



Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me first thank the United States of America, Sweden and our colleagues from the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law, for organizing this timely side-event on racially or ethnically motivated violent extremism.

It has been very encouraging to see momentum for action and cooperation building up to tackle this pressing, transnational threat, and concrete initiatives starting to bear fruit, as example, the launch in July of the *IJJ Criminal Justice Practitioner's Guide for Addressing REMOVE* which we are highlighting here today.

The United Nations system looks forward to stepping up engagement and cooperation with Member States and all our partners in this regard, including the Global Counterterrorism Forum and its inspired institutions.

In February this year, the Secretary-General called for global, coordinated action to tackle this threat. The General Assembly has now given the international community a clear and strong signal for this in the comprehensive resolution 75/291 that it adopted by consensus at the end of June for the seventh review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The General Assembly called upon Member States to take appropriate measures to address the threats posed by the rise in terrorist attacks on the basis of xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance, or in the name of religion or belief, including through investigation, information exchange and cooperation.

And it requested the United Nations system help Member States develop effective counter- narratives, capacities and strategies to tackle this threat.

The relative importance and the manifestations of this specific phenomenon vary around the world, and Member States had long discussions to strike compromise terminology, given their respective legal, cultural and political traditions and contexts.

It is especially important for the credibility of international counter-terrorism efforts that Member States displayed such unity, and the outcome of the negotiations is clear, and true to one of the basic tenets of the Strategy: terrorism should be combated in all its forms and manifestations:

So we should leverage the solid normative framework and practical tools that we forms

solid empirical analysis to address the underlying grievances and challenge hateful narratives.

UNOCT now has a clear mandate on this pressing issue and our Global Programme on PCVE is a good example of how UN entities are already leveraging their existing work to address the rise in terrorist attacks on the basis of xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance.

As part of these efforts we are seeking to spearhead research and collaboration on countering the increasing use of online gaming platforms by neo-Nazi, white supremacist and other such violent groups.

Dear Colleagues,

The United Nations is fully committed to working with and helping requesting Member States, as mandated by the recent review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.