



Delegation of the European Union



Permanent Mission of Spain  
to the United Nations

**INTERVENCIÓN**

**EN NOMBRE DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA**

**PRONUNCIADA POR LA  
REPRESENTANTE DE ESPAÑA**

**COMITÉ ESPECIAL ESTABLECIDO POR RESOLUCIÓN 51/210 DE LA ASAMBLEA  
GENERAL, DE 17 DE DICIEMBRE DE 1996  
(MEDIDAS PARA ELIMINAR EL TERRORISMO INTERNACIONAL)**

**Naciones Unidas  
Nueva York**

**16 de abril 2010**

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**STATEMENT**

**ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF SPAIN**

**AD HOC COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION  
51/210 OF 17 DECEMBER 1996  
(MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM)**

**United Nations  
New York**

**16 April 2010**

**- Check against delivery -**

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia\* and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia as well as the Republic of Moldova align themselves with this statement.

The EU would like to thank the Chair, and specifically the Coordinator, Ms. Maria Telalian, for their tireless efforts, and in particular for the further explanations given by the Coordinator in her statement at the outset of the informal consultations.

We welcome the summary of the bilateral contacts the Coordinator has held in the past days. The EU commends and supports Ms. Maria Telalian's efforts towards reaching a consensus on the draft Convention. The EU remains committed to working towards finalizing the negotiations on the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

The EU continues to believe that the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism should become a vital law enforcement instrument in our joint counter-terrorism efforts. The draft Convention was designed to serve as a tool to ensure individual criminal responsibility of suspected terrorists based on a system of extradition and prosecution and mutual legal assistance. As an instrument of international criminal law, it should not address issues of state responsibility.

The completion of the project will be an important contribution to United Nations efforts towards developing a comprehensive legal framework to combat terrorism. The EU supports the contribution to the prevention and suppression of terrorism this Convention would bring.

The EU was encouraged by the discussion over these past days. We note with interest the report of the Coordinator that delegations are willing to remain engaged in the process and that her package proposal is, more than ever, under active consideration, including an increased interest shown from some delegations, which were not involved in the past.

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\* Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

Mr. Chairman,

The EU believes that there is a certain momentum for a decisive step forward. In our view, as we stated earlier, the negotiations should focus on reaching a consensus on the outstanding issue, namely article 18, which defines the scope of application of the Convention. At this point, we would also like to express the EU's appreciation for the explanation given by the Coordinator and her new effort to highlight certain aspects of her package proposal.

The EU was ready to accept the 2002 compromise proposal but reiterates its willingness to continue considering the 2007 package proposal seriously and has listened with great interest to the opinions and explanations expressed by other delegations.

As mentioned, for the EU the most important value added lies in further strengthened cooperation and coordination in this area. The Convention would be complementary to the existing international counter-terrorism instruments already adopted. The EU supports the Coordinator's objectives in seeking a solution that does not affect existing rights and obligations under international law, in particular the Convention should not seek to modify or create new obligations under International Humanitarian Law, in order to preserve and ensure respect for those rules.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me conclude by thanking you and other members of the Bureau for your guidance throughout this session of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Together with other delegations we are willing to give serious consideration to the Coordinator's package proposal and expect that the constructive spirit of these discussions will contribute to finalise by consensus this Convention in the very near future.

In our part we are ready to continue our reflection and exchange of views in preparation of a substantive consideration of these issues in the Working Group of the 6<sup>th</sup> Committee in autumn.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.