



**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN**  
**ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE**  
الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط

**1<sup>st</sup> Standing Committee on Political and Security-Related Cooperation**

**Special Task Force on Terrorism**

**“The Root Causes of Terrorism”**

**Rapporteur: The Hon. Aşkın Asan (Turkey)**

***Resolution adopted on 29 October 2010,  
during the V<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session, Rabat***

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- **Reaffirming** its unequivocal condemnation of the terrorist attacks, regardless of whomever committed, for whatever purposes;
- **Reaffirming further** that such acts constitute a threat to the fundamental human rights, the rule of law, as well as the security international peace and security;
- **Deeply concerned** by the increase of acts of terrorism motivated by intolerance or extremism in various regions of the world;
- **Recognizing** the United Nations as the central body to formulate a universal legal framework in combating terrorism;
- **Expressing** support to the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;
- **Recognising** that effective counter-terrorism policies should also include measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, as stipulated in the aforementioned UN Counter-Terrorism Strategy;
- **Stressing** that efforts to understand and to address the conditions that bred radicalization and terrorism do not constitute and should not be considered as an attempt to legitimize terrorist acts;
- **Strongly rejecting** the association of terrorism with any religion and culture;
- **Understanding** that several factors, including political, economic and social injustices, ethnic, cultural, religious and racial discrimination and intolerance, foreign occupation and oppression, lead to widespread frustrations that can be abused by terrorist groups to radicalize the masses and to find support and recruitment; **Emphasizes in that context** the right of peoples to resist occupation and underlines the distinction between acts of resistance and acts of terrorism;
- **Deeply concerned** at and condemning the impact on the civilian population of economic sanctions, sieges and closures of occupied territories by foreign powers, without a UNSC mandate;
- **Recalling** the ultimate goal of nuclear disarmament included in the Non-proliferation (NPT) Treaty which entered into force in 1970;
- **Recalling** its own resolution adopted in 2009 which agreed upon a definition of terrorism and in particular preamble paragraph 14 which notes that “individuals,

groups of individuals or States carrying out acts of violence outside armed conflicts shall be punishable outside the legal framework of the laws of war for the offence committed”;

- ***Underlining*** the responsibility of the individual/organisation agreeing to pay a ransom when acts of terrorism are committed, a decision that encourages further criminal activities;
  - ***Recognizing*** the duty of a State to protect the life of its citizens. This obligation cannot release it from making use of all available legal instruments to pursue and firmly punish criminal acts, including hostage-taking;
1. **Decides** to intensify joint parliamentary efforts with a view to contributing to development of effective strategies to prevent terrorism, analyze and combat its many and diverse root causes,
  2. **Calls on** its governments to ratify the major UN conventions on preventing terrorism, to implement relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and to adhere to the NPT,
  3. **Invites** member parliaments to effectively contribute to the implementation of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy,
  4. **Welcomes** the final statement of the 2010 NPT review conference calling for talks towards the establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone in the Middle East,
  5. **Calls for** a global conference to give further consideration to the definition of terrorism,
  6. **Agrees** that more work should be done in understanding and addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, as part of counter-terrorism efforts,
  7. **Encourages further studies**, including academic research and **invites** member parliaments to share best practices and experience on this field,
  8. **To that aim, encourages** member parliaments to promote inter-cultural dialogue and better understanding of cultures and religions throughout the Mediterranean region, including about Islam in Europe, through various means, such as supporting youth cultural exchange programmes, as well as conducting and participating in inter-cultural meetings.