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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Manual on International Cooperation in Criminal Matters related to Terrorism

As part of the plan of action of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, Member States resolved to cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with their obligations under international law, in order to find, deny safe haven and bring to justice, on the basis of the principle to extradite or prosecute, any person who supports, facilitates, participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or provides safe havens; and to ensure the apprehension and prosecution or extradition of perpetrators of terrorist acts, in accordance with the relevant provisions of national and international law, in particular human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law. The Manual is available to all United Nations Member States in all six UN official languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

The objective of the present *Manual on International Cooperation in Criminal Matters related to Terrorism* is to enable legal practitioners specialized in the fight against terrorism to act more effectively and more rapidly. As such, the manual provides practitioners with immediate answers concerning the tools they can use and the relevant types of international cooperation, such as extradition and mutual legal assistance, as well as give them practical advice concerning the difficulties and obstacles they may encounter. It is also intended for use as a educational tool in the training of legal practitioners in the fight against terrorism.

The Manual also provides answers to questions from criminal justice professionals arising in the application of the universal instruments against terrorism and, more generally, in the context of implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and General Assembly resolution 60/288, as well as other relevant resolutions. Given the universality of the terrorist threat, it is no longer judicious to confront it mainly through bilateralism or even regionalism, as many terrorist activities now involve illegal activities in two or more countries that may not have entered into bilateral or regional cooperation agreements. The universal instruments make it possible for all countries to cooperate however this is dependent on Member States and counter-terrorism practitioners using the mechanisms for the international cooperation effectively. This Manual therefore provides an essential overview of the best means to incorporate and implement the universal counter-terrorism legislative framework within the cooperative structures of the international community.

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/technical-assistance-tools.html>

