

Fundamentals of Counter-Terrorism in Estonia (2013)

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Foreword

1. Terrorist activities aimed at people and property and indiscriminate violence threaten the security of countries, democratic values and the rights and freedoms of people. The increasing spread of terrorism concerns global security as a whole. Estonia is a country who shares democratic values and is a part of the global security system, and therefore it is constantly paying attention to combating terrorism.
2. The general goal of counter-terrorism in Estonia is to protect the security of people subject to the jurisdiction of Estonia and the security of the state. Achievement of this requires systematic and coordinated activities in the prevention and combating of terrorist acts, in the prevention of terrorist financing and in ensuring the preparedness to respond to terrorism-related emergencies. Estonia considers it important that human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected in counter-terrorism.
3. Proceeding from the National Security Concept of Estonia¹ (2010), Estonia condemns any possible forms of terrorism and considers political violence and international terrorism significant threats to international security and peace.
4. The European Security Strategy² (2003) treats terrorism as one of the main threats to the security of the European Union. The European Union Counter-Terrorism Strategy³ (2005) states the commitment to combat terrorism globally. The aim is to make Europe safer, allowing its citizens to live in an area of freedom, security and justice, while respecting human rights and valuing fundamental freedoms.
5. The Fundamentals of Counter-Terrorism in Estonia (hereafter the Fundamentals) establishes the objectives of counter-terrorism to be proceeded from in the prevention, combating and detection of terrorism and responding to emergencies related to terrorism.
6. The Fundamentals are approved by the Government of the Republic. These Fundamentals shall remain in force until the approval of the Internal Security Development Plan, but not for longer than five years. The Fundamentals shall be reviewed on the basis of a proposal made by the Council of Counter-Terrorism of the Security Committee of the Government of the Republic.
7. The Fundamentals are complemented by the Counter-Terrorism Action Plan, which stipulates the activities to be performed in order to achieve the objectives of the Fundamentals, as well as the responsible authorities and implementation deadlines. The

¹ <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13314462>

² http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/librairie/PDF/QC7809568ETC.pdf

³ <http://register.consilium.eu.int/pdf/en/05/st14/st14469-re04.en05.pdf>

Ministry of the Interior shall prepare a report on the fulfilment of the Action Plan once a year and submit it to the Security Committee of the Government of the Republic.

8. The Fundamentals and the Action Plan have been prepared by the Security Committee of the Government of the Republic, which consists of the representatives of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the Government Office, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Internal Security Service, the Defence Forces, the Information Board, the Tax and Customs Board and the Police and Border Guard Board.

Objectives of Counter-Terrorism

9. The objective of counter-terrorism in Estonia is to prevent the threat of terrorism. In order to prevent the threat of terrorism and mitigate the effects of the realised threat, various measures are taken, including the prevention of radicalisation, combating recruitment to terrorist organisations, prevention of terrorist financing, prevention of illicit trade of strategic goods, imposition of international sanctions, removal of illicit explosives from circulation, protection of objects and persons under high risk of attack, improvement of the security of information systems and more efficient data protection, guaranteed preparedness to respond to emergencies etc.
10. The prevention of future threats is the highest priority for Estonia. That is why we have to focus on preventive activities to avoid radicalisation and recruitment to terrorist organisations. At the same time it is also important that we guarantee the preparedness for professional action required in emergencies caused by terrorism and the ability to deal with the consequences of terrorist acts.
11. In order to implement the Fundamentals and to organise counter-terrorism activities and achieve synergy as efficiently as possible, we need to ensure reliable cooperation between all the legal entities under public and private law that are associated with counter-terrorism. It is also extremely important that the public is given up-to-date information about counter-terrorism activities.

Threat of terrorism in the world and in Estonia

12. Pursuant to § 237 of the Penal Code, terrorism is the commission of a criminal offence against international security, against the person or against the environment, against foreign states or international organisations or a criminal offence dangerous to the public posing a threat to life or health, or the manufacture, distribution or use of prohibited weapons, the illegal seizure, damaging or destruction of property to a significant extent or interference with computer data or hindrance of operation of computer systems as well as threatening with such acts, if committed with the purpose to force the state or an international organisation to perform an act or omission, or to seriously interfere with or destroy the political, constitutional, economic or social structure of the state, or to seriously interfere with or destroy the operation of an international organisation, or to seriously terrorise the population.

13. The Penal Code also stipulates punishments for forming, directing, belonging to or recruiting members to a terrorist organisation, for preparing a terrorist act or inciting to the commission of such an act and for financing and supporting activities aimed at the commission of such an act.
14. International terrorism crosses political, geographic and cultural borders and entails more than just the use of terrorist tactics or the commission of the relevant crimes. Terrorism threatens the established ways of life and values and the system of international relations as a whole. Terrorist organisations, extremist movements and their supporters try to violently destabilise the system of international relations, justifying their actions with ethnical, cultural, ideological or religious beliefs. The aim of terrorist acts is to influence public opinion and democratic political decision-making through violence and fear. Terrorist acts therefore threaten the main foundations of a democratic society.
15. After the events that took place in the United States of America on 11 September 2001, the efforts to prevent and combat terrorism have been enhanced all over the world. However, the events that have occurred in Madrid, London, Oslo, Burgas, Boston and elsewhere confirm that despite those efforts terrorism continues to be a topical and serious threat.
16. Terrorism poses a threat to Estonia in multiple ways. An act of terror in the territory of Estonia or against the citizens of Estonia elsewhere in the world would weaken the feeling of security among the people and would be a serious attack against the economy and security of our state. The security of Estonia is guaranteed in cooperation with international organisations and other countries, which means that terrorist attacks against our allies and partners may weaken international security cooperation and thereby also the security of Estonia.
17. The Al-Qaeda terrorist organisation has threatened all of the countries that support the United States of America, including Estonia, with revenge for the war in Iraq. Until now, we have not ascertained any direct interest of terrorist groups in organising acts of terror in Estonia and neither have we identified any people in Estonia who support terrorism. However, we have noted the increased interest of extremist religious groups associated with terrorist organisations in the residents of Estonia. It became easier for people to move around freely after Estonia joined the EU Schengen area. That has also increased the probability that extremist-minded people use that possibility to settle in Estonia or to use Estonia as a transit country.
18. The probability that a terrorist act will be committed in Estonia within the next 10-25 years is below average. At the same time, the risk of Estonian citizens falling victim to a pirate attack or being taken hostage abroad (potentially in connection with terrorism) has increased and the probability of that happening is average.
19. Major events, which may entail an increase in the threat of terrorism and thereby have an impact on Estonia and Estonian citizens, include the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games, the 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup in Russia and

the subsequent 2018 FIFA World Cup (the nearest venue in St. Petersburg) and the Estonian presidency of the European Union in 2018.

20. Regardless of the below than average probability of the commission of a terrorist act, the fulfilment of certain preconditions (number of participants, the identity of a particular participant, i.e. a foreign guest) may cause an increase in the threat of terrorism and affect Estonia and Estonian citizens in the case of major national events (events related to EU or NATO membership) or events related to national image (the Song Festival, Estonia 100 etc).
21. In assessing the threat of terrorism, we must take into account the potential threats deriving from terrorist-minded persons and organisations as well as third persons related to them.

Improvement of the efficiency of international and national cooperation

22. Due to the nature of terrorism, counter-terrorism activities must cover all of the countries interested in maintaining the stability of the international relations system. The underlying causes of terrorism must be identified both regionally and in individual societies. Only by eliminating the underlying causes of terrorism can we avoid radicalisation and the threat of recruitment of new terrorists in the long-term perspective. Estonia supports the establishment of stable, economically sustainable and democratic societies throughout the world. Estonia supports this goal through participation in international military and civil missions. If necessary, Estonian units participate in counter-terrorist operations on these missions.
23. The development of international law must contribute to counter-terrorism. Estonia has ratified all the enforced UN conventions that concern counter-terrorism and is seeking a universal definition of terrorism in international law. It is important to ensure the efficient functioning of international information exchange between law enforcement, security and intelligence authorities.
24. Under the auspices of international organisations, Estonia gives third countries technical support and advice necessary in countering terrorism.
25. Data exchange is an important area of international cooperation. Estonia considers the enhancement of the exchange of information in the European Union and in other formats as an efficient tool in countering terrorism.
26. In addition to international cooperation, national cooperation, joint exercises and cooperation practice also have a critical role in efficient counter-terrorism. National counter-terrorist measures must be in conformity both with each other and with international measures. It is important that all the authorities engaged in counter-terrorism have a common understanding of the objectives of counter-terrorism and their own tasks in the achievement of these objectives. Constant and efficient exchange of information between authorities, including security authorities is particularly important.

27. It is important to prevent the illicit international trafficking of weapons of mass destruction as well as materials and technologies used for the production thereof, in order to avoid the possibility of such weapons or materials falling into the hands of criminal end users. Estonia participates in international cooperation in combating terrorism and preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, organising and contributing to the creation and development of an export control system in third countries.
28. Preparations must be continued in order to be prepared to prevent and combat the threats arising from changes in the visa regime, including to analyse the extent of the impact of such changes and to plan the resources necessary for handling it.
29. The capability to operatively restore border control on the internal border is ensured in inter-authority cooperation.
30. Estonia continues to support the introduction of the passenger name records in the identifying, preventing and combating the threats of terrorism. Preparations will be continued to implement the necessary measures in accordance with the development of the acquis of the European Union. Work to ensure that carriers submit the electronic lists of bus and train passenger an hour prior to the expected border-crossing will also continue.
31. On the national level, the achievement of those objectives is supported by the transfer of the registration of the guests of accommodation service providers to a common national database (the Database of the Users of Accommodation Services) and the improvement of the efficiency of the supervision over the lists of ship passengers.
32. A detention centre and an accommodation centre for asylum seekers will be established in cooperation between the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Social Affairs after the entry into force of amendments to legal acts.
33. Crisis communication must contribute to giving notice of threats of terrorism and to responding to crises. For that purpose, strategic communication plans have to be prepared or updated. If necessary, the methods used for informing the public of possible attacks must be reviewed in order to ensure the continued functioning thereof.

Prevention of terrorism and radicalisation, and prevention of recruitment to terrorist organisations

34. Radicalisation associated with violence is a phenomenon whereby people adopt opinions, views and ideas that may justify and motivate terrorism. Today, radicalisation and recruitment of terrorists are not limited to one religion or collection of political ideas. However, single religious leaders have a direct influence on the emergence of radicalised communities in different countries, including in Western Europe, and they create the grounds for recruitment of terrorists. The Internet is also used for facilitating so-called natural religious awakenings and thereby creating a favourable climate for recruitment to terrorist organisations. Several extremist movements operating in Europe are interested in finding a new and wider platform for their activities and are also trying to expand into

Estonia.

35. Estonia continues implementing a conservative citizenship and migration policy. Improvement of welfare and the standard of living in Estonia increases the number of immigrants who wish to settle here permanently. People try to use illegal methods (e.g. fictitious marriages) as well as legal ones in order to settle here. The experience of other countries shows that increased immigration is associated with the risk that among the new arrivals there will be people who have ties to terrorist organisations or extremist views, as well as people with criminal backgrounds who may start spreading such extremist views and recruiting potential terrorists. In addition to this, such people may assist in the organisation of terrorist training, creation and running of non-government organisations that support terrorism and illicit trade which may indirectly or directly support terrorism. Training means passing on any skills or knowledge that help terrorist crimes be committed. Examples of this are giving directions on how to prepare and use explosives, firearms and other weapons or toxic or hazardous substances or how to carry out cyber attacks, because sharing such skills is most frequently required for committing terrorist crimes.
36. Estonia is paying particular attention to prevention in order to prevent the activities of movements and people who spread racial, cultural, religious or affiliation hate in Estonia. The earliest signs of radicalism must be prevented, because – as shown by international experience – the growth of radicalism into extremism and then into terrorism is probable and therefore also an undisputed threat to the security of the state.
37. Application of measures by law enforcement authorities alone is not sufficient for the prevention of the spread of extremism in Estonia – it is necessary to raise the awareness of the society of the dangers of extremism that propagates hate and violence.
38. As a result of the establishment of a simplified border crossing procedure for EU citizens, and in order to avoid the arrival of people with a terrorist background in Estonia, we must apply the necessary compensation measures to obtain an overview of the people who arrive in the state. In order to obtain information, it is important for law enforcement and security authorities to have access to the main national registers and databases administered by various agencies as well as the databases of shipping, airline and tourist enterprises for the purpose of obtaining information.
39. People who are generally known to spread radical ideas associated with violence must be included in the Register of Prohibitions on Entry. Due to an increase in transit migration and immigration, it is necessary to proportionally increase all resources and means to guarantee measures against radicalisation.
40. Attention to radicalisation as a factor affecting security must also be paid in countries that have not yet been a seedbed of terrorists or a target of terrorist attacks.
41. We must continue to pay attention to the contacts of the representatives of international organisations inciting extreme religious, community-based or other intolerant opposition with the local communities, considering the fact that converts and new immigrants are

more susceptible to extremist beliefs.

Prevention of terrorist financing

42. Terrorist financing is the allocation or raising of funds for the planning or committing of terrorist acts or for the financing of terrorist organisations, as well as knowledge of such funds being used for the aforementioned purpose. The maintenance of terrorist organisations and the preparation and committing of terrorist acts are financed in several different ways. Terrorists have often received financing from similarly minded countries, organisations and companies. An important way in which terrorist organisations are financed is under the cover of fundraising for charity. Illicit income is also obtained through direct crime (such as the sale of drugs, organisation of illegal immigration, including human trafficking, money laundering, forgery of bank cards and illicit trade).
43. In order to prevent terrorist financing, law enforcement authorities inspect financial transactions that have raised suspicions that money is being transferred to terrorist groupings or people associated with them. Prevention of terrorist financing requires information exchange with foreign partners in order to identify charity organisations that support terrorism, and to gather information about people who live in or visit Estonia who may be associated with such organisations. The awareness of financial institutions (banks and insurance companies) about terrorist financing is being increased. It is also important to pay attention to anti-money laundering activities, as this has a preventive role in combating terrorist financing.
44. While money laundering involves assets of unlawful origin, terrorism may also be financed from assets of lawful origin. It is critical to increase the awareness of public authorities, financial institutions, non-profit associations and foundations and other persons participating in commerce, to detect activities indicating terrorist financing and to take immediate action to prevent possible terrorist acts (seizure of assets, conviction in a crime and confiscation of assets). As terrorist financing is not limited to the territory of any single country, equal importance must be placed on cooperation on the national level, including cooperation between the public institutions and the private sector, and cooperation on the international level.
45. A precondition to the implementation of efficient measures to combat terrorist financing is to identify, understand and assess the risks of terrorist financing on the national level. In assessing the risks of terrorist financing, cooperation on both the national and international level must be considered important. The risks have to be assessed regularly. A cross-sectoral National Risk Assessment on money laundering shall be prepared under the leadership of the Ministry of Finance, using the methodology of the World Bank.

Prevention of the use of cyber tools for terrorism

46. More attention needs to be paid to cyber security (incl. the misuse of cyber space by terrorist organisations) and cooperation and resource allocation between the authorities

involved in ensuring cyber security, taking into account the provisions of the Cyber Security Strategy.

47. The adequate volume and regulation of generating and storing data related to Internet connections, electronic mail and Internet telephone services must be analysed (e.g. logging intranet IP addresses and terminal locations in order to determine the location of mobile Internet users in the network) the options for collecting such data have to be determined. The rationality of establishing regulation for identifying the users of prepaid telephone cards also has to be analysed.
48. In improving cyber security, including in restricting the spread of terrorism, it is of key importance to increase the awareness of the public and the administrators of information systems of the threats present in cyber space and of the measures to overcome such threats in accordance with the provisions of the Cyber Security Strategy.
49. In order to ensure more efficient cyber defence, we need to create an (international) network of cyber experts in order to exchange information and experience and to provide training in the detection of cyber terrorism and the implementation of countermeasures.

Participation in the development and implementation of international sanctions

50. International sanctions are economic or diplomatic measures aimed against a state, a regime, an organisation or a person for the purpose of maintaining or restoring peace, prevent conflicts, strengthen international security, support or strengthen democracy, the principles of the rule of law and human rights, and combating terrorism.
51. International sanctions are imposed by the United Nations and the European Union. Sanctions may also be imposed by another international organisation or the government of any country on its own initiative. The UN imposes international sanctions in accordance with the UN Charter for the purpose of maintaining or restoring international peace and security, and the European Union imposes sanctions for the purpose of achieving the objectives of its common foreign and security policy. The international sanctions imposed by the UN are implemented by the European Union with its legal acts which specify or extend the UN sanctions, if necessary. The European Union also imposes international sanctions on its own initiative.
52. An integral part of the development of international sanctions is an impact assessment. It must be ensured that sanctions are implemented in Estonia correctly and without delay, that Estonia's international obligations and obligations arising from the European Union law are fulfilled, taking into account the effectiveness and impact thereof for Estonia, the European Union and the international community.

Prevention of illicit trade in strategic goods

53. The desire of terrorists to use radioactive, biological and chemical substances in attacks poses a particularly large threat to the security of people and the state, because the use of such substances may have catastrophic consequences. The most important objective is to

prevent the illicit trafficking of weapons of mass destruction as well as the materials and technologies used for the production thereof, in order to prevent such materials from falling into the hands of embargoed countries or criminal end users.

54. Estonia pays increased attention to preventing and combating the illicit trade related to strategic goods. Security authorities gather information about persons who may be interested in the illicit trade of chemical, biological and radioactive materials as well as strategic goods or weapons of mass destruction and any parts or technologies thereof. The transport of strategic goods and the related risks are analysed. Enterprises involved in the transport of strategic goods are assessed and trade with embargoed countries is restricted. Joint exercises and preventive activities are carried out at the border in order to uncover the illicit trafficking of radioactive substances. Inter-agency training on strategic goods is provided, focussing on nuclear and rocket technology and the materials and goods necessary for the production of chemical and biological weapons. Joint operations and international cooperation to combat illicit trafficking are constantly ongoing.

Removal of illicit explosives from circulation

55. Explosions are the most common means used by terrorist groups to terrorise civil societies. The number of explosions in Estonia has decreased. However, statistics regarding the explosives confiscated over the last few years show that there are still large quantities of explosives in illicit circulation in Estonia, and such explosives could be used to organise explosions. Due to the absence of border and customs controls on the internal borders of the European Union, Estonia could be used as a transit country for the illicit trafficking of firearms and explosives.
56. Law enforcement authorities gather information about people who may be interested in illicit handling of explosives and firearms, preparation of explosive devices and international illicit trafficking of explosive materials and firearms. The information obtained when investigating the circumstances of explosions and the explosive devices used is also an important tool in the removal of illicit explosive materials from circulation and in the prevention of terrorist acts.
57. It has to be analysed whether and how to store the data of persons who have received training in the handling of explosive materials (e.g. DNA and fingerprints) in order to ensure that crimes related to explosive materials are investigated and solved more effectively.

Protection of objects and persons under high risk of attack

58. Considering the goals of terrorist activities, terrorists are most likely to target objects attacking which causes extensive damage to the functioning of vital services (objects under high risk of attack – government institutions, communication structures, transport structures, water supply network) or creates an extensive environmental impact. Organising attacks on such objects has an extensive effect on the functioning of the society. In addition, we also have to take into account the possibility of such objects being

attacked with cyber tools, which may have a kinetic effect similar to that of a physical attack.

59. Terrorists also target objects attacking which creates wide public attention, but may not necessarily affect the functioning of vital services (mass events, shopping centres, foreign embassies, aircraft, ships, public places simultaneously visited by a large number of people). There are many examples in world practice where attacks with catastrophic consequences have been launched at shopping centres, restaurants and hotels. Hotels, similar to ports and airports as mentioned above (and ships and planes), are attractive targets because when attacked, the victims are usually citizens of a number of different countries and this guarantees extensive international attention being paid to the attack.
60. The protection of the said objects requires strengthened protection measures as stipulated in international treaties and national regulation. International security standards are applied in maritime security and aviation security (International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) and the security standards of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)). The Government of the Republic has determined the objects that are protected by the security police. However, the list does not cover all of the objects under heightened risk of attack and the Government of the Republic has approved the list thereof and the relevant measures of physical protection in a separate document. Efficient surveillance and protection measures are also important from the viewpoint of prevention, because well-protected objects are harder to attack. The information systems of such objects must also be protected with adequate security measures. Constant attention has to be paid to the organisation of the protection of objects and the development of the measures applied.
61. The increased threat of terrorism in the world and particularly in Europe sets increasingly high demands on guaranteeing the security of people under high risk of attack – the heads of state of Estonia and important foreign guests – and international meetings and major events. The number of high level visits to Estonia as a member of the EU and NATO has increased considerably and is likely to grow even further. Visits by the heads of state and government of foreign countries as well as leaders and delegations of international organisations are under public scrutiny both in Estonia and abroad, which places unprecedented responsibility on law enforcement authorities who must guarantee the security of these people. The threats here are attacks or other illegal acts committed by terrorists, extremist movements or mentally unstable people.
62. A threat assessment, which is a combination of obtained information and analytical work, is created when the protection of people under high risk of attack is being prepared. After this, activity plans are created together with measures for exclusion of different risks before, during and after the event. If necessary, the efficiency of border controls is increased as a security measure. Air traffic in the relevant space is restricted and the security parameters of the surrounding territory are determined in order to avoid the event being threatened from the air. Coordinated cooperation between different authorities is important in the application of the above-mentioned measures, which shall guarantee the prevention of possible threats and risks. A gradual increase of preventive measures is required in the near future.

Ensuring preparedness for responding to emergencies

63. Because the threat of terrorism exists, all the authorities associated with responding to emergencies must be ready to act in such situations (the taking of hostages, explosion with a large number of casualties etc).
64. In the event of a terrorist act in the territory of Estonia, the responsible responding government authority is the Internal Security Service who shall manage the response to the emergency and act in cooperation with other competent authorities according to the emergency response plan.
65. In the event of a terrorist act against Estonian citizens in the territory of a foreign country (incl. hostage taking) the responsible authority is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who shall manage the response to the emergency and act in cooperation with other competent authorities in accordance with the emergency response plan. The Internal Security Service and the Information Board are responding authorities.
66. In the event of cyber attacks the responsible responding authority is the Estonian Information System's Authority who shall manage the response to the emergency and act in cooperation with other competent authorities in accordance with the emergency response plan.
67. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs monitors the spread of the threat of terrorism in the world and prepares regular travel warnings for citizens, organises the protection of the interests of and the provision of consular assistance to the citizens of Estonia and, if necessary, of other European Union Member countries in cooperation with the authorities of the country of location and other relevant agencies in the event of a terrorist act organised in a foreign country.
68. In order to ensure preparedness, regular training at both state and regional levels must be organised with the goal to check the preparedness and cooperation capability of various structures and emergency services of the state for the fulfilment of crisis management tasks in the event of a threat of terrorism. This helps to test that activity mechanisms work and to identify possible weaknesses. It is important that the resources required to guarantee the preparedness of the authorities who take part in the responding to emergencies are increased in the near future.
69. Both the international exercise EU CREMEX carried out in Estonia in 2011 and the events worldwide show that the entire European Union must contribute to the prevention of CBRNe (chemical, biological, radioactive, nuclear, explosives) risks and the development of the relevant response capabilities. This entails increasing the awareness of the public and improving the response capabilities, i.e. both training and resources. Cooperation between authorities must be promoted and the necessary capabilities must be developed both in the civil sector and the Defence Forces. External resources must also be used for developing the capabilities.

70. In order to develop the capabilities to handle special operations and CBRNe risks, we have to establish an inter-agency joint tactical centre of special operations and a CBRNe and explosives removal centre. The cross-usage of vehicles used in special operations, the use of unmanned aircraft and the armoured protection of vehicles must be developed.

Organisations related to counter-terrorism activities

71. Counter-terrorism activities are mainly performed via and in cooperation with the following institutions and organisations:

72. **Security Committee of the Government of the Republic**⁴ analyses and assesses the security situation, including the threat of terrorism in the country, coordinates the activities of security authorities, and determines the national need for security related information.

73. **Sub-committee of the Security Committee of the Government of the Republic** prepares the draft decisions of the Security Committee including the ones addressing counter-terrorism activities, and advises the Committee in the fulfilment of its tasks.

74. **Counter-Terrorism Council of the Security Committee of the Government of the Republic** prepares the updates to the Counter-Terrorism Action Plan and monitors the implementation thereof, submits proposals to improve the efficiency of counter-terrorism activities to the Security Committee or the sub-committee, and supports the coordination and cooperation between the relevant authorities.

75. **Governmental committee for the coordination of issues related to the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing**⁵ coordinates the implementation of legal acts related to the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing and makes proposals to the Government of the Republic to improve the efficiency of the measures aimed at the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing.

76. **Crisis Management Committee of the Government of the Republic**⁶ coordinates the activities of government authorities in preparing for emergencies in crisis management issues within its competence, incl. in the event of a terrorist act.

77. **Ministry of the Interior** develops the internal security policy and the crisis management policy and organises the implementation thereof. The Ministry also coordinates the activities of the agencies in its government area in ensuring public order and national internal security, including in countering terrorism, prepares updates to the Counter-Terrorism Fundamentals and Action Plan, and supervises the implementation thereof. The Minister of the Interior establishes the security levels for ports and port facilities.

⁴ <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13100459>

⁵ <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13315870?leiaKehtiv>

⁶ <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13344412>

78. **National Security and Defence Coordination Unit of the Government Office** ensures the notification of the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State of any possible threats to national security, including threats related to terrorism, informs them of the work of the agencies ensuring national security, manages the work of the sub-committee of the Security Committee and provides services to the Security Committee of the Government of the Republic.
79. **Ministry of Justice** develops the national justice and criminal policy, including the legislation related to preventing, combating and solving acts of terrorism and the related crimes.
80. **Ministry of Defence** develops the national defence policy and coordinates defence-related international cooperation and the participation in international military operations. The Ministry also coordinates the activities of the Defence Forces and the Defence League in the provision of assistance to civil structures in accordance with the Emergency Preparedness Act.
81. **Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications** organises the development and implementation of the national economic policy and economic development plans, including in the areas of energy, transport, IT, electronic communications, postal communication and tourism, coordinates the development of the state's information system, taking into account the interoperability thereof with the national information systems of other countries, and coordinates the management of the minimum supply of liquid fuel.
82. **Ministry of Finance** develops the policy of preventing money laundering and terrorist financing.
83. **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** develops the fundamentals of security policy in cooperation with the relevant ministries, participates in the development of international counter-terrorism measures, ensures the immediate and correct implementation of international sanctions in Estonia and plans and performs the policy of control of strategic goods together with other competent authorities. The Ministry also organises the protection of the interests of and the provision of consular assistance to the citizens of Estonia and, if necessary, of other European Union Member countries in cooperation with the authorities of the country of location and other relevant agencies in the event of a terrorist act organised in a foreign country.
84. **Internal Security Service** is the main responsible body in the area of counter-terrorism in Estonia, and implements measures to prevent and combat terrorist acts and to identify and prosecute the persons who commit such acts.
85. **Environmental Board** organises the assessment of the doses of radiation caused to the public and the public observation groups, performs laboratory analyses related to radiation, ensures the operation of the early warning system of cross-border risk of radiation, organises the monitoring of the radioactivity of the environment and analyses

the results thereof, assesses the radiation of people and ensures the functioning of the vital service of early warning of the risk of radiation.

86. **Civil Aviation Administration** performs national supervision in civil aviation and acts as the competent authority in the area of aviation security – ensures the compliance with legal acts related to aviation security and, if necessary, the enforcement thereof by the state, and the extra-judicial proceedings of misdemeanours.
87. **Tax and Customs Board** performs national supervision over prohibitions and restrictions at customs points, on the EU internal border and inland, prevents the import of goods requiring a special permit, including strategic goods, weapons, explosives and radioactive goods via customs points, and informs the Internal Security Service of detected incidents for the purposes of further proceedings in accordance with investigative jurisdiction.
88. **Police and Border Guard Board** prevents people, including terrorists and goods from illegally crossing the state border in areas between border crossing points and at border crossing points where the Tax and Customs Board is not represented, and gathers and analyses the relevant information, forwarding it immediately to the Internal Security Service. The Board also organises rescue work in the Estonian sea rescue area, for instance in the event of a terrorist act on a passenger ship or an oil tanker. Protects the President of the Republic, the President of the *Riigikogu* and the Prime Minister and the official guests of the Republic of Estonia, and guards foreign embassies and the places of residence of ambassadors. Cooperates with the Internal Security Service in order to prevent and counter attacks prepared against protected persons and objects. Gathers and analyses notices of suspected money laundering and terrorist financing, and organises the supervision of the subjects of the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Prevention Act. Participates in operations organised for the purpose of preventing and countering terrorist attacks, where a special unit operates under the coordination of the Internal Security Service.
89. **Rescue Board** manages and coordinates rescue works, including in the event of a terrorist act, performs the removal of explosives and provides chemical protection, and organises crisis management activities in the rescue area.
90. **State Information System's Authority** performs supervision over the information systems used for the provision of vital services and the consistent implementation of the security measures of the related information assets, organises the activities related to the information security of the state information system and the critical information infrastructure of Estonia, handles security incidents occurring in the computer networks of Estonia, performs supervision over the fulfilment of the requirements arising from the legal acts regulating the management of the state information system.
91. **Information Board** informs the relevant institutions, the Government of the Republic and the ministries of the general development trends and the threat of terrorism in the world and forwards to the Internal Security Service the information concerning the threat of terrorism that the Information Board has learnt in the course of performing its tasks deriving from the Security Authorities Act.

92. **Maritime Administration** organises the creation of conditions for the safe and secure ship traffic on the territorial sea and the navigable inland waterways and acts as the competent authority in the area of maritime security – ensures the fulfilment of the requirements arising from the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS).
93. **Defence Forces** provides, if necessary, assistance to the civil authorities in accordance with the Emergency Act and the State of Emergency Act. Participates in military operations in the framework of international cooperation, the EU and NATO. Ensures the security of airspace in cooperation with military allies, including in regards to renegade aircraft where the capabilities so allow.
94. **Prosecutor's Office** takes part in the planning of the surveillance activities necessary for preventing and uncovering terrorism and the related crimes and directs the relevant pre-court criminal proceedings, makes proposals to eliminate the legal obstructions that have arisen in the processing of the aforementioned crimes.
95. **Financial Supervision Authority** performs supervision over the implementation of the measures of preventing money laundering and terrorist financing and develops the related national and international cooperation.
96. **Defence League** assists the relevant authorities and the Defence Forces in ensuring internal security, including in responding to emergencies and in exercises. The Cyber Unit of the Defence League is an important element in the structure of ensuring national cyber security and acts in this area in cooperation with the agencies responsible for internal security and the State Information System's Authority.
