

Proposed Joint Statement of the Nordic-Baltic Foreign Ministers

Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism

We strongly condemn all terrorist attacks worldwide and stand united in the fight against terrorism. The recent terrorist attacks on innocent people in Barcelona and Turku are appalling. Our thoughts are with the victims and their families.

We will continue to strengthen our resolve to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism, and ensure accountability for those responsible, in accordance with international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law.

Acts of terrorism are performed by individuals coordinated or inspired by global terrorist organizations, and it is important not to let those actions create confrontation, tension and polarization between different groups in our societies.

While the terrorist threat and spread of violent extremism in Europe and its neighborhoods continues to be high, we need even closer cooperation and exchange of information at all levels – national, regional and global, to counter and prevent this threat.

We support the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS. Our primary line of effort is to prevent radicalization, recruitment and mobilization of individuals into terrorist groups and address the evolving threat of foreign terrorist fighters and returnees as well as self-radicalized individuals. We will continue to share information and best practices.

We support the United Nation's Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Secretary General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism and remain committed to the implementation of Security Council Resolution 2178 on foreign terrorist fighters.

We reiterate our firm condemnation of all acts of terrorism and violent extremism, and will defend and promote our common universal values of democracy, tolerance, rule of law and freedom of expression.