ACUNS Annual Meeting – Rome 2018 –
Workshop Panel: Non-State Armed Groups and Counter-Terrorism
Author: Maria Abruzzo – PhD Candidate Universidad Carlos III Madrid.

Countering terrorism and online radicalisation while protecting fundamental freedoms: the role of United Nations.

Key-words: terrorism, radicalisation, cyber-hubs, online proselytism, United Nations, human rights.

“Terrorism remains a persistent and evolving global menace. It undermines international peace and security, destroys societies and destabilizes entire regions. It is an affront to the common values encapsulated in the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. No country is immune to this threat. Social media, encrypted communications and the dark web are being used to spread propaganda, radicalize new recruits and plan atrocities.”
(Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism - Report of United Nations High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism)
ABSTRACT:

As the United Nations Global Strategy (2006) states "[…] effective counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights are not conflicting goals, but complementary and mutually reinforcing1 […]." Tackling terrorism threat, fulfilling the international obligations and the respect of human rights for all are integral and interdependent purposes that every State has the responsibility to attain, promote and protect. Even when freedom and security maybe threatened by a risk of terrorist attacks, a State must safeguard people living within its territory and, at the same time, act in compliance with the international law in order to ensure that the rights of foreign criminal individuals are respected. In this regard, we will analyse the instruments that the United Nations has developed throughout the years, as a universal system aimed at facing terrorism (UN Preventing/Countering Terrorism tools and bodies) and working in synergy with human rights protection mechanisms (tools; bodies).

Prior to examining the phenomena of radicalisation, terrorism and its related legal framework, it is first necessary to understand: the traditional definition of jihād (according to Islamic doctrine), and its evolution, or rather its “fundamentalist distortion”, the “mis-interpretation” of jihād by violent radicalised subjects.

1 A/RES/60/288, IV. Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism.
JIHĀD – THE ORIGINAL RELIGIOUS INTERPRETATION

The term jihād is often translated as “holy war”, but this definition is restrictive and, for this reason, easy to be misunderstood. The word jihād means “fight”, “effort” conducted “on the way of God” (al’ jihād fi sabil Allah). As Professor Seyyed Hossein Nasr clarifies, jihād actually means “[…] “exertion” in the path of God, and its outward aspect it is meant to be defensive and not aggressive. Whatever misuse is made of this term by extremists in the Islamic world or Western commentators of the Islamic scene does not change the meaning of outward jihād in the traditional Islamic context […]2”. The radical fringes consider the jihād as a “war”, a sort of revolution addressed against unbelievers and western enemies, as well as, an obligation of all the Muslims. Nevertheless, in clear opposition to the incorrect fundamentalist interpretation of the concept, the Quran encourages the observant to protect those who professes other faiths3. According to Islam, a military attack or a proper war can only occur in the case of a previous external aggression or in the event that a fragile individual needs to be defended, as he/she is unable to do so. Once again, we quote Professor Seyyed’s words: “There is an elaborate code of conduct in war based primarily on the defense of dār al’islām rather than aggression, fair treatment of the enemy including prisoners of war, prohibition of killing innocent civilians, and the like4”.

However, in the past few decades the world has been experiencing the effects of a “fundamentalist” interpretation of the “fight in the path of God”: modern (distorted) jihād aims at subverting the peaceful coexistence between different cultures, since co-existing with

2 Seyyed Hossein N., Islam. Religion, history and civilization, p. 34.
4 Seyyed Hossein N., Islam. Religion, history and civilization, p. 34.
those who jihādist consider “unbelievers” or “heretics” is in disaccord to the fundamentalist philosophy. It is also restrictive referring to jihād as an “exclusively” religious form of terrorism: if one carefully focuses on its genesis, tactics and purposes can realize how its relationship closely aligns with nationalist terrorism. Though it might sound as a paradox, modern “Islamist” terrorism (or rather more generically, “religious-motivated terrorism”) is allegedly considered “laic”, a possible consequence of a complex born process of a Nation and its socio-political repercussions, a sort of new version of the old nationalist terrorism.

Motivated to achieve their targets through a massive spreading of a misrepresented idea of jihād, terrorist organizations of the Islamist sort generated a new form of militant participation able to gather a multitude of followers all over the world: the “online jihād”.

**TOWARDS A NEW (FUNDAMENTALIST) CONCEPT OF JIHĀD**

One may affirm that globalized salafi terrorist entities such as al’Qaeda and Islamic State (Daesh) are the result of violent-based interpretation of jihād. In the nineties, the al’Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden - motivated by a distorted and violent interpretation of Islam - defined the “West” as the Far Enemy to combat and he encouraged his followers to defend the Ummah (the community of Muslims) which, in his ambitious project, had to be “global and trans-national” crossing every territorial border. More specifically, the al’Qaeda leader made a distinction between the “Near Enemy” (represented by Arabic governments...
oppressing the Muslims) and the “Far Enemy”, the “unbeliever”- that is - “Western people” or “crusaders”⁸, importantly United States: anyone that either in the past or in current times dared to occupy the “territory of Islam” (dār al’islām⁹).

Within the jihādi terrorism there are three distinct and different ideological and pseudo-ideological perspectives:

**pan-Islamism** – a political-religious movement dating back to 19th century. Its origins did not have a “terrorist trend”, it developed within the Ottoman Empire and its original purpose was tackling western colonialism¹⁰. The pan-Islamists wanted to unify the Muslim People and restore the “Caliphate”, abolished by Atatürk in 1924¹¹. Today the pan-Islamism distinguishes two radical fringes¹²: the federalists – who want to establish the “Islamic United States”, supporting a jihād within the territory (dār al’islām); the confederalists – who aim at creating the “Islamic Union” and fostering a global jihād, a “jihād beyond borders” mainly based on the concept of an Ummah that observes the doctrine regardless of any boundary.

As a willingness to unify all the Muslims, in a certain way pan-Islamism contributed to the propagation of radicalism: Islamist organizations aim at eliminating any and all obstacles to the unification of the Muslims. In 1892, Jamal al-Din al-Afghani was spreading a pan-Islamist vision and became a leader who inspired many Islamist organizations, including “terrorist

---

⁸Ibidem, p. 38.
¹⁰Guidère M. (2017), Il terrorismo islamista in 100 mappe – Da al’Qaeda allo Stato Islamico, p. 32.
¹¹Guidère M., (2017), Il terrorismo islamista in 100 mappe – Da al’Qaida allo Stato Islamico, p. 31.
¹²Ibidem, p. 33.
organizations” which have different mission objectives, such as al’Qaeda and Islamic State\textsuperscript{13}.

**Takfirism** – is a “sectarian” movement. Takfirists are self-proclaimed “real” Muslims, who are the only defenders of the “real” religious tradition. In “their opinion”, they are allowed to deprive non-Muslims of their permissions and protection, as well as, kill any possible unbeliever. Takfirists strongly maintain and believe that a true Islamic State and its people can only exist if they are ruled by the *shari’a* (the Islamic Law).

The takfirist movement finds its roots in the ideology of the Egyptian Sayyd Qutb, one of the most remarkable icons of the modern Islamism. This specific interpretation of Islamism calls for accusations (*fatwa*\textsuperscript{14}) addressed to the “unbeliever” or “heretic” (*kuffâr*\textsuperscript{15}). Qutb was one of the first ideologists to call for the *jihâd* against those Muslims who do not strictly follow the religious precepts and did not apply the *shari’a*. The Takfirism mostly organized armed groups in Egypt and Algeria (Salafi Group for Preaching and Combat - GSPC) which, afterwards, established the al’Qaeda affiliate AQIM (al’Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb) in 2006\textsuperscript{16}. Additionally, the Takfirism strongly influenced the Islamic State: in 2014, in fact, several ISIS ideologists delivered *fatwa*, sentences of accusation (*takfir*\textsuperscript{17}). ISIS’s strategy seems to disseminate such ideology with the aim to make takfirist sect a “global” entity. As for its global spreading, this radical ideology also entered the cyber-

\textsuperscript{13} Ibidem, p. 33.


\textsuperscript{17} Kepel G., (2001), *Jihad ascesa e declino – Storia del fondamentalismo islamico*, p.31-32.
dimension, the “jihādisphere” where “Dijihād” (the internet jihād) takes place and proliferates, since the beginning of the 20th century.

Caliphatism – is deeply rooted to the territory which is able to extend even “globally”. Caliphatism is based on a theological ideology that elaborated on the Islamic notion of territory. It distinguishes several dimensions within it: the formerly mentioned dār al’īslām, the territory of Islam; dār al’kufr, territory of unbelievers; dār al’harb, territory of the war; dār al’sulh, territory of peace. This categorization was redefined by the contemporary salafi jihādist groups that consider the “territory” as artificial, since it was imposed from Western countries (colonies) and, for this reason, conceived to separate the Islamic community (Ummah). All the above-mentioned perspectives stress the deep connection to the complex notion of territory, with a distinct and specific claim against the arbitrary concept of borders designed by Western occupiers in the past.

**CYBER - RADICALISATION**

In the last years, radicalisation had a deep social impact as a result of digital devices and social media. The cyber (dark) dimension of proselytism, with its pervasive and powerful language, enhanced the cyber-radicalisation and has allowed it to spread overwhelmingly.

---


19 Ibidem, p 5.

Thus, such significant digital evolution generated an impressive change that Antinori\(^{21}\) (2015) calls “mediamorphosis” or rather a “process of transformation in which the medium is not only a container of messages aimed to generate terror, such as in traditional propaganda strategies, but it also becomes ‘media-terror’ itself, an asymmetric weapon of the globalized contemporary reality throughout the violent action/representation nexus”. This transition phase converted the old communication model (analogical and hierarchical) into a more accessible model (digital and horizontal\(^{22}\)) producing a proper revolution that had a tremendous impact on several aspects of criminal dimension. Cyber-violent extremists avail themselves of an accessible potent tool (the web), thus they are able to operate in a neutral parallel universe (cyber-habitat) less subjected to traditional regulations, compared to their “real” society/world, keep their anonymity safe, as well as, secure their protection. Furthermore, cyber-violent extremists operate in a “freelance modality” while interacting with a cyber-community of “veterans” and new apprentices to indoctrinate, with the aim to expand a new army of proactive and self-taught fighters.

The cyber-dimension, thus, designed a new concept of “space and time” where everyone can remain anonymous and act in a “never-ending (cyber-)hub of hate and violence where

\(^{21}\) Antinori, A. (2015), La ‘mediamorfosi’ del terrorismo jihadista tra iconoclastia e stato sociale.

*Federalismi.it - Rivista di Diritto Pubblico, Italiano, Comparato, Europeo, 17, 2-17, pp. 4.*

inculturation and self-training are open and available for everyone whether they are active participants or not23”.

**PREVENTING AND COUNTERING RADICALISATION, VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND TERRORISM: THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

As previously mentioned, throughout the years the United Nations has developed several legal instruments to tackle terrorism threat that operate in synergy with an additional set of tools implemented to protect fundamental rights. After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the Security Council adopted the resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), through which United Nations established the **Counter Terrorism Committee** to support UN Member States in the prevention of terrorist acts. It is endorsed by the **Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)**.

By stating that indivisibility of security, economic development and human freedom are crucial points, in 2004 the former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan called a group of 16 experts who elaborated an effectual system to guarantee collective security, by starting from the assumption that “threats to our security are all interconnected24”. Summit goals and discussions were enclosed in the report “A more secure world: Our shared


responsibility* - Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change* (December 2004). The meeting focused on the following points:

- to assess threats to international peace and security;
- to evaluate how well the existing policies and institutions addressed those threats (at that time 2004);
- to recommend ways of strengthening the United Nations to provide collective security for the twenty-first century.

In 2005, the UN Secretary-General established the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and its main task was strengthening the coordination of the whole counter terrorism system, until it evolved into the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, as a result of the establishment of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism in 2017. Furthermore, following the resolution 2005/80 the Commission on Human Rights nominated a Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms while Countering Terrorism (April 2005).

In order to refer to a common action plan, on 8th September 2006, the UN General Assembly adopted the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through the Resolution A/RES/60/288. The Strategy aims at strengthening international cooperation among States and is based on 4 crucial pillars25:

- addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism;
- pointing out measures to prevent and combat terrorism;
- promoting measures to build states’ capacity to prevent and combat terrorism;

25 A/RES/60/288 -
- promoting measures to ensure respect of human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism.

With regard to the last pillar, the Point 12 (Part II) of the Resolution A/RES/60/288 also highlights two important targets:

A – to coordinate efforts at the international and regional level to counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations on the Internet, and;

B – to use the Internet as a tool for countering the spread of terrorism, while recognizing that States may require assistance in this regard.

Through the UN Global Strategy, therefore, States commit themselves to ensure that “any measure taken to combat terrorism comply with their obligations under international law, in particular human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law26”.

In September 2017, the Human Rights Council (which replaced the old Commission in 2006) renewed the mandate of the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances of persons (dating back 1980) through the Resolution A/HRC/RES/36/6. Finally, we may also mention two milestone documents produced by the UN in 1966, the International Covenants (ICCPR and ICESCR) whereby human rights are considered “universal, indivisible and interdependent, and interrelated” (from Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, 1993). Thus to threaten their respect means attacking international peace and security, undermining governments and hindering development, a serious menace particularly for countries that suffer a lack of democracy and face internal conflicts.

_________________________

26 Point 2, A/RES/60/288.
More recently, the Security Council encouraged the development of a “comprehensive approach” to address violent extremism and terrorism threat. Countering Violent Extremism is an important purpose of such a mission statement and it is also underscored in the resolution n. 2178 (Containing the flow of foreign terrorist fighters FTFs, 2014). In its preamble, it explains how “addressing the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters requires comprehensively addressing underlying factors, including by preventing radicalization to terrorism, stemming recruitment, inhibiting foreign terrorist fighter travel, disrupting financial support to foreign terrorist fighters, countering violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, countering incitement to terrorist acts motivated by extremism or intolerance, promoting political and religious tolerance, economic development and social cohesion and inclusiveness, ending and resolving armed conflicts, and facilitating reintegration and rehabilitation”.

In 2015, the Security Council adopted the resolution 2242 through which it urges Member States and commit the UN “to conduct and gather gender-sensitive research and data collection on the drivers of radicalisation for women, and the impacts of counter-terrorism strategies on women’s human rights and women’s organizations, in order to develop targeted and evidence-based policy and programming responses, and to ensure United Nations monitoring and assessment mechanisms and processes mandated to prevent and
respond to violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, have the necessary
gender expertise to fulfil their mandates\textsuperscript{28}” (Point 12 of the Resolution).

Though the following references appear as a glimpse of a larger and more complex theme
that we cannot thoroughly examine at this point, we may mention Nigeria and Somalia (with
Boko Haram and Al’Shabaab) as one of the several examples that highlight the role played
by women within terrorist groups. In addition, it is also necessary to mention the numerous
cases of women who, encouraged by a thorough and “fake” empowerment propaganda, join
their husbands, committed to fight in Syria, or even place themselves among ISIL’s ranks\textsuperscript{29}.  
Due to the particular condition that makes them both victims and operational arms of terrorist
groups, in fact, they play a strategic role within this scenario: as victims they suffer slavery
and cruel abuses, while as violent militants they are subjected to a radical indoctrination,
sometimes on a voluntary basis (after a self-radicalisation process), at other times they are
forcefully obligated by their persecutors.

According to the Institute for National Security Studies, 137 out of 623 terrorists entangled
in 348 terrorist attacks were women: the data refers to terrorist attacks perpetrated in 23
countries across the world in 2017, and show how this is “the highest number of female
suicide bombers since women began participating in suicide attacks\textsuperscript{30}”. Moreover, data also
shows the increasing number of women involvement in online activities aimed at self-
radicalisation to give a contribution to jihād. In this regard, UN Women is one of the UN

\textsuperscript{29} We suggest to see UN Women Academic Paper “Empowerment or subjugation: an analysis of ISIL’s
gendered messaging”(June 2018), written by Dr Nelly Lahoud, Senior Fellow for Political Islamism at the
International Institute for Strategic Studies – Middle East.
\textsuperscript{30} From https://www.inss.org.il/publication/report-suicide-attacks-2017-fewer-attacks-women/
key actors committed in identifying the causes of women engagement for terrorist purposes and their proactive role that underscores the reduction of the distance between women and men within this specific framework. For example, we refer to the study conducted in Asia: “Who’s behind the keyboard? A gender analysis of terrorism and violent extremism in the online space in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines”. The research outcomes related to these countries indicate that women carried out more than “215.000 searches for contents related to terrorism and violent extremism over a two-month period. Overall, women performed 32 per cent of all recorded searches31”, as in UN Women’s research. Besides, research reveals that women’s online activity seems to be as frequent as men’s activity. Therefore, based on recent events, it would appear that a woman who already is a mother, a sister, a wife, also aims to be a supporter, facilitator or even a fighter. UN agencies and international experts are now working on programmes to include women in preventing violent extremism initiatives, as well as, include them in empowerment programmes, and in decision-making processes aimed at countering radicalisation and violent extremism.

In January 2016 the United Nations Secretary-General promoted a Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE), which included preventive measures to address the trigger causes of violent extremism, in order to promote and adopt them at a local and

31 Who’s behind the keyboard? A gender analysis of terrorism and violent extremism in the online space in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, p. 4. Research brief produced by: UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Editors: Hanny Cueva-Beteta and Lesli Davis. Published February 2019.
global level. Following on this initiative, the General Assembly also adopted a resolution to corroborate this Plan in July 2016\textsuperscript{32}.

In June 2018, the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called the first \textbf{United Nations High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies} of the UN Member States. The Conference came after the \textbf{sixth biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy}, and focused on “\textit{Strengthening international cooperation to combat the evolving threat of terrorism}”. More than 1.000 participants (from Member States, international and regional organizations, civil society) took part in the Conference, which included the \textbf{United Nations 38 Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact} (it is the former CTITF established in 2005, as previously clarified), INTERPOL (International Criminal Police Organization) and the World Customs Organization (WCO), the independent intergovernmental body representing 182 Customs administrations around the world\textsuperscript{33}.

\textbf{RADICALISATION, VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND TERRORISM: HOW TO PREVENT AND TACKLE THE THREAT – FINAL REMARKS}

As we could realise through this brief \textit{excursus}, States and the International Community must be involved at every stage to confront global and changing threats that are able to


cross not only national borders, but also those invisible frontiers that separate our daily “real”
dimension from a more powerful dimension, the cyberspace or parallel galaxy. For this
reason, States have been empowering their critical infrastructures, to protect them from both
physical and cyber terrorist attacks. At the same time, it is now increasingly obvious that it
is crucial to engage young users who populate the web, for it is on the web where they find
and share useful instructions on how “to become the perfect servant”, and where they have
the opportunity to cultivate their new ideal and re-build their reputation. Thus, by focusing on
this specific demographic, we can implement long-term radicalisation prevention strategies,
which cannot only be tackled by excising radical propaganda contents from the web. In this
regard, the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), in compliance
with relevant Security Council resolutions, has been acting to prevent the misuse of
Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs)\(^{34}\) by all the newcomers willing to
embrace violent extremism. The Committee’s initiatives are focused on the promotion of
partnership between key businesses and organizations in order to involve strategic actors
and facilitate the sharing of information between social media companies and proper
Government authorities. Microsoft serves as an example as it forbade online contents
spread by organizations included on the “Consolidated United Nations Security Council
Sanctions List”.

The macro-theme in analysis also includes further issues at the attention of the International
Community, such as that of the Foreign Terrorist Fighters and the way this phenomenon
(directly or indirectly) engages women and the youth. Wives and children physically move
to follow their husbands/fathers on ISIL frontlines, thus women and children play a key role
as they are both victims and supporters of the fighters. The

\(^{34}\) https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/focus-areas/information-and-communication-technologies/
number of newcomers who have thus far joined terrorist entities is noteworthy: as reported by the Institute for Economics & Peace\textsuperscript{35}, from April 2013 to June 2018 over 40,000 fighters from 80 countries joined ISIL and a quantity exceeding “11 per cent of foreign fighters have been minors\textsuperscript{36}”. Regardless, the fact women and children may (or not) pro-actively participate to the \textit{jihād}, they could become new potential radicalised subjects who are ready to contribute to the fight. Therefore, it is crucial to acknowledge and realize that de-radicalisation programmes are fundamental to engage the above-mentioned categories in concerted counter terrorism initiatives. Evidence provided by experts strongly advocate that young people should be considered not only as part of a (potential) future generation of violent extremists but also as protagonists in a virtuous counter-narrative process, able to positively influence new audiences\textsuperscript{37}.

It is imperative to underline the necessity of preventing and countering terrorism while respecting fundamental freedoms since terrorism - as it is now globally recognized - represents a serious violation of human rights. Terrorism acts on a transnational level and therefore must be fought on a global level. It is essential to highlight the purpose of tackling such a threat by planning and conducting investigative activities which complying with international human rights standards. Suspected violent extremists (or terrorists) may be deprived of his/her privacy to a proportioned extent that allow prosecutors to conduct their investigations according to Rule of Law (“though no grave breaches must be


consented\textsuperscript{38}). Rule of Law, transparency, fair and equal trial must be guaranteed to violent extremists or terrorists in the prosecution phase, and suspected violent extremists (and/or terrorists), if detained, are not be mistreated by law-enforcement agents or officials and they must be allowed to apply for a \textit{habeas corpus} writ. Forbidden interrogation methods are illegal even when a State is facing extraordinary difficult times such a terrorist attack, and absolute rights - the prohibition of torture and inhuman treatments, the access to courts and due process - must not be breached at any point.

The United Nations recently took additional specific actions and promoted effective measures to combat violent extremism and terrorism while guaranteeing the respect of fundamental rights: CTED, UNODC and the IAP are implementing a new project called “Lawful Access to Digital Data Across Borders”. The project allows States to booster the capacity of their central authorities in charge of conducting investigations and sharing digital evidence. For instance, this project aims at creating a practical guide in requesting digital information, a manual for legal assistance and a database to collect information\textsuperscript{39}.

Pursuing complementary measures to prevent and counter radicalisation, violent extremism and terrorism also includes the necessity to develop de-radicalization programmes specifically addressed for subjects who require being re-included in society. Specifically related to this issue, States should develop and implement measures to perfect their violent extremism risk assessments tools in prisons, where radicalisation process has been known to occur and proliferate.


It is imperative that the International Community, with the support of States, experts and civil society persevere in considering radicalisation, violent extremism and terrorism complex convergent phenomena and maintaining a comprehensive overture. A key priority is the development and implementation of capacities to identify the trigger factors that influence and activate the desire of “embracing the cause”, a multifaceted sort of (social) discontent that may be detected in social exclusion, the pursuit of a new identity, economic and governmental instability and, not least, violation of human rights.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


Carletti, C., (2015), Le conseguenze del fenomeno del terrorismo sul godimento dei diritti e delle libertà fondamentali: il dibattito in corso nel sistema di Ginevra (Consiglio dei Diritti
Umani e Procedure Speciali), in *Ordine internazionale e diritti umani*, ISSN 2284-3531, pp. 539-548.


Who’s behind the keyboard? A gender analysis of terrorism and violent extremism in the online space in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. Research brief produced by: *UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific*. Editors: Hanny Cueva-Beteta and Lesli Davis. Published February 2019.


**DOCUMENTS**
A/RES/60/288, IV. Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism (2006).


International Covenant for Civil Political Rights (1966)

United Nations Charter (1945)

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948).

WEB RESOURCES

www.asiapacific.unwomen.org/en
www.economicsandpeace.org
www.icsr.info
www.inss.org
www.interpol.int
www.kcl.ac.uk
www.ohchr.org
www.sicurezzanazionale.gov.it
www.un.org
www.unodc.org
www.unwomen.org/en