

Compliance Report
2000 Okinawa
Terrorism

Commitment

Para. 79: “We renew our condemnation of all forms of terrorism regardless of their motivation. We are determined to combat them. ... We call for all states to become parties to the twelve international counter-terrorism conventions to enhance international co-operation against terrorism.

Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Britain			+1
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany	N/A		
Italy	N/A		
Japan		0	
Russia	N/A		
United States			+1
Overall		0	

Due to the sometimes highly sensitive nature of material relating to a government’s anti-terrorism strategy, information regarding current initiatives is often not forthcoming. As a result, this study is based on the limited amount of declassified material present in the public domain.

Britain

Britain has achieved full compliance with the commitment identified. It has become party to all 12 international conventions for the suppression of terrorism and has clearly illustrated its commitment to supporting the international community in the fight against terrorism. On February 19, 2001, the *Terrorism Act 2000*, the intent of which is “to help the police and prosecuting authorities take effective action against those concerned in terrorism,” officially came into force. This piece of United Kingdom-wide anti-terrorism legislation replaced the existing,

separate pieces of temporary legislation for Northern Ireland and Great Britain. The Act provides a new definition of terrorism, which applies to all types of terrorism; new powers to seize suspected terrorist cash at borders; a new offence of inciting terrorist acts abroad from within the UK; new judicial arrangements for extensions of detention (as opposed to ministerial arrangements), enabling the United Kingdom to lift its derogations under the European Convention on Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and specific offences relating to training for terrorist activities.

Canada

Canada was the first of the G8 to ratify the first 10 conventions and since then has signed the eleventh convention. In the past year, Canada's reputation for compliance in this area has suffered as a result of its failure to sign the latest convention regarding the "Suppression of Finance to Terrorist Activities" and the Ahmed Ressam trial in California. Second only to the U.S., Canada has more active terrorist branches than any other G8 country. As of 1998, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service has targeted 50 potential organizations and 350 potential individuals within Canada as having links to terrorist operations, both domestically and internationally.

France

France has ratified all of the counter-terrorism treaties, with the exception of the 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons. Moreover, the newest convention was the result of a French proposal. As a result, France was the first of the G8 to sign the 12th convention. At the signing, the French issued a strong statement on terrorist activities in which it noted it would be "seeking stronger diplomatic, judicial, and police co-operation with its EU and G8 partners and in the framework of the UN and regional co-operative bodies."

Germany

No information is available at present.

Italy

Terrorism is not addressed in any of the Italian government websites, with the exception of the mere denunciation of terrorist acts. In one article published in *Analisi Difesa*, the author

highlights “the lack of prevention and fight against the terrorism” and refers to how the “U.S. treats Italy as a country of the Third World from the security point of view.”

Japan

Japan has adopted 10 of the 12 UN counter-terrorism conventions and is currently working with other countries of the G8 to promote the global fight against terrorism by urging other countries to ratify these as well. Japan clearly recognizes the escalation of terrorism, the dangers associated with this issue, and supports the strengthening of international cooperation.

Russia

Russia has signed the last counter-terrorism convention—the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

United States

As one of the leading nations combating terrorism, the United States has ratified all 12 of the UN conventions to counter-terrorism. It signed the latest international convention—the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism—on January 10, 2000, the first day available, illustrating its commitment to the international community in its fight against terrorism. The United States employs a four-fold policy on terrorism: make no concession to terrorists and strike no deals; bring terrorists to justice for their crimes; isolate and apply pressure on states that sponsor terrorism to force them to change their behaviour; and bolster the counter-terrorist capabilities of those countries that work with the United States and require assistance. In the course of the past year, the U.S. has expanded bilateral dialogues with Russia, India, the United Kingdom, Israel, and Canada, and has extended cooperation in intelligence sharing, law enforcement, and antiterrorism training. In addition, it has worked closely with the member states of the G8, which continued to condemn terrorism emanating from Afghanistan and Iran, and made strides in cutting off terrorist financing.

Appendix: Conventions Against Terrorism

1. Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed On Board Aircraft
(Tokyo Convention, 1963 — safety of aviation)
2. Convention for the Suppression on Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft
(Hague Convention, 1970 — aircraft hijackings)
3. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation
(Montreal Convention, 1971 — applies to acts of aviation sabotage such as bombings aboard aircraft in flight)
4. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons
(1973 — outlaws attacks on senior government officials and diplomats)
5. International Convention against the Taking of Hostages
(Hostage Convention, 1979)
6. Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material
(Nuclear Materials Convention, 1980 — combats unlawful taking and use of nuclear materials)
7. Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation
(1988—extends and supplements the Montreal Convention)
8. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation
(1988 — applies to terrorist activities on ships)
9. Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf
(1988 — applies to terrorist activities on fixed offshore platforms)
10. Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection
(1991 — provides for chemical marking to facilitate detection of plastic explosives)
11. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombing
(1997 — UN General Assembly Resolution)
12. International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism
(1999)

Sources

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