

STATEMENT BY TÜRKİYE
at 80th Session of the Sixth Committee of the UN General Assembly
under agenda item 109
“Measures to eliminate international terrorism”
(6-7 October 2025, New York)

Thank you, Madame Chair,

I am honored to take the floor on behalf of the Republic of Türkiye. At the outset, allow me to congratulate you and your Bureau on your election. I would like to assure you of Türkiye’s full cooperation and support during your tenure.

For many decades, Türkiye has lived under the persistent menace of terrorism. It is not only a threat to peace and security but also a blatant violation of human rights, depriving people of their fundamental freedoms. Terrorism must be countered without exception, regardless of the ideology or pretext behind it.

In this fight, coherent and coordinated international cooperation is necessary. With this understanding, Türkiye collaborates with partners, bilaterally and multilaterally, at local, regional, and global levels, being at the forefront to raise the awareness of the international community on the threat of terrorism.

At the same time, we stress that counter-terrorism measures must fully comply with international law and human rights obligations. The rights and dignity of victims of terrorism must also be at the heart of our efforts.

Excellencies, Distinguished Representatives,

We are witnessing worrying geographical shifts in terrorism. The epicenter of radical terrorism has shifted increasingly from the Middle East and North Africa to sub-Saharan Africa, particularly the Sahel.

Daesh is attempting to intensify its efforts to bolster local cells, particularly in Afghanistan and Africa, while using digital platforms to radicalize individuals, recruit followers, and enhance their capacity to carry out attacks.

On the other hand, we are also witnessing an attempt for a resurgence in Syrian-Iraqi territories.

According to the SG report, an estimated 3.000 Daesh militants are operating in these territories, seeking to re-infiltrate urban areas from the desert.

The brutal attack on the Mar Elias Church in Damascus earlier this year illustrates the fragility of the security situation in Syria.

We underline that the Syrian Government must be supported in its fight against terrorism to avoid Daesh's further rejuvenation.

Türkiye has scaled up her capacity-building efforts in the field of security through training and consultancy, given that the country remains vulnerable to Daesh and other terrorist organisations.

Any political discussions that may hinder the unity and territorial integrity of Syria will benefit Daesh and other terrorist organisations.

Madame Chair,

Türkiye is a committed member of the Global Coalition Against Daesh, contributing to both its military and civilian efforts.

On the ground, our determined actions have neutralised over 4,500 Daesh members, including its leader Abu Hussein Al Qurayshi.

We are also glad to co-chair the Terrorist Travel Working Group of the Coalition.

We attach particular importance to preventing the movement of foreign terrorist fighters. Hence, Türkiye has taken the necessary measures to close its borders to FTF travel, in line with the UNSC Resolution 2178 (2014).

However, defeating Daesh permanently requires addressing the situation of FTFs and their dependents stranded in camps in the northeast of Syria. We need more international cooperation for their repatriation to their countries of origin.

In this context, we should also prevent the PKK/PYD/YPG-SDF, which has a symbiotic relationship with Daesh, from feeding off it. Therefore, the PKK/PYD/YPG-SDF should immediately be excluded from the management of the camps.

Madame Chair,

Türkiye has also had to deal with another terrorist organization, the FETO, which attempted a coup d'état through infiltrating into state security structures and judiciary.

This terrorist organization is involved in many crimes, including tax evasion, drug trafficking, money laundering and unauthorized disclosure of classified government documents.

We are ready to work with our partners and colleagues to eradicate this new-age terrorist network.

Madame Chair,

Türkiye views the rise of far-right violent extremism and Islamophobia with concern and believes that provocative acts in Europe such as burning of the Holy Qur'an, which are defined as religious hatred and violation of international law by recent the UNHRC and the UN General Assembly resolutions, only strengthen the narratives of terrorists and violent extremists.

Madame Chair and Distinguished Representatives,

Let me conclude by reaffirming Türkiye's unwavering commitment to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, while upholding the rule of law, protecting human rights, and safeguarding the dignity of victims.

We will continue to work hand-in-hand with the international community to bring terrorists to justice, prevent them from harming civilians, and ensure peace and security for all.

I thank you.