The Joint Plan of Action for the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia (JPoA) is the first regional strategy designed to address the threat of terrorism through a common approach based on the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS). It was adopted by the five member states of Central Asia in 2011.

The UN Project – “Towards a comprehensive implementation of the UNGCTS in Central Asia”, is a joint UNOCT-UNCCT and UNRCCA initiative that has supported the JPoA through its entire life-cycle, beginning with technical assistance to assist the countries in the region in drawing up the strategy, and once adopted, assisting its implementation through capacity-building workshops and by translating the regional framework into national strategies and action plans.
In the elaboration, adoption and implementation of the JPoA, Central Asian countries have been supported since 2010 by the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT) (then the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)) and the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) through three successive phases of the project on the implementation of the JPoA. The project has been generously funded by the European Union, Kazakhstan, Norway, Russia and Saudi Arabia.

Now in its forth phase, the project continues to support Central Asian member states to address new and emerging security threats and enhance the countries capacities to counter-terrorism and prevent violent extremism.

Central Asian countries adopted the Joint Plan of Action and progressively adopted their national counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism strategies, allowing them to respond to new challenges and threats.

Since 2019, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have repatriated hundreds of their nationals from Syria and Iraq and carried out rehabilitation and reintegration of returnees.

Central Asian countries continue to make use of international and regional institutions mandated to support their efforts in conflict resolution and prevention.

Central Asian countries ratified key international counter-terrorism legal instruments.

All five countries introduced criminal liability in a manner that is largely compliant with the requirements of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and the relevant recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) was established on 15 June 2017 through the adoption of UN General Assembly Resolution 71/291 to lead and coordinate an all-of-UN approach to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism. Mr. Vladimir Voronkov was appointed as its first Under-Secretary-General and has headed the office since its inception.

The United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) was established in December 2007 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, to assist and support the five countries of Central Asia in building their conflict prevention capacities through enhanced dialogue, confidence-building measures and partnership. The Centre is headed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Natalia Gherman.

**Partners**

UN partners: RCOs, CTED, UNDP, UNODC, OHCHR, UN Women, UNITAR, OHCHR, IOM, UNOPS, UNAMA

Regional and international organizations: such as OSCE, INTERPOL, CARICC, SCO RATS, CICA, CIS ATC, CSTO, EU, EAG, FATF, NATO

Other partners: including think tanks, academia, substantive experts, the media, private sector and civil society.