

**UNOCT/Kingdom of Spain Conference Virtual Dialogue
on “Human rights and civil society partners on building a better paradigm to
prevent and counter terrorism”**

The role of civil society

Malaga/virtual platform, Wednesday, 26 May 2021

Remarks of

**Assistant Secretary-General Michèle Coninsx,
Executive Director, CTED**

Excellencies, colleagues, civil society representatives, distinguished participants,

**I am grateful to the Kingdom of Spain and to our colleagues at the United Nations
Office of Counter-Terrorism for giving me the opportunity to**

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and others have been clear about the risks to CSOs working in the counter-terrorism space.

And we must always be mindful of those risks.

We must also recognize that women's CSOs have been shown to be at particular risk of repression and face particular challenges in this area.

We must do all that we can to help ensure that all relevant actors — including CSOs — are able to conduct their operations in full respect for the rights to personal security, freedom of expression, and freedom of association.

Excellencies, distinguished participants,

Over the past year or so, CTED has been engaged in a process aimed at enhancing its engagement with CSOs and promoting the development of positive partnerships.

We have organized a number of informal round1 png0 G[)JTEtQ0.000009qG[We)-40en-GB12.9

Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)

mandate, and to ensure that this engagement remains an integral part of all our activities.

Thank you.