

10-11 May 2022, M laga, Spain

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction

This High-Level International Conference follows-up on the *Virtual Dialogue with Human Rights and Civil Society Partners on Building a Better Paradigm to Prevent and Counter Terrorism*, organized by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism UNOCT and the Kingdom of Spain in May 2021. The Conference will bring together experts, practitioners and other key stakeholders from Member States, United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, international and regional organizations, human rights defenders and civil society partners for a robust and practical exchange of innovative ideas and experiences on how to build human rights and rule of law-compliant responses to terrorism, including a gender perspective and safeguarding the rights of children and victims of terrorism. Inclusive, participatory human rights and rule of law-based governance contribute towards building more resilient societies and are the basis for effective prevention and countering of terrorism.

During the two-day *Virtual Dialogue*, participants highlighted that respect for human rights and the rule of law is central to the international community

participants stressed the critical role of civil society in efforts to prevent and counter terrorism, including addressing the underlying conditions conducive to terrorism.

United Nations Secretary-General Ant nio Guterres called for a renewed social contract anchored in human rights and a revitalized multilateralism to tackle increasingly complex and interconnected problems. He also asserted that

highlight international cooperation efforts and positive developments in this regard. It will also explore ways in which the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions may have exacerbated relevant concerns in this area. The Session will further underscore practical steps and good practices in the development and implementation of counter-terrorism legislation, policies, measures and operations in a manner that