

Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)

These assessments continue to reveal the multiple challenges faced by Member States in their efforts to counter the terrorist threat.

With respect to challenges relating to returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters and their associated family members, I would like to highlight three dimensions where parliamentarians could play a significant role:

The first dimension relates to information-sharing, with respect in particular to collecting, using and sharing biometric data; financial intelligence; intelligence collected through the use of special investigative techniques; and the use of electronic evidence in cross-border counter-terrorism investigations.

Although there has been considerable technological progress in this area, many States have yet to develop the laws, policies and institutions required to ensure that these new tools are used effectively, appropriately, and responsibly.

Parliaments could play a significant role in ensuring that they are adopted at the national level and are also compliant with the rule of law.

The second dimension relates to strategies developed for the prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals who return from the conflict zones.

Here again, parliaments can ensure that such strategies are effectively monitored and evaluated in full respect for international human rights law.

The third dimension concerns family members associated with FTFs, especially children, and women.

Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)

As victims, returning women and children require significant, tailored and long-term protection, rehabilitation and reintegration assistance.

Where women have played other active roles, we encourage States to implement programmes that address the gender dimensions of terrorism and violent extremism.

The efforts of