



# Denmark

## Contributions to Global Military and Civilian Efforts to Prevent and Counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism

*February 2023*

### **Introduction**

This document provides a brief overview of Denmark's contributions to military and civilian lines of efforts to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism through support to global engagements, as well as regional, national, and local efforts. The Government of Denmark's inter-ministerial Peace and Stabilisation Fund, which comprises of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Justice, funds many of these capacity-building partnerships.

### **Global Engagements**

Denmark is a member of the Global Counterterrorism Forum ([GCTF](#)) and actively supports the work of the GCTF-inspired institutions 'Global Community Engagement & Resilience Fund' ([GCERF](#)) and the 'International Institute for Justice & the Rule of Law' ([the IIJ](#)). Denmark is a member of GCERF's board and provided core support of DKK 14 million to the organization for 2020-2022. Similarly, Denmark provided funding of DKK 3.5 million for 2019-2022 to the IIJ's Academic Unit, which promotes a human rights and rule of law-based criminal justice response to terrorism and violent extremism.

Denmark is also among the founding members of the [Global Coalition against Daesh](#), and in support of the Coalition's military lines of effort, Denmark currently contributes with staff officers to its headquarters. Furthermore, Denmark provides funding in support of the Communication Cell of the Coalition, which focuses on countering and undermining terrorist propaganda, damaging the perception of Daesh, and reducing its ability to recruit.

As in-kind contributions to the multilateral counterterrorism architecture, Denmark currently seconds experts to the EU Counterterrorism Coordinator ([EU-CTC](#)) and to the Vienna-based Terrorism Prevention Branch of the UN Office on Drugs & Crimes ([UNODC-TPB](#)).

### **Middle East**

From November 2020 to May 2022, Denmark commanded the NATO Mission Iraq ([NMI](#)), and Denmark still contributes substantially to NMI. The NMI is a capacity-building and advisory mission that seeks to strengthen Iraqi security institutions. The mission also complements and supports the work

of the Global Coalition against Daesh, and the advisory and assisting efforts of its Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR). Currently, Denmark's contributions to NMI includes staff officers, civilian and military advisors, force protection personnel, a deployable communication module (DCM), and a national support element.

Within civilian lines of effort to counter Daesh, Denmark currently provides funding from its regional Peace and Stabilisation Programme for Syria and Iraq. This includes a focus on accountability efforts and support to the UN Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Daesh ([UNITAD](#)), which works to support Iraqi national efforts to hold Daesh accountable by collecting, preserving, and storing evidence of crimes committed by Daesh in Iraq.

Denmark also provides support to the Syria Network for Human Rights ([SNHR](#)) that gathers evidence of crimes committed by all parties to the conflict, including Daesh. Furthermore, Denmark supports rehabilitation and reintegration efforts, including a Social Cohesion project in Iraq led by the UN Development Programme ([UNDP](#)). The purpose of this project is to prevent future conflict and provide a safe and secure environment for return and re-integration. Finally, Denmark has contributed to anti-radicalisation activities in the Roj camp and efforts focusing on improving conditions for internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees in the Al-Hol and Washokani camps.

Denmark currently also seconded personnel to the European Union Advisory Mission to Iraq ([EUAM Iraq](#)). EUAM Iraq advises Iraqi authorities (National Security Advisory, Ministry of the Interior) on civilian security sector reform, which involves efforts to strengthen capacity to counter terrorism and to prevent and counter violent extremism.

### **Sahel/West Africa**

The second phase of the Danish regional Peace and Stabilisation Programme for the Sahel currently consists of providing support to the activities of the following partners:

- i. The UNODC Regional Sahel Programme, which inter alia supports data collection and investigative journalism to prevent violent extremism and drug trafficking;
- ii. Center for Humanitarian Dialogue (CHD), which supports mediation efforts in local conflicts between farmers and herders, and works to improve coordination for stabilisation efforts;
- iii. Observatoire Citoyen Gouvernance et Sécurité (OCGS), which works to build capacity of local actors to prevent violent extremism;
- iv. Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC), which inter alia has developed a 'Civilian Harm Tracking Cell' in Niger and trains security forces in Niger;
- v. Centre for Security Sector Governance Geneva (DCAF), which inter alia works to increase the awareness of rule of law and human rights within the security forces of Niger.

On a national level, Denmark provides support to civil society actors in the northern part of Burkina Faso under the 2021-2025 bilateral country programme. In Mali, Denmark currently contributes with two staff officers to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission ([MINUSMA](#)), and supports civil society actors preventing and countering the terrorist recruitment of youth. In Niger, Denmark supports the High Authority for Peace Consolidation's ([HACP](#)) efforts to steer government stabilization action on preventing and countering violent extremism. This includes preventative soft security interventions, e.g. mediation and confidence building activities among communities in areas affected by instability.

## **Horn of Africa**

Through the Peace and Stabilisation Programme for the Horn of Africa, Denmark supports Sahar in the development of a regional Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) strategy for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in Eastern Africa. The strategy, which is up for adoption in early 2023, aims at aligning the efforts and initiatives of IGAD's eight Member States in countering the proliferation and use of IED's.

In Kenya, the Danish Security and Intelligence Service (DSIS/PET) and the Kenyan National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) has collaborated since 2013 in the context of a bilateral Prevent Partnership Programme (PREVENT). The ongoing partnership focuses on sharing experiences and developing new prevention interventions inspired by the Danish approach to multiagency collaboration on preventing and countering violent extremism. Within the maritime domain, Denmark supports efforts to strengthen the Kenyan Navy's ability to enforce its authority at sea. This includes countering maritime crime and disrupting activities of terrorist groups including Al-Shabaab.

In Somalia, Denmark will in 2023 support the Early Recovery Initiative aimed at creating the conditions for stabilization and recovery in newly and recently recovered areas liberated from Al-Shabaab. Furthermore, Denmark has long been a substantial donor to the Somalia Stability Fund, which seeks to reduce political and communal conflict through local governance, and political inclusion. For a number of years, Denmark has also engaged in efforts to disengage and rehabilitate defectors from Al-Shabaab via support to the 'Serendi Defector Rehabilitation Project' through delegated partnerships with the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) in Somalia. Similarly, Denmark supports UNICEF's work on Children Affected by Armed Conflict in Somalia. In an effort to curb financial flows to Al-Shabaab, Denmark also supports UNODC's work on conducting research and analysis under their UN Security Council mandate on countering Al-Shabaab financing.

Lastly, Denmark supports the East African Standby Forces (EASF) and the [International Peace Support Training Centre](#) in their efforts to train forces from the region. These forces can be deployed into missions to assist in executing their mandate to reduce the threat of conflict and terrorism by groups, such as Al-Shabaab and other violent and extremist groups.

## **South and South East Asia**

In Bangladesh, Denmark has supported Partnerships for a Tolerant and Inclusive Bangladesh (PTIB), which is a multi-year initiative that continues to respond to the UN Secretary-General's call for every country to develop a coherent and contextual strategy to prevent violent extremism, while reaffirming the need for inclusive institutions, transparent politics, and a commitment to fundamental human rights. PTIB builds on local research capacity, integrates findings into project activities and provides input to national, regional and global discussions on preventing violent extremism.

Since 2004, Denmark together with Australia and others has been involved in efforts to enhance the capacity of countries in South East Asia to counter terrorism and other transnational crimes through a partnership with the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation ([JCLEC](#)). JCLEC, located in Semarang, Indonesia, is a regional police-training centre aimed at enhancing capacity to counter terrorism and transnational crime through cooperation with regional and global partners in accordance with international standards and conventions. The Centre delivers training courses in a range of subjects related to preventing/countering violent extremism and counterterrorism to Indonesian police officers, anti-terrorism units, prosecutors and judges as well as law enforcement officers from other countries of South East Asia.

--oOo--

*For further information, please contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Security Policy Department via [sp@um.dk](mailto:sp@um.dk)*