THE INVOLVEMENT OF EUROPEAN UNION STATES IN THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM

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Abstract: Terrorism is a direct threat to citizens' security and to international stability and prosperity. It is a persistent global threat that knows no borders, religions or nationalities, and it is a challenge that the international community needs to solve together. Western counter-terrorism activities focus on improving threat awareness, developing training and response capabilities, and enhancing engagement with partner countries and other international actors. The fight against terrorism and its causes is now seen as a collective effort that needs to be made by all members of the international community.

Key words: terrorism, Islamic state, counterterrorism, threat, risk

Foreword

Over the past few years, several EU Member States have launched military operations against terrorist groups in remote areas, but had little thought about the obvious risks involved in these operations.

The military action is only to succeed against terrorist groups when it is compensated by a political solution on the ground. Otherwise, it will be ineffective in reducing the threat of terrorism and may even be counterproductive. In our opinion, EU Member States should develop stricter guidelines for deciding when military forces should be used against terrorist groups.

In the aftermath of September 11 attacks, most European officials and politicians criticized the "global war on terror" initiated by the United

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