

# **A Counter-Terrorism Agenda**

**for the EU: Anticipate, Prevent, Protect, Respond 2020**

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**“With the Counter Terrorism Agenda, we are boosting our ability to anticipate new threats, we are helping local communities to prevent radicalisation, we are giving cities the means to protect public spaces and we are ensuring that we can respond quickly and more efficiently to attacks.”**

**– Ylva Johansson. EU Commissioner for Home Affairs.**

# Introduction

## Key aspects

- The Agenda itself is NOT a law
- The aim of the Agenda is to create a *coherent* application of numerous EU's counter-terrorism legal and non-legal instruments
- It explains existing instruments, as well as presents new key steps



# Introduction

## A four-pillar strategy

1. Anticipation of terrorist threats
2. Prevention
3. Protection
4. Response to terrorist attacks



# Identifying vulnerabilities and building capacity to anticipate threats

- Intelligence and Situation Centre (EU INTCEN)
- EU Protective Security Advisors (EU PSA)
- Investing in new AI technologies



EU PSA officer supporting Belgian police in the field

# Preventing attacks by addressing radicalisation

- Regulation on addressing the dissemination of terrorist content online
- The Action Plan on integration and inclusion
- EU Knowledge Hub on prevention of radicalisation
- Returning of the foreign terrorist fighters



# Promoting security by design and reducing vulnerabilities to protect cities and people

- EU Pledge on Urban Security and Resilience
- Deploying security officers on flights (air marshal)
- Schengen Information System (SIS)
- The Firearms Directive Exchange System



## Stepping up operational support, prosecution and victims' rights to better respond to attacks

- EU police cooperation code
- Enhancing the protection of victims of terrorist acts (Compensation Directive)
- Counter-Terrorism Coordinator



**Ilkka Salmi, new EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator**



# Stronger mandate for Europol

- Europol, the EU Agency for law enforcement cooperation
- Europol will be a focal point in case it is not clear which Member State has jurisdiction
- The new mandate will allow Europol to process large and complex datasets
- Improving cooperation with non-EU partner countries



Europol headquarters in The Hague, Netherlands

# Conclusion

The Counter-Terrorism Agenda for the EU builds on existing policies and instruments and will strengthen the EU's framework to further improve on anticipating threats and risks, preventing radicalisation and violent extremism, protecting people and infrastructures, including through external border security, and responding effectively after attacks.



## Useful links:

- A Counter-Terrorism Agenda for the EU: Anticipate, Prevent, Protect, Respond (COM/2020/795 final). EUR-Lex. URL: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52020DC0795>;
- EU Terrorism Situation & Trend Report 2022. Europol. URL: <https://www.europol.europa.eu/publications-events/main-reports/tesat-report>;
- The EU's response to terrorism. The Council of the EU and the European Council. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/fight-against-terrorism/>;
- The EU's work to tackle terrorism. The Council of the EU and the European Council. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/eu-response-to-terrorism/>.