



Mr Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Candidate Countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia , Montenegro , Serbia and Albania , the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia and Georgia align themselves with this statement.

The recent attacks carried out by terrorist groups and individuals in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia underline once again that we are not free from the scourge of terrorism. The ISIL/Da'esh uprising poses a threat to peace and security that goes beyond Syria, Iraq and the Middle East region.

The European Union is appalled by, and firmly condemns, the indiscriminate killings and human rights abuses and, where applicable, violations of international humanitarian law, perpetrated by this and other terrorist organizations, in particular against religious and ethnic minorities and persons in vulnerable situations. The sexual violence committed as a tactics of war and to spread terror is of particular concern. We also condemn the destruction of cultural heritage. It is imperative to ensure justice for the survivors and their families and accountability for the perpetrators of all these crimes.

More than ever, the international community must respond jointly by condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. We must redouble our efforts to work together in the framework of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, on the occasion of its tenth anniversary and review during the current UNGA session. The Strategy continues to be central to address the evolving trends of the terrorist phenomena in an integrated and balanced way.

The EU and its Member States pursue a criminal justice based approach to tackling terrorism while protecting human rights.

with international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law. In this respect, we commend the work of the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ) in Malta. Only through abiding by the rule of law we can ensure the legitimacy of our actions, a standing long term solution to this scourge, as well as justice for the victims and their families.

Mr Chairman,

Given the evolution of the terrorist threat that we all face, efforts to prevent radicalization and recruitment to terrorism should be taken further. We would like to thank the US for the catalysing the Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) agenda during this year and to highlight the tremendous work that has been done since the Washington CVE Summit (February 2015), including through a series of summits and events such as the one held in Rome on 29 July 2015 as well as the most recent Leaders' Summit on 29 September 2015. These efforts should remain coordinated for a successful outcome. The EU has a long standing action oriented policy in this area since the prevention is a core element in the EU's CT strategy and subsequently in EU's strategy on counter radicalization and recruitment to terrorism. Further, the Foreign Affairs Council Conclusions on Counter Terrorism of 9 February 2015 called to step up efforts to counter radicalization and violent extremism by supporting international initiatives such as the GCTF inspired institutions: the first International Centre of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism ("Hedayah") in Abu Dhabi, the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) in Geneva, and the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ) in Malta. Also, the European Union will conduct an extensive analysis of current and planned CVE research initiatives across the world and prospective opportunities for enhanced mutual engagement by the EU and other partners. The analysis will include key national and regional institutions, as well as networks and individuals engaged in CVE research and present practical recommendations on how research efforts could be improved at the regional and global level. The findings will be presented at the Global CVE Research Summit hosted at Hedayah in December 2015.

The EU sees merit in the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), together with the UN, taking the different proposals forward, in particular those of the CVE Action Agenda. The real



Another key component of the CT strategy is countering the financing of terrorism. The EU has developed a comprehensive strategy to tackle its multiple aspects: analysis of changing threats, trends and methods, establishment of a clear legal framework and the

players and (3) comply with the constitutional principles and

Let me conclude by stressing that we more than ever need to remain united in our efforts to create a strong front against all forms and manifestations of terrorism and violent extremism. In our joint efforts we must ensure respect for human rights and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism.

Thank you.