

Dimensions of Preparedness for Countering Violent Extremism: Methods, Approaches and Operations

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Abstract

Terrorists and extremists who travel worldwide to carry out attacks are not a new notion, and they have become more common since global travel became more accessible during the twenty-first century. In response to their violent acts, several governments of the world have endeavoured to take several anti-terrorist and anti-extremist measures. This study focuses on extremism and its many manifestations, including violent extremism (VE) and counter-violent extremism (CVE), as well as related ideas, programs, processes, and tools. Moreover, it investigates the basic principles of extremism and violent extremism, and various aspects of the domain, such as the factors that contribute to extremism and violent extremism. It also discusses how to tackle violent extremism and defend both internal and external threats, by the development of multifaceted approaches to combating violent extremism on international, regional and multilateral, and domestic levels. Extensive literature reviews, both electronic and written, allowing the exploration of knowledge unique to the research area and offering a system of references for successful subject evaluation.

Keywords: Countering violent extremism, extremism, global collaboration, modern terrorism, radicalization, violent extremism.

Introduction

We should seek alternate methods to eradicate extremist networks within and outside the country. The legal changes can improve the state's capacity to deal with extremism. Taking various initiatives that are focused on global collaboration can be more successful in resolving current extremist issues and reducing their impact. As a consequence, counter-extremist policies and activities foresee global interaction and engagement. This could be effective in suppressing elements of extremism and redressing their ongoing efforts. This paper draws on a wide body of related scholarly literature, as well as authoritative reporting from both electronic and print media, to find information exclusive to the challenge of violent extremism, as well as guidelines for how states can effectively collaborate with global powers to prevent and eradicate extremism as well as offering a structure for successful subject assessment.

Meanwhile, the paper investigates further the principles, behaviours, and implications of VE. The paper also looks at the internal and global risks of extremism, as well as the factors that enable extremist activities to evolve and expand. It also discusses the catalysts that encourage transnational extremism; and, how efficient preparedness can reduce increased internal and external channels and activities. These sources will provide useful contexts for the major research issues, shedding light on the topic's current relevance and providing several points of view on the issue. In summary, the paper aims to build on established knowledge and develop the field of countering violent extremism by proposing instruments for evaluating the efficacy, standard methods and procedures. This paper provides a brief discussion of the dynamic and rapidly developing phenomenon of VE.

Understanding 'Extremism' and 'Violent Extremism'

The notions of extremism and violent extremism are often conflated. The term extremism is used in this paper to refer to the phase of possessing radical ideologies and convictions. To be accepted and retain their membership and position within the group, the group member will be driven to conform and impress other members (Sarah, David & Katie, 2019; p. 1). According to Alex, the idea is that one can hold extremist beliefs without being inclined to

use extremist methods to realize them when the opportunity presents itself (2014; p. 11). His study on Peter Coleman and Andrea Bartoli's work described extremism as follows: "activities (beliefs, attitudes, feelings, actions, strategies) of a character far removed from the ordinary. Extremism is a relative concept, where to answer the question: "what is extreme?", one needs a benchmark, something that is (more) "ordinary", "centrist", "mainstream" or "normal" when compared with the (extreme) political fringe" (ibid).

The following table contains Schmid P. Alex's (2014; p. 21-22) list of twenty extremism monitoring indicators that can be used to detect harmful tendencies in individuals and groups driven by ideological extremism, particularly but not exclusively of the Islamist variety:

Table: Twenty Indicators for Monitoring Extremism

1. Situate themselves outside the mainstream and reject the existing social, political or world order;
2. Seek to overthrow, with the help of a revolutionary vanguard, the political system to (re-) establish what they consider the natural order in society – whether this envisaged order be based on race, class, faith, ethnic superiority, or alleged tradition;
3. Are usually in possession of an ideological program or action plan aimed at taking and holding communal or state power;
4. Reject or, when in power, subvert the liberal-democratic conception of the rule of law; use the political space provided by it to advance their cause in efforts to take state power;
5. Reject universal human rights and show a lack of empathy and disregard for rights of others than their own;
6. Reject democratic principles based on popular sovereignty;
7. Reject equal rights for all, especially those of women and minorities;

8. Reject diversity and pluralism in favour of their preferred mono-culture society, e.g. a worldwide Islamic state;
9. Adhere to a (good-) ends-justify (-any)-means philosophy to achieve their goals;
10. Actively endorse and glorify the use of violence to fight what they consider “evil” and to reach their political objectives (e.g. in the form of jihad);
11. Show a propensity to engage in mass violence against actual and potential enemies when in power or when enjoying impunity;
12. Are single-minded, black-or-white thinkers who want to purify the world and demonize, debase and dehumanize their enemies in hate speech, characterizing them as “inferior” and earmarking them, implicitly or explicitly, as expendable;
13. Subordinate individual freedom to collective goals;
14. Refuse to engage in genuine (as opposed to tactical and temporal) compromises with the other side and ultimately seek to subdue or eliminate the enemy;
15. Exhibit intolerance to all views other than their dogmatic one and express this in anger, aggressive behaviour and hate speech;
16. Exhibit fanaticism, portray themselves as threatened and embrace conspiracy theories without necessarily being irrational in their strategic choices;
17. Exhibit authoritarian, dictatorial or totalitarian traits;
18. Are unwilling to accept criticism and intimidate and threaten dissenters, heretics and critics with death;
19. Expect obedience to their demands and commands rather than allowing them to subject their views and policies to discussion even within their group;

20. Have fixed ideas and closed minds and believe there is only one truth – theirs. In its pursuit, they are often willing to face punishment or even death and sometimes actively seek martyrdom.

As with the idea of 'terrorism,' there is no globally acknowledged meaning of the phrase 'violent extremism,' and the phrases are occasionally used interchangeably, according to the UN General Assembly report A/70/674. It further pointed that in general, the multiplicity of definitional approaches display some coherence in that 'violent extremism' is seen as a bigger problem than terrorism. This is reflected in the VE Action Plan, in which the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) stated that violent extremism embraces a broader category of expressions than terrorism because it includes forms of ideologically motivated violence that do not constitute terrorist attacks (General Assembly report, 2015).

Definitional approaches to 'Violent Extremism': Governmental and Intergovernmental

The idea of violent extremism has many distinct governmental and intergovernmental definitional approaches. Violent extremism, according to the Australian government, is defined as the use or encouragement of violence to achieve ideological, religious, or political aims. Canada's view is that, when an offence is motivated mainly by extreme political, religious, or intellectual convictions, it is referred to as "violent extremism." Some definitions specifically state that radical views are not a problem in and of themselves, but that they constitute a threat to national security when they are violently implemented.

Violent extremism is defined by the FBI as encouraging, condoning, justifying, or supporting the commission of a violent act to achieve political, ideological, religious, social, or economic goals, while violent extremist activities are defined by USAID as advocating, engaging in, preparing, or otherwise supporting ideologically motivated or justified violence to further social, economic or political objectives. Violent extremism is defined in Norway as the activities of individuals and groups willing to use violence to achieve political, ideological, or religious goals; and in Sweden, a violent extremist is defined as someone who has repeatedly displayed behaviour that

not only accepts but also supports or exercises ideologically motivated violence to promote something.

Extremism is described in the United Kingdom as the vocal or active hostility towards fundamental values such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of diverse faiths and beliefs, as well as calls for the killing of UK military personnel at home or abroad. Extremism is a term used in Denmark to describe groups that have simplistic views of the world and "the enemy," rejecting core democratic values and conventions and employing unlawful and potentially violent techniques to achieve political/religious ideological aims. Different approaches to extremism is demonstrated by these diverse definitions.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has stated that propagating views that foment and instigate violence in the pursuit of particular beliefs, as well as create animosity that may lead to inter-community violence, are both unacceptable. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in the Preventing Violent Extremism through Education: a guide for policy-makers recognizes that there is no internationally agreed-upon definition. According to this document, the most prevalent understanding of the term refers to the ideas and acts of persons who advocate or use violence to achieve ideological, religious, or political aims. Terrorism and other types of politically motivated violence" can be included in this category (Human Right Council Report A/HRC/31/65 - Advance Unedited Version, 2016).

Drivers of Violent Extremism

UN Secretary-General put a great deal of emphasis on the context and drivers of violent extremism in the Action Plan, along with the mechanisms of radicalization, the 'push' and 'pull' factors. 'Push factors' are the conditions that encourage violent extremism and the institutional context in which it occurs. Lack of socioeconomic prospects; marginalization and discrimination; poor governance, human rights abuses, and the rule of law; long-running and unresolved disputes; and prison radicalization are among them. Individual factors and procedures contribute to the conversion of thoughts and complaints into violent extremist action. This is what we refer to as 'pull

factors.' Individual backgrounds and motivations, collective grievances and victimhood as a result of dominance, tyranny, subjection, or foreign involvement, misuse and manipulation of ideas, political objectives and racial and cultural disparities, and leadership and social networks are few examples (General Assembly report A/70/674, paras. 23 and 32-37; United Nations, Swiss Confederation, 2016, p. 4).

"Violent Extremism" refers to the practice of engaging in violent acts. Some, perhaps even the majority, of those with radical ideologies and violent justifications do not engage in terrorism. Actors may opt to carry out a violent attack because they believe the groups are insufficiently severe and extreme and may feel a greater personal need to act to achieve terrorist goals. Violent extremism is seen as a threat that eventually contributes to terror. This has been acknowledged and expressed in both increased anti-terrorism support and efforts to deter and fight extremist violence.

In terms of extremism and violent extremism, we should also expect differences in the factors that underpin their activities. Extremists, for example, maybe violent because they can use violence for a variety of causes, but extremists may choose nonviolent action because they operate in an environment that limits their opportunities to build a capacity for violence. Transnational violent extremism has risen dramatically in recent decades, particularly among uprooted persons alienated from their original ethnic or national culture.

Almost a decade after the United States of America (USA) declared war on terrorism if not before, it is now clear that while eliminating terrorists from the battlefield and disrupting terrorist attacks are and should be, high priority targets, they are not enough to neutralize the global threat of violent extremism. An effective attempt to counter violent extremism (CVE) would try to avoid the tide of new radicals and the destructive activities of new extremists (Borum Randy, 2011; p. 8).

Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)

In general, the literature on combating violent extremism focuses on policies aimed at responding to or preventing violence through policy guidelines rather

than understanding how CVE is defined and manifested in real ways in transnational networks. Bridget, Katerina, and Gilbert have positioned current violent extremism and terrorism as global tendencies. Pollard (2007: 237) puts it like this: "Modern globalization has culminated in modern terrorism." Furthermore, changing networks, continually mutating combinations and constellations constitute the "new" transnational hazards. However, others argue that contemporary violent extremism differs sufficiently from earlier forms to qualify as a "modern" form of violent extremism or require the development of "new" techniques to countering violent extremism (Bridget, Katerina, & Gilbert; p. 16).

The current literature agrees that global forms of violent extremism and terrorism necessitate the integration of domestic and international responses, implying that the traditional separation between the domestic and foreign policy is no longer valid. Furthermore, the 'networked' existence of modern violent extremism is understood to imply a networked reaction. The literature emphasizes the creation of alliances and multilateral solutions to address networks. This involves alliances for military, law enforcement, intelligence operations and regional governance and security cooperation between governments of allied nations. Such collaborations must be encouraged by the framework for international and regional cooperation as well as global governance. However, inconsistencies in state anti-terrorism law, national security policies and practices, political and social principles, and possibly internal limits can cause complications (ibid; p.17).

Approaches to CVE

CVE entails a variety of prevention and intervention strategies aimed at strengthening communities and individuals' resistance to radicalization and violent extremism. The following are some various approaches to dealing with violent extremism:

1. Offensive Approaches

Military, legislative and policy approaches may be offensive tactics to tackle violent extremism. In the literature concerning these fields, a prevailing trend is that new types of violent extremism and terrorism need new forms of response (ibid; p.41).

2. Defensive Approaches

Defensive approaches to combating violent extremism are aimed at deterring and decreasing attack vulnerability and reacting to and containing an attack after it has occurred. This entails knowledge and techniques for the security of infrastructure, crisis preparation and protection of borders. The prevailing structures that form the interpretation and execution of these methods are those of risk control and risk management and preparedness (ibid, p.43).

3. Ideological Approaches

Ideology is considered a cause of violence in terms of radicalization and extremism. Many models of radicalization and methods of de-radicalization stem from the implicit belief that thought comes before action, i.e. demonstrating a cognitive bias. Therefore, they concentrate on preventing the development of anti-democratic views and beliefs in the utility of violence or the development of a clear ideology by individuals (ibid, p.46).

4. Communicative Approaches

The modern types of violent extremism are understood to have penetrated the terrain and action of communication, knowledge and symbolism, and the relationship between the media and terrorism is often portrayed as symbiotic. Communicative approaches to fighting violent extremism seek to undermine terrorist-generated narratives and representations and facilitate 'western' counter-narratives and representations through techniques of public diplomacy to win over the 'hearts and minds' of actual and future voters and sympathizers. In this 'battle of ideas' on a communicative terrain, states and violent radicals clash for authority and reputation (ibid; p.49-50).

5. Political Approaches

Democratic grievances galvanize many violent radical groups. Democratic approaches to the battle against violent extremism are also aimed at addressing concerns through involvement in mainstream politics and legislative processes.

6. Social policy Approaches

For Violent Extremism oriented with the socioeconomic, social group membership and social citizenship is social policy approaches to combating

violent extremism. The goal of these approaches is to prevent violent extremism by addressing social factors that give rise to violence or create support for violent extremists and by helping members disengage themselves from militant or terrorist groups and by offering alternative routes (ibid; p.55).

Operationalizing Counter Violent Extremism: International, Regional and Multilateral, and Domestic Measures/Instruments

Countering violent extremism has become a global problem and a high priority for communities in the last few years. Several important steps which reflect this concern have been taken.

International Instruments: United Nations Framework

The United Nations is the Global collaboration to combat threats to international security. The role of the General Assembly (GA) is to establish a normative structure on terrorism and to promote cooperative action between states.

While the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) could focus on preventing acts of terrorism through cooperation between security, law enforcement and wider control authorities, through the power of budget allocations, the GA will form the global response to terrorism. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime's terrorist prevention branch provides legislative support to various nations in conjunction with the passage and enforcement of anti-terrorism treaties and UNSC resolutions, according to Thakur. R (p. 185-185).

In response to the growing phenomenon of foreign fighters joining terrorist groups such as ISIL and Al Qaida, the Security Council adopted Resolution 2178 (2014), which is described in its preamble as: "individuals who travel to a State other than their States of residence or nationality for perpetration, planning, or preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or the providing or receiving of terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict, and resolving to address this threat." The need to approach this in a systematic and multidimensional way, was of particular relevance to violent extremism and the Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE)/CVE efforts, by:

“[P]reventing radicalization to terrorism, stemming recruitment, inhibiting foreign terrorist fighter travel, disrupting financial support to foreign terrorist fighters, countering violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, countering incitement to terrorist acts motivated by extremism or intolerance, promoting political and religious tolerance, economic development and social cohesion and inclusiveness, ending and resolving armed conflicts, and facilitating reintegration and rehabilitation (S/RES/2178 Preamble, 2014).

The GA's efforts were made in tandem with those of the Security Council. In general, it alludes to violent extremism and PVE/CVE issues in the context of the UN Counter-Terrorism (CT) Policy and its annual assessments (e.g., General Assembly Resolution 70/2911) (UNODC – The Doha Declaration). The Pillar I of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy applies to violent extremism and discusses the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, meanwhile, has been actively involved in PVE/CVE-related matters, especially through the implementation of his VE Action Plan. The key objective of the Plan is to encourage and support the implementation of a holistic strategy that includes not only ongoing, critical security-based counter-terrorism initiatives, but also systemic preventive measures that directly address the drivers of violent extremism that have given rise to the emergence of these new and virulent groups (General Assembly report A/70/674, para. 6). To this end, the Plan makes over 70 recommendations to the Member States on preventing the spread of violent extremism, through the implementation of multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approaches to national and (sub) regional strategies that represent more local and regional contextual factors and priorities (ibid).

Regional and Multilateral Instruments

A variety of programs have been carried out by regional and sub-regional bodies, ultimately aimed at preventing and combating violent extremism. The following is a short description of regional and multilateral instruments:

1. The African Region

In response to the rise of terrorist attacks and violent extremism, which have been the source of major threats to peace and security in the African region, the African Union Peace and Security Council, a forum for member states of the African Union (AU) to project their foreign policy interests to peace and security issues (AU PSC), has firmly denounced 'violent extremist agendas and narratives' and the central role of these trends in the ultimate execution of terrorist acts. Consequently, the Council emphasized the need to fight extremism and urged member states to make every effort to resolve effectively the root causes and underlying conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism (ibid).

The following instruments or measures have been introduced to deal effectively with the danger of violent extremism:

- a) Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) - Political Declaration of ECOWAS and Popular Stance against Terrorism.
- b) AU PSC (last updated 21 November 2017) - The 728th session of the Peace and Security Council of the AU: Open session on the theme: „the role of women in preventing and countering violent extremism in Africa'.
- c) AU PSC (last updated 14 February 2018) - Communiqué of the 749th session of the Peace and Security Council of the AU at the level of Heads of State and Government, on the theme: 'Towards a Comprehensive Approach to Combatting the Transnational Threat of Terrorism in Africa'.
- d) AU PSC (last updated 2 February 2017) - Communiqué of the 650th session of the PSC: CISSA briefing on the latest international developments in the war against terrorism and its effect on Africa (ibid).

2. The Asian Region

The Asian region is committed to addressing these concerns in response to the decade-long presence and effect of violent extremism and related practices, including the funding of regional organizations. For example, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has called against all forms of terrorism and violent extremism; whilst the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has emphasized the need for the Comprehensive Convention on Countering

International Terrorism to be accepted and finalized and then implemented (ibid).

One of the first international organizations to implement a binding treaty against terrorism was the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Key counter-terrorism resources from SAARC are SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism (adopted 4 November 1987, entered into force 22 August 1988), an Additional Protocol to the SAARC Regional Convention (adopted at the 12th Summit in Islamabad 2-6 January 2006, entered into force 1 December 2006) and the Charter of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (adopted 8 December 1985) (ibid).

Furthermore, The East Asia Forum, a research institute focusing on the Asia Pacific region, for instance, has also acknowledged the diverse role women can play in helping to prevent the spread of fundamentalist ideologies. Similarly, the Monash Gender, Peace and Security research group - specializing in the role of women in preventing and countering violent extremism - recognized an "impressive variety of ways in which women are individually and collectively" involved in Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE)" in its paper *Preventing Violent Extremism: gender perspectives and women's roles*. (ibid).

3. The European Region

Major results due to violent terrorist acts have also been seen in the European region. About the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), "within its membership which encompasses countries from beyond the European region, its efforts are framed around "Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism" (VERLT) and linked to its 2012 Consolidated Framework in the Fight against Terrorism (OSCE, Permanent Council, 2012), together with two Ministerial Declarations adopted in 2015 (OSCE, Ministerial Council, 2015) and 2016 (OSCE, Ministerial Council, 2016). Concerning the 2012 Framework, this identified VERLT as one of its eight "strategic focus areas" (OSCE, Permanent Council, 2012, paras. 14-17). Negative socio-economic factors, abuses of human rights, bigotry and intolerance, along with violent conflicts, are among its established

drivers. Similarly, the European Union (EU) has been increasingly involved in PVE and CVE-related matters, especially after its Policy to Combating Radicalization and the Recruitment of Terrorism, first implemented in 2005, (European Union, European Council, 2005), which is periodically updated” (ibid).

4. The Inter-American Region

The consequences of violent extremism have also been witnessed in the Americas, with the most important attacks to date being those of 9/11, which dramatically increased the regional attention given to issues related to terrorism and violent extremism. For instance, shortly after the attacks, the Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism was adopted by the Organization of American States (OAS) in 2002. Except for the occasional resolution or instrument adopted by the OAS General Assembly on terrorism - related issues, the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism is the body most actively engaged in counter-terrorism activities (ibid).

5. The Middle East and the Gulf Regions

The following instruments or measures have been introduced to deal effectively with the danger of violent extremism:

- a) League of Arab States (LAS) (2015). Report of the conference on "Regional Security and Challenges Facing the Arab Region". February.
- b) OIC, Council of Foreign Ministers (2017). *Report of the 44th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session on Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity)*. 10-11 July. Abidjan, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire. OIC/44-CFM/2017/REPORT/FINAL.
- c) Islamic Conference Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation, Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (2016). *Joint OIC Youth Strategy*. DRAFT. ICYF-DC/ICYSM-3/2016/01/Rev.1.
- d) OIC (2016). *Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women (OPAAW)* . Adopted by the Sixth Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of OIC Member States. 1-3 November. Istanbul, the Republic of Turkey” (ibid).

6. The Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF)

Formed in 2011, the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF) is an intergovernmental body composed of 29 Member States and the EU. It serves as a policy platform, bringing together experts and professionals to share knowledge and experience in combating violent extremism and terrorist approaches. The body produces and promotes, through its working groups, non-binding Memoranda of Good Practices for the use of the Member States and non-member countries. Several of the memoranda discuss concerns related to the prevention or combating of violent extremism by criminal justice initiatives (ibid).

Domestic Measures / Instruments

The UN Member States have also worked to enhance counter-terrorism initiatives at the national level. The execution of their multilateral counter-terrorism agreements at the national level is among the countries' main counter-terrorism priorities. The emergence of complex global counter-terrorism commitments and undertakings places a considerable burden on the Member States about the national efforts needed to enforce them. As a corollary, it is important to enhance the exchange of knowledge at and within global, regional and the national levels, as the Member States face major challenges in achieving an efficient flow of information on global developments to inform national efforts and vice versa, which is a necessary enabling condition for effective national implementation (Vienna International Centre, 2009).

Effective implementation of the global structure at national level involves the continued participation of a wide range of different national actors participating in a wide range of different areas of work, requiring contributions not only from security and law enforcement agencies, but also from a wide range of stakeholders in non-traditional counter-terrorism sectors, including the areas of human rights, education, social services, development aid, financial sector, and civil society. Synergies of strategies at the state level and productive inter-agency/departmental coordination are essential to the effective implementation of national counter-terrorism initiatives. Furthermore, the powerful medium for communicating specific policy issues

and exchanging knowledge and experiences more generally between countries and between national, regional and global levels, in particular the United Nations, is critical. For example, national ministries, including ministries of justice, interior, finance, and intelligence, which have the primary responsibility for countering terrorism, will need to be made aware of the importance of global measures to their national work, and foreign ministries may need to take steps to ensure that "technical" ministries are better informed of developments on the international front (Ibid).

Member States have chosen various ways of meeting this need for an efficient flow of knowledge. Some of them have opted for a focal point (mostly an official in the foreign ministry/department) to be nominated. Some of these focal points perform several additional roles, such as monitoring or coordinating national policies for the United Nations and other multilateral bodies (ibid).

Conclusion

Violent extremist activities have increased drastically over the world in recent years. Governance flaws and structural inequities heighten vulnerability to violent extremism by feeding the fundamental causes of violent extremism. This paper attempted to comprehend violent extremism through several lenses. As a word that is frequently used to characterize a stage in the cycle of behaviour that leads to terrorist attacks, violent extremism is vital to separate it from terrorism. Otherwise, efforts to resist violent extremism will be focused solely on stopping actual acts of terror rather than addressing the concepts that motivate people to commit such crimes. Overall, as shown in this study, a comprehensive plan for preventing or combatting violent extremism should be initiated to address all varieties of violent extremism and it should also be recognized that the threat posed cannot be addressed exclusively by reactive measures. To proactively confront and negate factors conducive to violent extremism, a whole-of-society and whole-of-government strategy is required. As a result, a wide range of stakeholders (both government and non-government) should be included in the effort to mitigate this threat. Meanwhile, controlling the risks connected with violent extremism necessitates a thorough grasp of the localized danger landscape. Additionally,

decisions about how to manage the conditions that can lead to extremism must be taken at the local level, based on local risk assessments.

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