

Agreement on counter-terrorism measures

We stand united in the fight against terrorism. Accountability and cooperation are required if the population of Sweden are to feel safe and secure. Having discussed this issue, we six parties have therefore agreed upon the following counter-terrorism measures. These measures are based on Sweden's new national counter-terrorism strategy, which is in turn a further development of the previous strategy from 2012. The strategy is based on a wide-ranging analysis of the capabilities that are required in order to protect Sweden against terrorism. In addition to this agreement, the parties can pursue further counter-terrorism proposals in a constructive spirit. This agreement is between the Swedish Social Democratic Party, the Moderate Party, the Swedish Green Party, the Centre Party, the Liberal Party and the Christian Democrats.

Tightening the law against terrorist travel

Having an appropriate regulatory framework within criminal law is central to the fight against terrorism. Consequently, work on legislation concerning criminal responsibility for travel for terrorist purposes will be given high priority and a government bill will be adopted no later than 23 December 2015. Our agreement also includes tougher penalties for the offence of terrorist financing. The parties commit themselves to expediting the handling of this matter to the extent possible. An inquiry concerning the criminalisation of participation in combat for terrorist groups is in progress and will be completed in June 2016. The inquiry is considering matters including criminal responsibility for association with such groups.

A quicker end to the misuse of Swedish passports

The misuse of Swedish passports must be stopped. The Government has today decided on a draft law that entails restrictions being placed on the number of passports a person can obtain within a five-year period, stricter regulations on the issuing of temporary passports and a shorter validity period for children's passports. The parties commit themselves to expediting the handling of this matter to the extent possible.

In addition to this, the Government will demand that systematic checks are undertaken at the EU's external border and that all passports are checked against the Interpol and Schengen databases of stolen and lost documents. In addition, systematic checks are to be undertaken against records of wanted persons in the Schengen Information System. The checking of biometric information, i.e. fingerprints and facial recognition, is to become mandatory at the

Schengen external border. At the same time as these measures are introduced, the right to asylum will continue to be safeguarded.

Measures against illegal firearms and tougher penalties for hand grenades and explosives

Measures against illegal firearms are necessary in order to prevent terrorist attacks. The Government is therefore tasking the Swedish Police Authority with taking action to tackle the problem of illegal firearms and explosives. Conspiring, preparing and attempting to commit serious and exceptionally serious firearms offences are being criminalised. In addition, the penalties for unlawful possession of hand grenades and other explosives will be increased.

Inquiry into the secret interception of data

It is important that the Swedish Police Authority and the Swedish Security Service have the tools they require in order to obtain information. Consequently, there will be an inquiry into the secret interception of data in order to ensure Sweden has the capability to respond to the technological advances being made in the field of encrypted communications. The implications for privacy will be an important aspect of this inquiry. The inquiry will weigh up the benefits of the secret interception of data against alternative methods in order to justify the need. All parties to the agreement will be given the opportunity to influence the inquiry's terms of reference, which will be adopted in March 2016.

Enabling the National Defence Radio Establishment, the Military Intelligence and Security Directorate and the Swedish Security Service to share information digitally via the National Centre for Terrorist Threat Assessment

Work at the National Centre for Terrorist Threat Assessment (NCT) is to be streamlined. For this reason, there will be an inquiry into an amendment that will allow the agencies cooperating within NCT to share information digitally. This change involves enabling the digital sharing of information that can currently only be shared in paper form. The inquiry concludes in August 2016.

Make clear the municipalities' responsibility

Consensus was reached through the talks that the municipalities have a responsibility to take structured and concrete action to prevent radicalisation and recruitment to groups that promote violence. It is important that there is cooperation between local and central responsibilities with respect to individuals who return to Sweden having travelled abroad for terrorist purposes. The Government will consider what action can be taken if there are municipalities that fail to comply with their responsibility. The role of civil society in efforts to counter violent extremism cannot be stressed enough.

Prevention

The National Coordinator will give municipalities the support required to enable their preventive efforts to function in practice and to allow them to learn from positive experiences. There is also a consensus that the work of the National Coordinator must continue in some form after its mandate ends in June 2016. Action must be taken to counter religious extremism, shrink the breeding ground for racism and reduce recruitment to right-wing extremist and autonomous groups.

No public funding of messages promoting violence

It is important that donors ensure public funding is not provided to organisations that spread messages that promote violence. In order to receive central government grants, an organisation must adhere to fundamental democratic values. If they advocate violence, they will not receive any support. This is especially true of messages that advocate terrorism. It is also possible to demand the return of support that has been granted on false grounds.

Measures against recruitment on the internet

The national campaign No Hate Speech Movement has been extended through 2016. The Government will task the Swedish Media Council with developing the campaign so that it also encompasses measures to safeguard democracy against violent extremism.

The Swedish Defence University has completed its commission from the National Coordinator against violent extremism to chart how the recruitment propaganda of Islamist terror groups is spread via social media in Sweden. The knowledge obtained through this report will be applied in the Government's and the National Coordinator's day-to-day efforts to prevent violent extremism. The continued, effective and long-term prevention of violent messages on the internet requires this propaganda to be charted in terms of its appearance and form. Studies and interventions of this type are being planned. On 19 January 2016, the Parliamentary Committee on Justice and the Parliamentary Committee on the Constitution are holding a public hearing concerning radicalisation and recruitment on the internet.

Ensure the police have the capacity to respond

Ensuring that the Swedish Police Authority's rapid reaction force can take action in multiple locations at the same time and for a longer period is a priority. Protracted situations involving multiple parallel incidents place great demands on the capacity to respond. The Swedish Police Authority is being tasked with investigating how this capacity can be ensured. In addition, this capacity to respond is being strengthened through international collaboration within the scope of the ATLAS Network Decision and the opportunity to obtain

support from the Swedish Armed Forces.

The Swedish Prosecution Authority's capability

If counter-terrorism measures are to be effective, the Swedish Prosecution Authority also needs to have the necessary capability to handle these investigations. Accordingly, the Swedish Prosecution Authority's appropriation directions task it with reporting on the action that has been taken to ensure that the Authority is prepared to deal with the crimes in question, in accordance with the focus of the Government's strategy, and to monitor the effects of any new legislation.

Measures against the financing of terrorism

The Government will propose a joint commission for the Swedish Police Authority (Financial Intelligence Unit), the Swedish Security Service, the Swedish Prosecution Authority, the Swedish Economic Crime Authority and the Swedish Tax Agency to develop, structure and strengthen collaboration in the area of terrorist financing. A commission of this kind involves making better use of the knowledge and capabilities of the Tax Agency and the Economic Crime Authority in efforts to tackle the financing of terrorism. The capability of these authorities will also be strengthened through better cooperation with the Swedish Security Service and the Swedish Police Authority.

International measures

In order to prevent the financing of ISIL's terrorist activities, Sweden should, within the EU and the UN, push for particular attention to be directed at the effective implementation of UN sanctions against Al Qaeda and associated groups. In accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2249, Sweden will intensify its efforts to stem the flow of foreign terrorist fighters and to prevent and suppress the financing of terrorism.

In order to prevent foreign terrorist combatants reaching Syria, further dialogue should be conducted with Turkey, including within the scope of the EU's enhanced dialogue with Turkey on counter-terrorism and combating ISIL.

Sweden should use all relevant forums to stress the importance of measures to counter impunity for serious international crimes and, in doing so, continue to push for the ICC to be granted jurisdiction over the situation in Syria.