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*Internal Affairs*

# **National Strategy against Terrorism and Action Plan**

## **2018 – 2023**

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## List of abbreviations

AASCA	Agency for Administration of Sequestered or Confiscated Assets
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
EULEX	European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo
EUO	European Union Office in Kosovo
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
ICITAP	International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program
KAPS	Kosovo Academy for Public Safety
KARPNS	Kosovo Agency for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety
KC	Kosovo Customs
KCS	Kosovo Correctional Service
KCSC	Kosovo Security Council Secretariat
KIA	Kosovo Intelligence Agency
KJC	Kosovo Judicial Council
KP	Kosovo Police
KPC	Kosovo Prosecutorial Council
KPS	Kosovo Probation Service
KSCS	Kosovo Security Council Secretariat
MCYS	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
MEI	Ministry of European Integration
MEST	Ministry of Education Science and Technology
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MI	Ministry of Infrastructure
MKSF	Ministry for the Kosovo Security Forces
MLGA	Ministry of Local Government Administration
MLSW	Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
NALT	NATO Advisory and Liaison Team
NCBM	National Center for Border Management
OPDAT	Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
RAEPC	Regulatory Authority of Electronic and Postal Communications
SP	State Prosecutor
SPRK	Special Prosecution of the Republic of Kosovo
TAK	Tax Administration of Kosovo
VAAO	Victims Advocacy and Assistance Office



## Executive summary

The National Strategy against Terrorism and Action Plan 2018-2023 is the third strategic document developed by the Government of the Republic of Kosovo with the aim to prevent and fight terrorist acts.

Terrorism remains one of the major threats to national and global security by threatening not only life and property but also the democratic values and societies way of life. Effective response to terrorism requires the involvement and cooperation of all public institutions, civil society, international organizations and citizens.

This strategic document aims at countering and combating extremist or radical ideologies of whatever nature, which may lead to the use of violence and contradict the democratic norms and principles of the Kosovo society. Further, it aims at preventing terrorist activities, minimizing the risk of terrorist threats, and reducing vulnerability through the comprehensive, not only cross-institutional, but also all-encompassing, approach that will provide a flexible foundation for more effective response to existing threats and other ever-growing and multi-dimensional dynamics.

The strategy is based on four pillars or strategic objectives that are in full harmony with the EU Counter Terrorism Strategy:

1. **Prevention**, which aims to prevent terrorism by identifying and opposing the perpetrators, respectively opposition to ideologies and radical doctrines that encourage individuals in acts of violence;
2. **Protect**, through which the institution's defense capacities will be strengthened against the terrorist attacks, respectively the threats of terrorism presented to the Republic of Kosovo or its interests in the region and beyond. In addition to strengthening defense capabilities, specific measures are also planned to minimize the vulnerability to this phenomenon;
3. **Pursue**, through which law enforcement agencies will pursue, investigate and bring to justice individuals or groups posing terrorist threats or committing terrorist offenses;
4. **Respond**, which aims at preparing institutions to manage and minimize the consequences of a potential terrorist attack. Effective preparation and response are of critical importance in saving lives and minimizing the potential damages and consequences.



## 1 Introduction

Terrorism remains one of the major security threats both at the country and international level, threatening not only life and property, but also democratic values and the society's way of life itself. The global trend of terrorism and its spread, especially during the last two decades, has threatened the Republic of Kosovo as well as the entire region, Europe and beyond.

Recognizing the threats and consequences of terrorism, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo drafted its first counter terrorism strategy in 2009, which, in addition to establishing the necessary mechanisms, provided a comprehensive approach to preventing and combating terrorism. Therefore, this third strategic document drafted by the Government of the Republic of Kosovo is a continuation of previous strategies and aims to further strengthen the existing mechanisms and to adapt to the current trends and dynamics of terrorist threats.

The prevention and combating of terrorism remains one of the main strategic priorities of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo. The new Strategy against Terrorism and other legislative and policy measures within this area are linked to the second Strategic Priority of the Government for 2017, "Good Governance and Rule of Law." It also relates to the European integration process and as such is part of the National Program for the Implementation of the Stabilization and Association Agreement 2017-2021<sup>1</sup> and the conclusions of the first meeting of the Subcommittee on Justice, Freedom and Security between Kosovo and the European Union held on 25-26 January 2017. The drafting of this strategy, which is fully aligned with the EU Counter Terrorism, meets the challenges identified by the European Commission in the Country Report for 2016<sup>2</sup>.

In achieving the abovementioned goals, this strategic document is aligned with the existing legislation and other strategic documents of the Republic of Kosovo, but also the European Union Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and is based on four main pillars: a) Prevention; b) Protection, c) Prosecution and d) Respond. Moreover, the Republic of Kosovo, as a member of the global coalition against DAESH/ISIS, has shown commitment and at the same time has assumed certain responsibilities and obligations, which are incorporated in this Strategy.

The document contains strategic objectives and other specific objectives for each of the above mentioned pillars and will be followed by a detailed action plan for achieving the set objectives, and will determine the implementation and coordination mechanisms.

### 1.1 Purpose

Orientation of policies and strengthening of a comprehensive approach to preventing and combating terrorism.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.mei-ks.net/repository/docs/pkzmsa20172021shq.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/key\\_documents/2016/20161109\\_report\\_kosovo.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/key_documents/2016/20161109_report_kosovo.pdf)



## 1.2 Vision

Preservation of a safe environment in the Republic of Kosovo by preventing and combating the terrorism by respecting the constitutional rights and freedoms for all citizens.

## 2 Methodology

The National Strategy against Terrorism and Action Plan 2018-2023 has been drafted in support of the Government's Annual Work Plan and the Ministry of Internal Affairs for 2017 and the National Program for the Implementation of the Stabilization and Association Agreement 2017-2021.

The Strategy is fully aligned with Administrative Instruction No. 02/2012 on Procedures, Criteria and Methodology of Preparation and Approval of Strategic Documents and Plans for their Implementation, and with Regulation (GRK) No. 05/2016 on minimum standards for the public consultation process.

The Working Group for drafting the Strategy was established by the Minister of the Ministry of Internal Affairs with Decision No. 194/2017 dated 3 July 2017 and involves all relevant state institutions, civil society and international partners. The draft strategy was drafted with the involvement of all Working Group stakeholders, whereas for purposes of finalizing the draft a workshop was held from 10 to 13 September 2017 supported by the United States Embassy and ICITAP, which supported the participation of an expert from the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies at the workshop.

The strategy was designed based on internal assessments such as the Annual Analysis of the implementation of the previous Strategy for 2012-2017, the Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA), the analytical and evaluation reports of the Kosovo Police and the Kosovo Intelligence Agency, as well as other relevant documents. On the other hand, external evaluations include US Department of State reports, EUROPOL reports on the terrorist situation and trend in the EU, European Commission reports, and other documents.

In order to approximate domestic policies and legislation in the field of terrorism with those of the European Union, this strategy is aligned with the EU Strategy against Terrorism, aligning the four relevant pillars.

The strategy is based on the strategies, concepts and approaches of international organizations and initiatives such as the United Nations, INTERPOL, the European Union, EUROPOL, the Global Coalition against DAESH/ISIS, OSCE Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism and the Council of Europe. Further, the respective strategies of the United States and the United Kingdom have also been consulted.



### 3 Fundamental principles

The strategy is based on 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 and the applicable legislation.

**The principle of comprehensive national approach** - Effective prevention and combat of terrorist threats is achieved through comprehensive approach to this problem by all government institutions, public institutions, civil society, the private sector and international organizations.

**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 confidentiality** - Institutions responsible for preventing and combating terrorism should ensure protection of confidentiality of information during investigation and relevant processes.

**The principle of cooperation** - The Government of the Republic of Kosovo is committed in promoting the cooperation and coordination of activities between national institutions.

**The principle of international cooperation** - The Republic of Kosovo will play an important role in the global war against terrorism and the effective prevention and combat of terrorism is achieved through international cooperation with states, organizations and initiatives, therefore the Republic of Kosovo expresses its readiness and commitment to be part of international mechanisms that deal with prevention and fight against terrorism.

### 4 Situation analysis

The Republic of Kosovo, in addition to being challenged with other forms of extremism, such as those with nationalist and political motives, also faces religious-based extremism. As a result of indoctrination of extremist ideologies, either nationalist or religious, a certain number of Kosovar citizens have ended up in the fires of the conflict abroad under the wing of terrorist or separatist organizations.

Regarding nationalist-based extremism, albeit advances made in terms of inter-ethnic relations between the two largest communities in Kosovo, tensions continue to be present and there are groups or organizations that are predisposed to use violence from time to time to achieve political goals, and to provoke inter-ethnic incidents, sometimes with the support of third countries.

Among the main threats remains religious-based extremism, as a result of the indoctrination of extremist Islamic ideologies imported to Kosovo from the Middle East. The consequences of these



ideologies are already evident, ranging from: attachment of hundreds of Kosovar citizens to conflict zones among extremist/terrorist organizations, dozens of already killed people, families that continue to remain in conflict zones, tendency to spread ideologies Violent extremists, the creation of a discourse of intolerance, and the most worrying of the rise of threats of terrorist attacks.

Islamic extremism in the region began to spread in the 1990s, whereas its spread in Kosovo commenced after the war through several non-governmental organizations, which in addition to social and humanitarian programs, exploiting the vulnerability of a portion of the population in dire economic and social situation, also spread Islamic extremism doctrines and ideologies based on intolerance, division, hatred, and opposition to the system and democratic values through the promotion of political Islam. Certain individuals who completed their studies in different Middle Eastern countries played a role in the spread of Islamic extremism. In addition, Internet-based propaganda was largely used by extremists for spreading their ideologies.

Despite the constant opposition and resistance to these ideologies, certain parts of the society that were most vulnerable, exposed to these ideologies, fell victims, thus contributing to deepening into extremism and radicalism. Further, the global trends in terms of extremism and the outburst of conflicts in the Middle East, particularly in Syria and Iraq, where terrorist groups and organizations were consolidated, was used as a momentum for the emergence of extremism and these conflicts became a gravity field for foreign terrorist fighters from all over Europe and beyond, including the Republic of Kosovo.

As a result of these Kosovar citizens joining terrorist organizations, there have been public calls for terrorist attacks in Kosovo and the region, as well as attempts to commit terrorist acts, which were prevented by security institutions in Kosovo.

Despite the fact that terrorist organizations are losing territory and control in the crisis strongholds, ideologically they continue to have support and extend their influence to other countries, including the region.

The danger facing Kosovo is the return of such fighters from the conflict zone as well as the persons involved in criminal acts of terrorism and with an interest in harming Kosovo as a state with an ethnically and religiously diverse society and with a democratic government and secular society. As has been seen by many examples in Europe, radicalized individuals can commit acts of extreme violence against both the population and the institutions in their own country, and therefore the risk that Kosovo might be targeted for such a terrorist attack cannot be excluded.

Among the potential threats that the Republic of Kosovo faces are:

- **Terrorist attacks** by members of terrorist organizations through foreign terrorist fighters, dormant cells or by sympathizers and supporters who may be inspired to commit violent acts;
- **Indoctrination with extremist ideology** - indoctrination and recruitment of youth, mainly using propaganda, for purposes of terrorist organizations;





- **Irregular migration** - considering the geographic position of the Western Balkan countries, in addition to the return of foreign fighters originating from these countries, another concern is the possibility that foreign terrorist fighters from other countries also exploit the Western Balkan countries, intermingling with potential refugees, to travel toward EU countries.

The institutions of the Republic of Kosovo have identified threats on a timely manner and have raised concerns about the possible consequences of the spread of extremist ideologies and radicalism in the Republic of Kosovo. Based on these concerns and on identified threats, the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo were among the first in the region to undertake concrete actions and activities to address violent extremism and radicalism, focusing on three aspects:

- **Prevention of the spread of extremist ideologies and radicalization** - The institutions of the Republic of Kosovo in close cooperation and coordination with the civil society and the religious community have drafted a national strategy and action plan against violent extremism and radicalization that leads to terrorism, which focuses on the area of prevention, minimization of impetus factors that can affect radicalism, de-radicalization of radicalized persons, and their reintegration into society;
- **Harmonization and advancement of legal infrastructure and strategic documents** - Amendment and supplementation of primary legislation, including the adoption of the Law No. 05/L -002 on Prohibition of Joining the Armed Conflicts outside State Territory. In addition to the legislative aspect, the Government has adopted a series of strategic documents to address all challenges and threats to the Republic of Kosovo, including issues that are related directly or indirectly to terrorism;
- **Pursuit and criminal prosecution** - Since 2013, the security and justice institutions of the Republic of Kosovo have taken concrete actions in the pursuit, arrest and criminal prosecution of all persons for whom there is a grounded suspicion that they have committed or are preparing for the commission of terrorist and related offenses.



## 5 Legal framework and institutional mechanisms

### 5.1 Legal framework

In the area of terrorism, the Republic of Kosovo has a wide legal basis, including but not limited to:

- The Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo<sup>3</sup>;
- Law No. 05/L -002 on Prohibition of Joining the Armed Conflicts outside State Territory<sup>4</sup>
- Law No. 05/L -096 on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Combating Terrorist Financing<sup>5</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-050 on the Establishment of the Kosovo Security Council<sup>6</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L -166 on Prevention and Fight of the Cyber Crime<sup>7</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-109 on Electronic Communications<sup>8</sup>;
- Law No. 05/L-030 on Interception of Electronic Communications<sup>9</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L – 172 on the Protection of Personal Data<sup>10</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-076 on Police<sup>11</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-142 on Public Peace and Order<sup>12</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-063 on the Kosovo Intelligence Agency<sup>13</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-149 on Execution of Penal Sanctions<sup>14</sup>;
- Law No. 03/ L-183 on Implementation of International Sanctions<sup>15</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-213 on International Legal Cooperation in Criminal Matters<sup>16</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-052 on International Agreements<sup>17</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-072 on State Border Control and Surveillance<sup>18</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-064 on Kosovo Agency on Forensic<sup>19</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-198 on the Trade of Strategic Goods<sup>20</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L –004 on Private Security Services<sup>21</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-046 on the Kosovo Security Force<sup>22</sup>;
- Customs and Excise Code of Kosovo No. 03/L-109<sup>23</sup>;

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<sup>3</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=3702>

<sup>4</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=10763>

<sup>5</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=12540>

<sup>6</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2521>

<sup>7</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2682>

<sup>8</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2851>

<sup>9</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=10968>

<sup>10</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2676>

<sup>11</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2806>

<sup>12</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2651>

<sup>13</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2538>

<sup>14</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=8867>

<sup>15</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2674>

<sup>16</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=8871>

<sup>17</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2789>

<sup>18</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2801>

<sup>19</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2781>

<sup>20</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=8860>

<sup>21</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2741>

<sup>22</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2523>

<sup>23</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2600>



- Law No. 04/L-099 on Amending and Supplementing Customs and Excise Code of Kosovo No. 03/I-109<sup>24</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-178 on Classification of Information and Security Clearances<sup>25</sup>;
- Criminal Code of the Republic of Kosovo No. 04/L-082<sup>26</sup>;
- Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Kosovo No. 04/L-123<sup>27</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-122 on Foreign Service of the Republic of Kosovo<sup>28</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-223 on the Kosovo Judicial Council<sup>29</sup>
- Law No. 03/L-199 on Courts<sup>30</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-225 on State Prosecutor<sup>31</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-224 on the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council<sup>32</sup>;
- Law No. 03/L-052 on the Special Prosecution Office of the Republic of Kosovo<sup>33</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-015 on Witness Protection<sup>34</sup>;
- Law No. 05/L-049 on the Management of Sequestered and Confiscated Assets<sup>35</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-140 on Extended Powers for Confiscation of Assets Acquired by Criminal Offence<sup>36</sup>;
- Law No. 04/L-213 on International Legal Cooperation on Criminal Matters<sup>37</sup>;
- Juvenile Justice Code No. 03/L-193<sup>38</sup>;
- Regulation No. 18/2011 on Distribution and Transfer of Classified Information<sup>39</sup>.
- Law No. 05/L-036 on Crime Victim Compensation<sup>40</sup>.
- Law No. 05/L-022 on Weapons<sup>41</sup>.

## 5.2 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 competencies of each of the relevant institutional stakeholders involved in drafting and enforcing state policies in the prevention and fight against terrorism, are, but not limited only to:

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<sup>24</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2823>

<sup>25</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2690>

<sup>26</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2834>

<sup>27</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2861>

<sup>28</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2615>

<sup>29</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2713>

<sup>30</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2700>

<sup>31</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2710>

<sup>32</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2709>

<sup>33</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2526>

<sup>34</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2758>

<sup>35</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=12360>

<sup>36</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=8651>

<sup>37</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=8871>

<sup>38</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=2698>

<sup>39</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=10554>

<sup>40</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=10936>

<sup>41</sup> <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=11018>



### **Ministry of Internal Affairs**

MoIA is the responsible government institution for leading the drafting and monitoring of policy and legislation in the areas of general security and terrorism. Through its mechanisms and agencies, MoIA undertakes activities for preventing, protecting, tracking and responding to all terrorist activities.

### **The National Coordinator against Terrorism**

The National Coordinator against Terrorism is the Minister of Internal Affairs, or the entity authorized by him, responsible for the coordination, heading, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of policies, activities and actions related to the Strategy against terrorism.

### **Strategy Secretariat**

The duty of the Strategy Secretariat in MoIA is to monitor on a regular basis the implementation of the Strategy by collecting and analyzing data on implementation of Action Plan activities, and drafting periodical and evaluation reports for the National Coordinator. In addition, the Secretariat will assist the National Coordinator in coordinating the Strategy and communicating with stakeholders.

### **Kosovo Police**

As a law enforcement agency within MoIA, KP has the principal responsibility in combating terrorism through its Department against Terrorism and other support structures under the Kosovo Police.

### **Kosovo Agency of Forensic**

As a law enforcement agency within MoIA, KAF is responsible for conducting professional forensic expertise in accordance with international standards, and for managing forensics databases.

### **Emergency Management Agency**

As a law enforcement agency within MoIA, EMA is responsible for developing all to prepare for, protect against, respond to and recover from all potential hazards, both natural and man-made.

### **Kosovo Intelligence Agency**

KIA does the identification of threats that threaten Kosovo's security, its territorial integrity, institutional and constitutional integrity, stability and economic development, and threats against global security that affect Kosovo, including incitement, help, or impulsion and support of terrorism. KIA is a security and intelligence agency that collects, analyses and distributes intelligent products quickly, in a legitimate and accountable manner to the President, Prime Minister and other competent institutions.

### **Kosovo Judicial Council**

The KJC develops effective policies for the judicial system for the more efficient processing of terrorism cases and sentencing of the perpetrators for their involvement in terrorist activities. The KJC ensures the independence and impartiality of the judicial system in their decision-making.



### **Court System**

The terrorism cases in Kosovo are handled at three levels: Basic Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court, moreover while performing their duties, judges are independent, impartial, and unaffected regardless of the circumstances by any physical and legal person, including the public institutions.

### **Kosovo Prosecutorial Council**

The Council develops effective policies for the prosecutorial system for a more effective investigation and prosecution of individuals suspected for involvement in terrorist activities. The KPC ensures an independent, professional and impartial prosecutorial system.

### **State Prosecution**

State prosecution is an independent institution with authority and responsibility for the prosecution of persons suspected of and charged for their involvement in terrorist activities. SPRK has a special competence to investigate and prosecute criminal acts of specific nature, including the commitment, preparation, cooperation and facilitation of committing the criminal act of terrorism.

### **The Secretariat of the Kosovo Security Council**

The Secretariat, as an integral part of the Kosovo Security Council, prepares periodic reports and analyses related to political security issues for the Government of the Republic of Kosovo and the Kosovo Security Council. Considering that the terrorist activities endanger Kosovo's security, this Secretariat is also involved in the drafting of the national security strategy and security policy in Kosovo, including capacity building, policy instruments and research.

### **Ministry of Justice**

MoJ prepares and develops legislation in the field of justice, and coordinates and develops international legal cooperation in criminal matters. It also cooperates and coordinates activities with all ministries, agencies and religious communities which are in any form related to the process of de-radicalization and re-socialization of terrorism convicts.

### **Kosovo Correctional Service**

The Kosovo Correctional Service, in cooperation with all justice partners, aims to correct and re-socialize persons convicted for criminal activities with a special emphasis on preventing the radicalization in prisons and always respecting their fundamental rights regardless of race, language and religion, as well as providing a safe environment for staff, prisoners and society.

### **Kosovo Probation Service**

KPS is responsible for the execution of alternative measures and penalties, supervision, re-socialization, reintegration and rehabilitation of all persons who have committed punishable offenses under the applicable laws in the Republic of Kosovo. In addition, KPS has the mandate for the reintegration and rehabilitation of persons released from prison.

### **Ministry for the Kosovo Security Force**

MKSF through its mechanisms helps local institutions in preventing terrorism, while with its units actively participates in defense and response to possible terrorist attacks.



### **Ministry of Finance**

MoF will have an active and cooperative role with all institutions affected by the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy against Terrorism, ensuring that the activities and objectives envisaged are realized within regular budget divisions.

### **Kosovo Customs**

As an agency within the Ministry of Finance, KC exercises the function of controlling the goods and persons at the border crossing points and within the territory of Kosovo and thus contributes in prevention, identification, reporting, investigation and blocking of financing sources of terrorist activities.

### **Financial Intelligence Unit**

As an agency within the Ministry of Finance, FIU is responsible for researching, obtaining, analyzing and disseminating to the competent authority and making publicly available information about potential money laundering and financing of terrorism.

### **Regulatory Authority of Electronic and Postal Communications**

RAEPC is the national regulatory authority which applies and supervises the regulatory framework established by the Law on Electronic Communications, the Law on Postal Services, and the policies of development of the field of electronic communications and postal services.

### **Ministry of Education, Science and Technology**

MEST plays an important role in the area of prevention and awareness through curriculum development and organization of awareness activities in the prevention of violent extremism and terrorism.

### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs plays a significant role within the international cooperation framework in the fight against terrorism, having a mission (amongst others) the formulation and the implementation of foreign policy, development and coordination of policies with other countries as well as important responsibilities in coordinating government and state institutions related to international relations affairs.

### **Ministry of European Integration**

MEI ensures that the legal framework and government policy, related to prevention and fighting of terrorism, are aligned with EU legislation and policy.

### **Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport**

MCYS develops cultural, youth, sports and heritage policies, drafts programs for reviewing the needs of young people and supporting them, and in particular for the identification and support of specific vulnerable groups. It develops programs for raising the level of cultural communication and coexistence between cultures of all ethnic, religious or linguistic communities in the country, including cultural promotion and cooperation in the field of culture, youth and sport.



### **Kosovo Agency for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety**

As a body within the Office of the Prime Minister, KARPNS is a specialized agency for the implementation of national and international policies and standards in the field of radiation protection and nuclear safety.

### **Victims Advocacy and Assistance Office**

Victims` Advocacy and Assistance Office (VAAO) is an independent office functioning within the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor. VAAO is in charge of providing services for victims during the legal procedures, informing them on their rights and representation of their interests in the Kosovo criminal justice system. The office also assist the victims in filling their claims for compensation in the criminal procedure and applications for State Compensation.

## **6 Objectives of the Strategy against Terrorism**

Terrorism threats are persistent, hence preventing and combating them requires constant commitment and engagement, as well as further capacity development. Therefore, despite the fact that the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo have achieved satisfactory results in capacity building and efficiency in the prevention and combating of terrorism, the current context in Kosovo, as well as the trend of global developments, which may also affect the Republic of Kosovo, makes this strategic document necessary in order to prevent and combat terrorism effectively.

Based on the effectiveness and results of the previous strategies, the activities of the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo in the prevention and combating of violent extremism and terrorism remain focused on four main pillars: **PREVENTION, PROTECTION, PURSUIT AND RESPOND**, which are set as strategic objectives:

### **1. PREVENTION**

**Prevention** as a specific objective, it plays a crucial role in combating terrorism, in identifying and combating the causes, namely in opposing the radical ideologies and doctrines that encourage individuals in acts of violence. In addition to the involvement of security and law enforcement agencies and adequate legal infrastructure, this also requires a wider mobilization of the social spectrum in order to have an effective result in minimizing or eliminating the causes of radicalism and extremism leading to terrorism.

For the purpose of this comprehensive strategy for combating the terrorism, were presented key prevention priorities, but are not limited only to them:

- Combating and fighting radical and extremist ideologies or doctrines and those who promote it;
- Preventing potential individuals who may be drawn from extremist doctrines or ideologies and become violent extremist and terrorist.



Regarding the fight against radical and extremist ideologies and doctrines, whose main focus is the prevention, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has approved the strategy for prevention of violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism 2015-2020 followed by a detailed action plan that mainly focuses on prevention. Therefore, the abovementioned strategy addresses in detail the aspect of combating the ideologies and doctrines, the base of causes, push and pull factors, and other aspects related to this pillar.

## 2. PROTECTION

This objective means strengthening of **protective** capabilities from terrorist attacks, namely the threat of terrorism to the Republic of Kosovo or to its interests in the region and beyond. In addition to strengthening the protective capabilities, this also means minimizing the vulnerability of this phenomenon. In recent years, there has been an advancement of these capacities with particular emphasis on law enforcement, which have played a key role in assessing and minimizing the risk posed by terrorism.

Specific protection objectives during 2018-2023 will include:

- Strengthening the control at the border crossing points and the green border line;
- Protection of property and citizens of the Republic of Kosovo that may have been targeted by terrorist attacks;
- Protection of high-risk goods and materials.

## 3. PURSUIT

**Pursuit** - the purpose of this objective is prosecution, investigation and bringing to justice the individuals or groups that pose a terrorist threat or commit terrorist acts.

For the achievement of this objective during 2018-2023, these measures will be taken but will not be limited to:

- Prevention and investigation of violent extremists or terrorists that influence, recruit, finance, support, plan and attempt to build legitimacy within the territory of the Republic of Kosovo;
- Strengthen the institutional capacities for effective prosecution and proceedings;
- Review and supplement the legal framework;
- Establishment and expansion of local and international co-operation.

## 4. RESPOND

Preparation of Kosovo Institutions to manage and minimize the consequences of a terrorist attack by improving the ability to deal with consequences, response coordination and victim protection and assistance. In addition to maximum efforts to prevent terrorist actions, continuous efforts will be made to respond more efficiently and effectively to prevent any acts of terrorism and to respond





to attacks. Effective preparation and response are critical to saving lives and minimizing the potential damages and consequences.

For the achievement of this target during 2017-2023, these measures will be taken but will not be limited to:

- Readiness for reaction and situation management with a goal to minimize the consequences in case of any possible terrorist attack;
- Strengthen the capacities and responsiveness of relevant institutions for preparation and response;
- Provision of protection, support and assistance to victims of terrorist acts including the emergency response but also access to other services available including the right to compensation and restitution.

## **7 Implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Strategy**

### **7.1 Role of the Monitoring and Evaluation system**

The Strategy implementation process will aim at meeting its strategic, specific objectives and activities. Monitoring and evaluation of the results of the implementation of objectives and activities will be an integral part of the strategy process, as well as key elements in its implementation.

Monitoring will consist of a continuous and systematic collection of data to measure the progress and implementation of the Action Plan. Evaluation will be done on a regular periodical basis, annually, but also on ad hoc basis, through which the implementation of the Action Plan and its impact in practice will be assessed. The evaluation process will result in the review of Action Plan activities by providing planning of activities needed for effective implementation of strategic objectives and alignment with the trends of domestic and global threats.

The main dimensions of monitoring and evaluation of the strategy are:

- Institutional capacity;
- Monitoring indicators throughout and at the end of the three-year period; and
- Information sources and measurement instruments.

### **7.2 Institutional capacities for Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Monitoring and Evaluation system will be expanded to cover all institutions responsible for achieving the objectives set out in the Strategy and Action Plan:

- The National Coordinator against Terrorism, as the lead coordinating institution for the achievement of the objectives, will monitor the indicators of the Strategy against Terrorism;
- The Strategic Secretariat will monitor on a regular basis the implementation of the Action Plan by collecting quarterly, semi-annual, nine-month, annual and ad-hoc reports from all relevant institutions and will produce analytical reports on the implementation of the strategy as appropriate;



- Ministries, law enforcement bodies and other institutions listed in the action plan will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the activities allocated to their ministries or their subordinate institutions. These institutions will submit their periodic reports to the Secretariat of the Strategies;
- Non-governmental and international organizations will participate in the process of monitoring and evaluating the strategy by strengthening inclusiveness, transparency and accountability.

### **7.3 Monitoring and Evaluation indicators**

Each activity under the action plan has relevant qualitative and quantitative indicators that will serve the monitoring and evaluation process.

### **7.4 Monitoring and Evaluation instruments**

- Administrative/statistics data from various relevant actors;
- Annual Report of Strategy implementation and other ad-hoc reports;
- External reports from non-governmental and international organizations;
- Various surveys.

## **8 Action Plan**

The Action Plan reflects its compliance with the overall framework of the Strategy and is designed within the overall strategic framework established by the National Strategy against Terrorism.

The Action Plan will be reviewed at the end of each year in order to ensure the implementation of the Strategy and alignment with local and international trends.

The Action Plan for the implementation of this Strategy consists of:

- Strategic objectives;
- Specific objectives;
- Concrete implementation activities;
- Definition of responsible and supporting institutions for the achievement of each objective;
- Definition of the timeframe for implementation of each activity;
- Determination of necessary financial resources of implementation of activities;
- Definition of indicators for the implementation of each objective and activity.

The Action Plan is an internal document with limited distribution.