



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR COUNTERING TERRORISM



Countering Hate Speech Policy

International Organization for Counter-Terrorism (IOCT)

Article (1): Purpose

This Policy aims to prevent and counter hate speech in all its forms, promote discourse based on respect, tolerance, and human rights, and reduce incitement to violence, discrimination, or exclusion, thereby contributing to the prevention of extremism and violent extremism.

Article (2): Scope of Application

This Policy applies to:

- The Board of Trustees
- The Secretariat
- Committee members
- Employees and contractors
- Experts and trainers
- Volunteers
- Partners and collaborators when representing the Organization

Article (3): Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy:

- Hate Speech: Any verbal, written, visual, or digital expression that incites hatred, discrimination, hostility, or violence against an individual or group based on religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, gender, language, opinion, or any other status.
- Incitement: Any direct or indirect call for violence, harm, exclusion, or retaliation.

Article (4): Governing Principles

The Organization is committed to the following principles:

1. Respect for human dignity and human rights.
2. Responsible freedom of expression in accordance with international standards.
3. Non-discrimination and non-stigmatization.
4. Neutrality and institutional independence.
5. Proportionality and objectivity in addressing hate speech.





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Article (5): Prohibition of Hate Speech

The Organization strictly prohibits:

1. The use or promotion of hate speech or inciting language in its activities or platforms.
2. The publication or re-publication of content that includes incitement to violence, discrimination, or exclusion.
3. The use of language, symbols, or images that offend or demean religious, ethnic, or social groups.

Article (6): Institutional Commitments

The Organization commits to:

1. Adopting professional, neutral language in all statements, reports, and media content.
2. Reviewing content prior to publication to ensure it is free from hate speech.
3. Integrating the principles of this Policy into training and awareness programs.
4. Supporting initiatives that promote tolerance, coexistence, and dialogue.

Article (7): Media and Digital Spaces

In media and digital environments, the Organization shall:

1. Counter hate speech through knowledge, awareness, and evidence-based refutation.
2. Avoid amplifying or reproducing inciting content.
3. Cooperate with professional media and digital platforms to promote responsible discourse.

Article (8): Monitoring and Response

The Organization shall adopt mechanisms to monitor hate speech, including:

1. Monitoring content related to its activities and platforms.
2. Internal reporting of any content that violates this Policy.
3. Taking appropriate corrective actions, including content removal or the issuance of clarifications.





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Article (9): Partnerships and Cooperation

The Organization shall not:

1. Enter into partnerships with entities that promote hate speech or discrimination.
2. Accept funding or support from entities that employ inciting or exclusionary rhetoric.
3. Any partnership found to be inconsistent with this Policy may be suspended or terminated.

Article (10): Individual Responsibilities

All members and representatives of the Organization shall:

1. Respect this Policy in their professional conduct and public statements.
2. Refrain from any expression that may be interpreted as hate speech or incitement.
3. Clearly distinguish between personal opinions and official organizational positions.

Article (11): Breach of Policy

Any violation of this Policy shall be considered a serious breach and shall be subject to disciplinary and accountability measures in accordance with the Organization's applicable policies.

Article (12): Entry into Force and Review

1. This Policy shall enter into force upon approval by the Board of Trustees.
2. It shall be reviewed periodically every three (3) years or as necessary.

