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COMPARISON OF COUNTER-TERRORISM IN NIGERIA AND UKRAINE

Terrorism is, in the broadest sense, the use of intentional violence, generally against civilians, for political purposes. It is used in this regard primarily to refer to violence during peacetime or in context of war against non-combatants (mostly civilians and neutral military personnel) [5].

Counter-terrorism, also known as antiterrorism, incorporates the practice, military tactics, techniques, and strategy that government, military, law enforcement, business, and intelligence agencies use to combat or prevent terrorism. Counter-terrorism strategy is a government's plan to use the instruments of national power to neutralize terrorists, their organizations, and their networks in order to render them incapable of using violence to instill fear and to coerce the government or its citizens to react in accordance with the terrorists' goals.

Recently, terrorism has become one of the biggest threats to the survival of mankind on the planet. Nigeria has had her own share of the effects of this menace. It is evidently a challenge to national security, a sure enemy to national development. No doubt, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has pervaded every facet of human endeavour, and terrorist groups too are taking advantage of its potentials to recruit, propagate their propaganda, train its members, communicate and conspire, and even to raise money. Nigeria's 2011 counterterrorism law was amended in 2013 and was strengthened by the 2014 National Security Strategy and the 2016 National Counter Terrorism Strategy [5].

The Nigerian Office of the National Security Advisor is responsible on paper for coordinating all security and enforcement agencies. The Nigerian military has primary responsibility for combating terrorism in the Northeast. Several government agencies also perform counterterrorism functions, including the Nigerian Police Force (NPF), Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC), and the Ministry of Justice. The NPF has a Counterterrorism Unit and a Terrorist Investigation Branch. Both units are responsible for investigating acts of terrorism and conducting proactive measures to prevent terrorist attacks. Interagency cooperation and information sharing was limited. Due to their knowledge of the local context, community-based security groups, often collectively referred to as

the Civilian Joint Task Force, provided critical and necessary responses to the terrorism threat in the Northeast.

UNODC is actively involved in the fight against terrorism globally and provides capacity building programs that are adapted to local needs. The counter-terrorism project in Nigeria aims to enhance criminal justice capacity for effective rule-of-law-based investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of terrorist cases; promote inter-agency collaboration on counter-terrorism matters, enhance the national legal regime against terrorism, strengthen international cooperation against terrorism and ensure respect for human rights. The project featured 24 training sessions with practical lessons, role-plays, mentoring, and experience-sharing by counter-terrorism professionals from different parts of the world [4].

The capacity building program has been focused on practical issues relevant to the challenges that Nigeria is facing right now.

The risk of terrorist attacks in Ukraine over the past years can be classified as high. Compared to other countries, it is still placed somewhere in the middle of a terrorism ranking. Over the past 5 years a total number of 851 terrorist incidents has been recorded, in which 1119 people have been killed and 1200 injured.

In 105 incidents a total of 365 people have been kidnapped or taken as hostage, though a ransom was rarely (4 times) extorted.

According to the legislation of Ukraine terrorist activity is recognized, which covers:

- planning, organizing, preparing and implementing terrorist acts;
- incitement to commit acts of terrorism, violence against individuals or organizations, destruction of material objects for terrorist purposes;
- the organization of illegal armed groups, criminal groups or criminal organizations, organized criminal groups for the commission of terrorist acts, and participation in such acts;
- recruitment, arming, training and use of terrorists; promoting and spreading the ideology of terrorism;
- financing and assisting knowingly terrorist groups (organizations)

[1].

On March 5, 2019, the President of Ukraine approved the Concept of Combating Terrorism in Ukraine with his Decree No. 53/2019 [2].

Counter terrorism in Ukraine is very different from Nigeria. It cannot be said that one of the countries is less prepared for these situations. The difference is in strategy, preparation and preparedness for terrorist acts. The variety of regulations has also played a significant role in counteracting terror.

Combating terrorism is no easy task and it is something that cannot be done overnight. It will be a long struggle that could be quite dangerous. One of the first things to do is to find out all of the methods that these terrorists use and understand their strategies. How do they attack us? In what ways have they been most successful? If we can find out all of the ways they may attack, it will be much easier to set up defenses and stop them before they harm any innocent people.

Once we know where they will attack, you can begin setting up procedures to stop them.

In my opinion, one of the greatest tools that can be used to combat terrorism is to simply get citizens involved and make sure they understand how important it is to report anything that is out of place.

Terrorism is something that can be stopped. When a terrible act occurs, it is important that the act does not go unpunished. If the terrorist believe that they can successfully attack us and escape without harm, they will become more bold and dangerous. It is important to stop them quickly. It can be done as long as everyone comes together and does their part to ensure the security of countries.

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