borders of the Republic of Kosovo, control and supervision of the movement of citizens and goods across the border.
- Undertaking measures for protection against cyber interventions and attacks.

IV. Preparation and reaction

The readiness for reaction and management of situations in order to minimise the consequences in the event of any potential terrorist attack.

- Developing protection plans and of scenarios for reaction of the critical infrastructure and facilities of a particular importance.
- Establishing the readiness for risks with higher striking effect in the National Risk Assessment.
- Continuing to build generous capacities to respond and recover from the wide range of terrorist emergencies and other civil emergencies.
- Management and elimination of the consequences caused by the potential terrorist attacks.
- Establishing partnership with the community, and the inter-institutional, regional, and international cooperation and coordination and of the international organisations.
- Establishing and strengthening the capacities of the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo for management and response.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

When drafting this strategy a considerable research and analytical work has been carried out in order to formulate the strategic, specific objectives and the necessary activities for preventing and combating the terrorism. As a result of the work and commitment of all institutions of the Republic of Kosovo, are identified the best alternatives respectively the most appropriate objectives which will assist the Republic of Kosovo in preventing and combating the terrorism.

Those who support terrorism or who commit terrorist attacks can be motivated and encouraged by numerous factors including the religion, the nationalism and the political and right wing extremism. It is an acknowledged fact that currently the threat at international level derives from groups who abuse with the Islamic religion.

Kosovo continues to be a potential target of domestic terrorism. Kosovo is a country with a military presence from many western countries, together with a large number of institutions and international governmental organisations. All those are potential targets of terrorist organisations of the global scale.

Law enforcement and intelligence mechanisms may be effective in addressing the terrorist threats.

Kosovo has internal capacities and resources though not sufficient to counter the terrorist attacks of large size, and other international subjects will support, and will cooperate with the Republic of Kosovo in the event of such an attack.

Kosovo has the resources and capacities to cope and to address the domestic terrorist threats.

Organizational Structure of the Coordinating, Monitoring and Implementing Mechanism

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Secretariat

**The National Coordinator anti
Terrorism**

**Kosovo Security
Council**

**The National Coordinator anti Terrorism
Kosovo Intelligence Agency
Ministry of Internal Affairs
Ministry for the Kosovo Security Forces

Ministry of Finances
Ministry of Local Government Administration
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport
Ministry of Infrastructure
Ministry of Justice
Prosecution and Court
Prosecutions and Courts
Kosovo Judicial Council
Kosovo Prosecutorial Council**

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Prevention

**KIA
MIA
MEST
MCYS
MF**

Protection

**MIA
MKSF
MF**

Pursuit

**MIA
Prosecution
and
Court
MF**

Reaction

**MIA
MKSF
MLGA**

MONITORING, ENFORCEMENT, EVALUATION

The design and enforcement of the state strategy against terrorism includes all the governmental structures and other mechanisms, acting together to cope with the threat against terrorism.

Enforcement also depends on the partnership between the law enforcement agencies, institutions and other mechanisms, public administration, local authorities as well as the private and charitable sectors.

The monitoring process enables the rapid identification and resolution of the problems with the coordinated and concerted inter-institutional efforts and of the civil society, in order to prevent the recurrence of these problems.

Through the continuous monitoring process of data collection, are provided information about the progress of the impact of measures taken during the implementation of the strategy and then are evaluated and shown the results attained. This process will take place in period of three (3) months.

The evaluation is the process of reviewing the effectiveness and the efficiency of the impact of measures provided in the strategy. A workshop will be organised each year for the purpose of assessment, evolution and reviewing the strategy and the action plan.

At the end of the time limit prescribed for the implementation of this strategy will be organised a workshop for its final assessment.

The structure of the implementing, monitoring and evaluation mechanism foreseen in this strategy means the structure of the current mechanism under the supervision and coordination of National Coordinator against Terrorism.

THE ACTION PLAN