



The White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) in February gave a clear call to action and outlined the direction for our collective efforts in the time ahead. At the ministerial meeting on 19 February, a decision was made to hold a number of regional and thematic high-level conferences to advance the follow-on Action Agenda from the Washington Summit. These conferences will deal with the issue of countering violent extremism from angles relevant to the regions concerned, with a view to developing tools and mechanisms that have regional and local relevance.

The CVE event in Oslo will be one of these conferences. It will consist of two separate but linked sessions: *Youth Against Violent Extremism* and *The European Conference on Countering Violent Extremism*.

The *European Conference on Countering Violent Extremism* will take place on 5 June. It will be a meeting for representatives of governments and local authorities. The conference will be hosted by the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian Minister of Justice and Public Security.

The *Youth Against Violent Extremism* event will be held on 4 June. This will be a meeting for civil society representatives and youth leaders from across Europe, who will provide concrete input to the conference the following day.

A *Youth Network Against Violent Extremism* will be launched, connecting young leaders, organisations and individuals from across Europe. The aim is to establish a platform for moderate voices that can grow into a global network, providing valuable input to national governments in their efforts to counter violent extremism. The civil society meeting will be hosted by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue in cooperation with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Prime Minister of Norway and the Minister of EEA and EU Affairs will address the participants.

The European Conference on Countering Violent Extremism will build on the nine work-streams from the White House Summit. Six thematic areas will be highlighted through parallel working sessions. In addition, two cross-cutting issues will be emphasised in all working sessions: the role of young people and a gender perspective. There will be a particular focus on the messages from the youth conference on 4 June.

The six thematic areas are

1. Strengthening the local preventative work to counter violent extremism
2. Promoting research and information-sharing on the drivers of violent extremism
3. The gender dimension of violent extremism
4. Disengagement, rehabilitation and reintegration
5. Weakening the appeal of violent extremists
6. Global cooperation to counter violent extremism