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**Hungarian National Statement**  
**on**  
**Measures to eliminate international terrorism**

**6 October 2021**

**Intervention by**  
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**Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations**

Mr President, Dear Colleagues!

It is my honor to speak on behalf of Hungary. While we align ourselves with the Statement of the European Union, I wish to make a few observations in my national capacity.

Prior to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism was already taking place within an increasingly complex geopolitical environment. The COVID-19 pandemic, which was qualified by the UN Secretary General

Member States additional, multifaceted, and constantly evolving challenges that have affected almost every area of policy and practice.

Additional challenges arising from pandemic-related social isolation and rising political and economic pressures could exacerbate existing grievances, undermine counter-terrorism measures and heighten terrorist threats especially in conflict zones where terrorism is most prevalent and where preexisting issues of lack of governance, unrest, and gaps in institutional capacity continue to hinder efforts to advance efficient response.

In our view, the implementation of effective measures against terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism is primarily a national responsibility, but the importance of international and regional cooperation has become obvious again despite the current challenging circumstances.

Over the course of a year a lot can change, and the growing online presence of terrorists has become an even bigger security threat than it was before. Preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism online has been a strategic goal for all of us for many years, but the effects of COVID-19 opened new virtual platforms for terrorists and terrorist groups. But in spite of the elevated online threat level, terrorism still manifests itself in the real world causing tremendous suffering. This became clear again in Europe as the result of the terrorist attacks perpetrated in Paris, Nice and Vienna last October and November.

Despite the enormous public health and economic challenges posed by COVID-19, Hungary continues to allocate adequate resources to safeguard its security, adapt to new challenges and protect itself against old ones. Besides being capable of protecting itself, fostering and strengthening international and regional cooperation against terrorism and violent extremism is still high on the agenda of the Hungarian Government, as it is one of the cornerstones of our foreign and security policy.

terrorism and violent extremism. As a consequence, Hungary is present in international stabilization efforts, including numerous military missions, in the UN, EU, NATO and

Having understood the growing threat posed by the online presence of terrorist and violent extremist groups and their use of social media, Hungary joined the Christchurch Call in September 2019.

Hungary also launched a comprehensive program called Hungary Helps having spent more than 43 million USD to provide direct humanitarian and development assistance to more than 70 000 people in the Middle East and Africa. Through this initiative, our country contributes significantly to local stabilization efforts in conflict-affected areas. Local stability will

