

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE G20

ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CONTEXT OF COUNTERING TERRORISM

The G20 Summit, which this year focuses on ‘Shaping an Interconnected World’, is an important opportunity for G20 countries – which together constitute almost two-thirds of the global population, more than 80 per cent of global GDP and three-quarters of worldwide trade - to affirm their collective commitment to ensuring that human rights are a fundamental part of the framework of interconnectivity that is developing and envisaged, thus setting an important example to the rest of the world.

Amnesty International welcomes the focus on making progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda during the summit. Implementation of the Agenda should ensure universal respect for human rights and human dignity and recognize that in our increasingly interconnected world, economic policy and development must be developed and targeted in ways to reduce inequalities and ensure that no one is left behind whilst promoting effective accountability for all stakeholders. In this respect, we urge all members of the G20, to pay particular attention to Goals 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls); 10 (Reduce inequality within and among countries); and 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels).

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CONTEXT OF COUNTERING TERRORISM

Terrorism-related acts, whoever they are committed by, are grave abuses of human rights and G20 governments have a duty to effectively investigate them and bring perpetrators to justice, and to take appropriate steps to protect their populations from harm. But such measures should never be at the expense of human rights, including the prohibition on torture and other ill-treatment; the right to a fair trial, including the presumption of innocence; and the principle of non-discrimination. Additionally, financial controls aimed at ending flows of money to those suspected of complicity in or orchestrating acts of terrorism must be implemented in compliance with human rights norms.

States must be mindful of the potential adverse impact on individuals and communities, in particular the impact on development aid of restrictions imposed for reasons connected to counter-terrorism. Legitimate non-governmental organizations working in peace, security and human rights, particularly women’s NGOs, are increasingly facing difficulties in accessing and using development funds for their essential work due to such controls.

Amnesty International urges all G20 member states to:

- **Ensure that the final communiqué reiterates that counter-terror measures will fully comply with international human rights standards;**
- **Work with other G20 members to ensure that proposed financial controls to prevent the flow of money to those suspected of involvement in terrorism-related acts do not adversely affect the human rights of individuals and communities;**
- **Ensure that implementation of the FATF regulations on non-profit organizations does not result in shrinking civil society space for human rights defenders and NGOs, whose work has been recognized by the UN and others as essential in the fight against terrorism.**

