



Seventy-third session

Agenda item 74 (b)

**Resolution adopted by the General Assembly
on 28 June 2019***[without reference to a Main Committee (A/73/L.88 and A/73/L.88/Add.1)]***73/305. Enhancement of international cooperation to assist victims
of terrorism***The General Assembly,*

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights² and other relevant instruments of international human rights law and international humanitarian law,

Recalling previous resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on human rights and terrorism and on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism,

Recalling also the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy³ and the consecutive General Assembly resolutions on the reviews of the Strategy, including their provisions related to victims of terrorism,

Reaffirming the commitment of Member States to taking measures aimed at addressing the dehumanization of victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recognizing the role that victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations can play, including in countering the appeal of terrorism, and emphasizing the need to promote international solidarity in support of victims of terrorism and to ensure that victims of terrorism are treated with dignity and respect,

Reaffirming that Member States have the primary responsibility in countering terrorism and supporting victims of terrorism,

¹ Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

² See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

³ Resolution [60/288](#).



Recognizing that terrorism has a detrimental effect on the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and impedes the full enjoyment of political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights,

Reaffirming that terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Recognizing that victims of terrorism should be treated with compassion and respect for their dignity and have their right to access to justice and redress mechanisms, as provided for in applicable domestic law, fully respected, and that the establishment, strengthening and expansion of funds, as permitted under domestic law, for compensation or reimbursement to victims should be encouraged,

Reiterating its unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, regardless of their motivation, as criminal and unjustifiable, and renewing its unwavering commitment to strengthening international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism, and to deny impunity and pursue accountability in relation to the perpetrators of terrorist acts and their supporters,

Strongly condemning all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, abductions, trafficking in persons, rape, forced marriage, enslavement and other forms of violence perpetrated by terrorist groups, and stressing the importance of bringing perpetrators to justice and addressing the needs of victims, in particular women and children, in this regard,

Deeply deploring the suffering caused by terrorism to the victims and their families, and, while stressing the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of terrorism, in particular women and children, reaffirming its profound solidarity with them and stressing the importance of providing them with proper support and assistance, while respecting, inter alia, considerations regarding remembrance, dignity, respect, accountability, truth and justice, in accordance with international law,

Recognizing the importance of respecting the human rights of victims of terrorism and their families and of providing them with appropriate support and assistance in accordance with applicable law,

Recalling the adoption of its resolution [72/165](#) of 19 December 2017, entitled “International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism”, as an important step,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism,⁴

Underlining that victims of terrorism play an important role in the criminal justice process, highlighting the importance of the sharing of good practices in addressing victims’ needs after a terrorist attack and during the criminal justice process, and in this regard taking note of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime handbook entitled “The Criminal Justice Response to Support Victims of Acts of Terrorism” and publication entitled “Good Practices in Supporting Victims of Terrorism within the Criminal Justice Framework”,

Welcoming the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre support programme for victims of terrorism for the period 2018–2020, which is focused on raising awareness of victims’ issues and strengthening their voices,

⁴ [A/73/599](#).

Highlighting the importance of effective coordination among relevant governmental offices and agencies and cooperation with civil society organizations providing support and assistance to victims and their families,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to develop comprehensive assistance plans for victims of terrorism, consistent with domestic law, taking into account a gender perspective, to address the immediate, short-term and long-term needs of victims of terrorism and their families with regard to their relief and rehabilitation, ensuring that they are provided with proper support and assistance, both immediately after an attack and in the long term, including through the sharing of best practices and lessons learned related to the protection of and assistance to victims of terrorism;

2. *Urges* Member States to establish systems of assistance, consistent with domestic law, that would address the needs of victims of terrorism and their families and promote and protect their rights, including by partnering with health professionals, emergency planning managers and members of law enforcement, prosecutors' offices and civil society, where applicable, to institutionalize the provision of assistance to victims;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider the impacts of terrorism on women and children and to seek greater consultations, as appropriate, with women and women's organizations when developing their victim assistance plans;

4. *Emphasizes* that the granting of such assistance should be provided, in accordance with domestic law, to victims of terrorist acts regardless of whether the perpetrator of the terrorist act is identified, apprehended, prosecuted or convicted;

5. *Underlines* that, if a victim does not normally reside in the territory of the State in which the terrorist act occurred, that State should cooperate and coordinate with the victim's State of residence in ensuring that the victim receives assistance, in accordance with domestic law;

6. *Stresses* the importance of effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice systems, in accordance with applicable domestic and international law, in supporting victims of terrorism, and encourages Member States to consider victims of terrorism in this regard, including when developing and maintaining appropriate strategies for prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration and addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism;

7. *Calls upon* the Office of Counter-Terrorism to further enhance coordination and coherence across the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities on raising awareness of victims' issues and the delivery of United Nations capacity-building assistance to requesting Member States;

8. *Also calls upon* the Office of Counter-Terrorism, in particular the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, within their respective mandates, to assist requesting Member States in developing their comprehensive assistance plans for victims of terrorism and in building their capacity to assist victims of terrorism;

9. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing technical assistance for building the capacity of requesting Member States in the development and implementation of programmes of assistance and support for victims of terrorism, in accordance with relevant national legislation, and requests the Office, within its mandate, to continue to enhance its support to Member States, at their request, to improve the criminal justice system response to support victims of acts of terrorism by continuing and enhancing its assistance relating to international legal and judicial cooperation pertaining to countering terrorism and by fostering the development of strong and effective central authorities for international cooperation in criminal matters;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact working group on promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and supporting victims of terrorism to continue to raise awareness of victims' issues and the promotion and protection of victims' rights, including in the criminal justice process, and urges the working group to increase the attention paid to strengthening efforts to build the capacity of requesting Member States and to engagement with relevant civil society organizations to assist and support victims of terrorism in protecting their rights and needs, including the need to have public recognition and to keep their memory alive;

11. *Recognizes* the valuable roles that civil society and the private sector play in supporting victims of terrorism, including by assisting with the provision of assistance and medical, legal and psychosocial support services, by advocating on behalf of victims and by helping victims to bring public awareness to the human impact of terrorist acts, which can also contribute to the prevention of terrorism and the building of resilience and social cohesion;

12. *Also recognizes* the need to continue to provide tangible capacity-building assistance to requesting Member States in building sustainable national systems to assist victims of terrorism, and in this regard stresses the need to contribute more resources for capacity-building projects;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to respect the dignity and legal rights of victims of terrorism, as provided for in domestic law, in criminal litigation and in gaining access to justice, including the right to be considered for witness protection measures and appropriate assistance and support during criminal proceedings, awareness of court proceedings and charges, the right to be treated with fairness and with respect for their dignity and privacy and for their safety from intimidation and retaliation, in particular where they appear as witnesses, the right to full and timely restitution and the ability to address the court and consult with prosecutors;

14. *Takes note* of the United Nations support portal for victims of terrorism, and urges the United Nations to provide relevant information for victims, their families and communities, including but not limited to psychosocial support and access to national criminal justice systems or rehabilitation opportunities offered by Member States;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, containing an evaluation of the existing United Nations activities regarding victims of terrorism, with a focus on concrete recommendations and, as appropriate, detailed options, including for a voluntarily funded comprehensive programme to support Member States, at their request, in assisting victims of terrorism through national systems.

*95th plenary meeting
28 June 2019*