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NATIONAL POLICY

The Government of Spain considers terrorism as one of the priorities in its security strategy. Since the terrorist attacks committed in Madrid on 11 March 2004, there have been no other attacks on national territory caused by international terrorism of a jihadist nature. However, Spanish citizens participating in different international peace missions have lost their lives in conflict zones, and others have been kidnapped by the different Al Qaeda franchises around the world.

At present, the ETA terrorist organization has declared, in a statement dated 20 October 2011, the "definitive cessation of its armed activity". Moreover, ETA's operational capacity is very limited and reduced. The main reason for this has been the firm and constant action of rule of law in Spain, which, respecting the Spanish Constitution and the rest of Spanish and EU legislation, and supported by international cooperation and the effectiveness of Spain's Security Forces, has led ETA to a liquidation process. This terrorist organization, which has caused a death toll of more than 850 victims in its 50 years of existence, has not committed any attack since July 2009.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Since 2006, the following legislation directly affecting the fight against terrorism has been approved:

- Organic Law 5/2010, of 22 June, amending Organic Law 10/1995, of 23 November, on the Criminal Code, and which entered into force on 23 December 2010.
- Organic Law 6/2011, of 30 June, amending Organic Law 12/1995, of 12 December, against smuggling, in order to adapt the definition of the offence to the international commitments acquired by Spain in this field, as regards the smuggling of nuclear, chemical, biological and radiological material, as well as other materials.
- Act 25/2007, of 18 October, on the retention of data of electronic communications and public communications networks.
- Act 8/2011, of 28 April, establishing measures for the protection of critical infrastructures; and Royal Decree 704/2011, of 20 May, approving the Regulations on the protection of critical infrastructures.
- Royal Decree 1617/2007, of 7 December, establishing measures to heighten the protection of ports and maritime transport.
- Royal Decree 1564/2010, of 19 November, approving the Basic Guidelines for Civil Protection Planning against Radiological Risks. This new legislation constitutes the legal framework of civil protection planning for urgent response to cases of radiological emergency caused by accidents or incidents other than nuclear emergencies deriving from the functioning of nuclear plants in operation.

Included in the scope of the Basic Guideline for Civil Protection Planning against Radiological Risks are exceptional events resulting from illicit activities intended to harm people and goods, such as attacks with radioactive sources, with radioactive material dispersal devices, or with nuclear devices.
- Royal Decree 844/2011, of 17 June, amending Royal Decree 2061/2008, of 12 December, and approving the Regulations on the control of foreign trade in defence material, other materials, and dual-use products and technologies.

Said amendment aims to contribute to better regulating these kinds of materials, prevent their diversion to the illicit market, and combat their proliferation. Furthermore, it incorporates Common Position of 8 December 2008, defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.
- Royal Decree 1308/2011, of 26 September, on the physical protection of nuclear facilities and materials, and of radioactive sources.
- Instruction no. 4/2005, of the State Secretariat for Security, on the creation of an Early Warning System on the theft, disappearance or lack of control of weapons, explosives or other

substances or materials that could be used by terrorist organizations.

- Instruction no. 1/2006, of 3 January, of the State Secretariat for Security, on the creation and constitution of a Supporting Police Team for major terrorist attacks, to act internationally through the specializations of its members (intelligence, explosive ordnance disposal/NRBQ, and forensic police). This model has been accepted by the member States of the EU's G-6 Group.
- Instruction 4/2009, of 2 July, of the State Secretariat for Security, amending the Terrorism Prevention and Protection Plan (PPPA).

The PPPA was approved by the Executive Committee for the Unified Command of Spain's State Security Forces (CEMU) in March 2005, and contains rules aimed at activating, depending on the threat level, the State Security Forces' anti-terrorist mechanisms, coordinated by the State Secretariat for Security, in collaboration with the Armed Forces, and with the participation of the Regional and Local Police Forces.

This updating of the PPPA brings the activation levels in line with the threat levels of other EU countries. To activate the different levels of the Plan, the criteria of reference is the evaluation of the threat carried out by the National Centre for Antiterrorist Coordination (CNCA).

In developing the previous Plan, specific Plans have been established for the National Police Force and the Civil Guard. The measures to be adopted, depending on the level and degree of the activated threat, are aimed at "the surveillance and protection of places with a high concentration of people, as well as the strategic objectives that are indispensable for the normal functioning of citizens' activities."

The activation currently in force was established (by the State Secretariat for Security Instruction 5/2012, of 10 July) at Level 2, Low Intensity.

Criminal Law

Criminal Code Reform. Organic Law 5/2010 of 22 June

The Spanish Criminal Code (Organic Law 10/1995, of 23 November) was largely reformed by **Organic Law 5/2010, of 22 June** (which entered into force on 23 December 2010). This reform affected, among other issues, terrorist offences, and incorporated into Spanish legislation the obligations deriving from

Council Framework Decision 2008/919/JHA of 28 November 2008 amending Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA on combating terrorism. The same assumptions underpinning these criminal law regulations on terrorist offences also inspired regulation prior to the reform.

The reforms introduced are of a technical nature, and aim to reorganize and clarify the criminal law treatment of terrorist acts, as a result of the Criminal Code's regulation of the criminal responsibility of legal persons, the new regulations on criminal organizations and groups, and the incorporation of the obligations deriving from the aforementioned international instruments.

The reform affects the following aspects:

Terrorist organizations and groups

After the reform, under the heading "On terrorist organizations and groups and on terrorist offences" (Arts. 571 to 580), the regulation is as follows:

- Firstly, the action of persons who promote, constitute, organize or head a terrorist organization or group is considered a criminal offence, as well as that of persons who actively participate in the terrorist organization or group. A terrorist organization or group is understood as a criminal organization or group whose purpose is to subvert the constitutional order or seriously disturb the peace by committing any of the offences described below. (Art. 571).
- The Criminal Code punishes persons who, belonging to, acting at the service of, or collaborating with, terrorist organizations or groups, commit the following offences (Art. 572):
 - ravages or fires, described in Arts. 346 and 351 respectively,
 - attacks against persons resulting in death, those injuries described in Arts. 149 and 150, kidnapping, or any other kind of injury, unlawful detention, threats or coercion against persons. The punishment shall be aggravated if the aforesaid offences are committed against authorities, members of the Armed Forces or of State Security or Police Forces.
- Also considered criminal offences are the deposit of arms or munitions; the possession or deposit of explosive, flammable, incendiary or asphyxiating substances or devices (or of their components); their manufacture, transport or supply; and the very act of placing or using those substances or the appropriate means or devices, as long as such acts are committed by persons who belong to, act at the service of, or collaborate with, terrorist organizations or groups (Art. 573).

- The Criminal Code punishes the behaviour of persons who, belonging to, acting at the service of, or collaborating with, terrorist organizations or groups, commit any other offence in order to subvert the constitutional order or seriously disturb the peace (Art. 574).
- Also punished are attacks against property, when they are committed in order to provide funds for armed gangs or terrorist organizations or groups, or in order to further their ends (Art. 575).

Collaboration with a terrorist organization or group

- The Criminal Code punishes any act of collaboration with the activities or purposes of a terrorist organization or group, whether this involves carrying out, procuring or facilitating said act. The following shall be understood as acts of collaboration (Art. 576):
 - o Information on and surveillance of persons, goods or installations;
 - o Construction, refurbishment, cession or use of accommodations or storage facilities;
 - o Concealment or transport of persons linked to terrorist organizations or groups;
 - o Organization of training practices or attending them and,
 - o In general, any other equivalent form of cooperation, assistance or mediation, economic or otherwise, involving the activities of terrorist organizations and groups.
 - o The same punishment shall be imposed upon persons carrying out any recruitment, indoctrination, training or teaching activity, aimed at incorporating others into a terrorist organization or group, or at perpetrating any terrorist offence.

Funding of terrorism

- The Code criminalizes the provision and collection of funds, directly or indirectly, intended to be used, or knowing that they shall be used, fully or partially, to commit any terrorist offence or to be delivered to a terrorist organization or group (Art. 576 bis 1).
- Persons who, being specifically obliged by law to collaborate with the authorities in the prevention of terrorism financing activities, and who, due to serious negligence in the fulfilment of such obligations, prevent any of the aforesaid financing activities from being detected or averted, shall be likewise punished (Art. 576 bis 2).

Perpetrators of a crime

- Penalties are established for **legal persons** responsible for funding the offences set forth in the aforementioned sections (Art. 576.3).

- Penalties are also established for those persons who, while not belonging to an armed gang, terrorist organization or terrorist group, but in order to subvert the constitutional order or seriously disturb the peace, or to contribute to those ends by terrorizing the inhabitants of a town or the members of a social, political or professional group, commit murders, injuries, illegal detentions, kidnappings, threats or coercion against persons; or carry out any offences of arson, havoc, damage, possession, manufacturing, storage, trafficking, transport or supply of arms, munitions or explosive, flammable, incendiary or asphyxiating substances or devices, or of the components thereof (Art. 577).

Types of offences

- The Code criminalizes extolling or justifying, by whatever means of public expression or dissemination, terrorist offences and the persons who have participated in the commission thereof, as well as perpetrating acts that involve discredit of, contempt for or humiliation of the victims or their families.
- Provocation, conspiracy and solicitation to commit terrorist offences, as well as the public distribution or dissemination of messages or slogans aimed at provoking, encouraging or favouring the commission of said offences, generating or increasing the risk of their actually being committed, are likewise criminalized (579.1).

Sentences and parole

- Perpetrators of terrorist offences shall be handed down, in addition to the corresponding penalties, the penalty of disqualification from holding any public office for a period of time exceeding that of the term of the custodial sentence (Art. 579.2).
- Persons sentenced to prison for one or more terrorist offences shall also be imposed the measure of 5 to 10 years of parole (if the penalty is serious--more than 5 years) or 1 to 5 years of parole (if the penalty is less serious) (Art. 579.3).
- For terrorist offences, a penalty lower by one or two degrees may be imposed when the perpetrators have voluntarily renounced their criminal activities and have appeared before the authorities to confess the acts in which they have participated, and, moreover, have collaborated actively in crime prevention, in obtaining decisive evidence to identify or arrest other perpetrators, or in cooperating towards the interruption of the actions or activity of the terrorist organizations or groups to which they have belonged, or with which they have collaborated (Art. 579.4).
- The Code establishes the non-applicability of statutory limitations to terrorist offences that have caused the death of a person. It is understood that in such cases, there is no reason for statutory

limitations, i.e. lack of timeliness in the handing down of the sentence given the passage of time.

International recidivism

Finally, the rule of "international recidivism" is established, equating a sentence handed down by a foreign judge or court to that handed down by a Spanish judge or court for the purposes of applying the aggravating circumstance of recidivism, provided that the offences are connected with the activity of armed gangs, or terrorist organizations or groups.

Procedural Law

Spain does not have a specific criminal law procedure for terrorist offences. Trials of alleged perpetrators of terrorist offences are conducted under the general criminal law procedure contained in the Criminal Prosecution Act (LECr) and in Organic Law 6/1985, of 1 July, on the Judiciary.

However, the Spanish legal system contains material provisions that can be applied in the event of persecution and prosecution of terrorist offences.

The 1978 Spanish Constitution, in Title I, Chapter V, Art. 55, envisages the possibility of establishing, by means of an Organic Law, the circumstances under which, in specific individual cases under a court order and with proper parliamentary control, the following rights may be suspended in cases related to the prosecution of the activity of armed gangs or terrorist elements:

- a) A person's right to not be kept in **pre-trial custody** longer than what is strictly necessary for the course of the investigation to clarify the facts, after which this person must be freed or appear before a judicial authority, within a maximum of 72 hours.
- b) The right to **inviolability of the home**, pursuant to which, entry into or search of a person's home must be effected with the person's consent or under a court order issued by a judge.
- c) The right to privacy of communications, especially postal, telegraphic and telephone communications.

For the implementation of these Constitutional provisions, the Spanish legal system sets forth the following measures:

a) Pre-trial custody

In cases of persons who have been arrested under the accusation of having committed offences, and who are accused of being involved in or members of armed gangs or terrorist organizations, the **maximum period** for arrest (72 hours) may be

extended expressly by court order for an additional period of 48 hours. Also envisaged is the possibility of a judge ordering the arrested person to be held **incommunicado** for a period that may only be extended for the period strictly necessary to conduct the investigation aimed at clarifying the facts, within the aforesaid maximum period of 5 days. Being held incommunicado entails the following:

- The arrested person is entitled to free legal assistance, instead of appointing a lawyer him/herself.
- The interview with the lawyer shall end after the statement has been made, or after the person's identity has been determined.
- The arrested person is entitled to be examined by a court-appointed forensic physician.
- Communication between the arrested person and their closest family member, or a person of equal status, is delayed.
- Oral communication is not allowed.
- All written communications are intercepted by a judge.

b) Home entry and search

The Criminal Prosecution Act sets forth that in order for a home to be entered and searched there must be signs that the person accused of, the effects of, or the instrumental means for committing, the offence, or any other object relevant to the process or in the investigation, are located within said home. Moreover, one of the following conditions must be met: owner's consent, a court order expressly indicating the reason thereto, or an offence being committed in flagrante delicto.

In addition, Art. 533 of the LECr sets forth that home entry may be effected provided that one of the following conditions are met: 1) issuance of an arrest warrant against the owner; 2) in the event that a wanted criminal is hiding or seeking refuge in that home; 3) in the event of exceptional or urgent need, when the persons involved are suspected of having committed an offence related to an armed gang or terrorist group. In these cases, which should be interpreted restrictively, the judge having jurisdiction must report immediately, indicating the reasons for the search and the results obtained.

c) Interception of communications

In general, the right to privacy of communications may only be restricted by a court order, and the judge directing the case has the authority to determine the measures required for intercepting said communications. However, Art. 579.4 of the LECr establishes that, exceptionally and in an emergency, the Minister of the Interior or, should the Minister be unavailable, the Secretary of State for Security, may order the interception of

communications in the course of a judicial investigation, as long as said investigation involves offences by an armed group or by terrorist groups. In this case, notification in writing must be immediately given to the judge having jurisdiction, who must respond to this notification within 72 hours.

Deprivation of liberty

Organic Law 7/2003 of 30 June 2003, on reform measures for the full and effective serving of sentences, amended the Criminal Code, the Organic Law on the Judiciary, the General Organic Law on Prisons, and the Criminal Prosecution Act, incorporating a series of reforms regarding the enforcement of sentences related to terrorism, organized crime, and other serious offences. Specifically:

- In the case of some especially serious offences (including terrorism), day release from prison shall be refused, unless the prisoner has served half of the sentence.
- The maximum length for serving a sentence shall be extended to 40 years in cases in which two or more terrorist offences have been committed, and a prison sentence for a period of more than 20 years has been handed down for one of them. The same shall be applicable in cases in which two or more offences considered especially serious have been committed.
- In the case of especially serious offences (including terrorism), prison benefits, parole, day release, and the time calculation for granting parole, shall also be applied taking as the reference point the total number of years imposed when the sentences were handed down.
- Circumstances to be taken into consideration when release is granted in cases of offences related to terrorism and organized crime must be specified (active collaboration, current disbanding of terrorist group, participation in victims' assistance programmes, etc.).
- Granting day release requires, in addition to the legal conditions stipulated, that the convicted person fulfil the civil liabilities and duties arising from the offence, and which must provide unequivocal evidence of having renounced any terrorist activity, whilst actively collaborating with the authorities in combating terrorism.

Precautionary suspension of holding public office

Pursuant to Art. 384 bis of the LECr, as soon as the accusation becomes enforceable, and the person accused of committing an offence related to armed groups or terrorist organizations is remanded in custody, the precautionary suspension of holding

any public office or offices which the individual may hold must be decreed. This suspension shall remain in force as long as the person is detained.

Other relevant legislation

Protection and assistance for victims of terrorism

Act 29/2011 of 22 September, on Comprehensive Recognition and Protection of Victims of Terrorism, has been amended by Act 2/2012 of 29 June. This amendment specifies aspects regarding threatened individuals and attacks committed against Spaniards in Third States.

As the Act itself states, this new measure aims to provide recognition, indicating that "with the present Act, Spanish society (...) pays homage to victims of terrorism and expresses its unwavering commitment to all those persons who have suffered it or who may suffer it in the future, in any form. This Act is, therefore, a sign of recognition and respect, but also of due solidarity. The comprehensive support that it aims to provide represents the shared efforts towards reparation that the victims and their families deserve, inspired by the principles of memory, dignity, justice and truth."

In this regard, the new Act sets forth a comprehensive package of measures to guarantee recognition of the harm suffered by victims of terrorism in attacks which may occur (or which have occurred) inside or outside of Spain, without taking into account anything other than the "terrorist" nature of the attack. Provisions regarding compensation are improved, facilitating victims' geographic mobility, their healthcare and family assistance (noteworthy among which are those involving education).

This Act protects the identity and honour of the victims from possible attacks against their dignity. Moreover, specific measures supplement assistance to victims during the criminal law proceedings, as well as at the time following the attack. Special attention is paid to groups that promote and protect the rights of groups affected, and a training programme is envisaged so that public services may provide specific and more specialized assistance to victims of terrorism.

In short, and according to the Act's Preamble: "Indeed, memory, dignity, justice and truth are the driving ideas underpinning the provisions of the present Act, which ultimately seeks comprehensive reparation for victims. In accordance with these four basic principles, the State reaffirms its commitment to seek the definitive and unconditional defeat,

without any concessions, of terrorism in all its forms.”

Funding Terrorism

Spain still believes that prevention of money laundering is one of the most important aspects of the fight against terrorist financing.

In 2010, Act 10/2010, of 28 April, on the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing, was approved, which regulated the functioning and coordination of the two Commissions involved: the Commission on Surveillance of Terrorist Financing, presided by the Secretary of State for Security of the Ministry of the Interior; and the Commission on Preventing Money Laundering, presided by the Secretary of State for the Economy.

In January 2013 the Committee on Surveillance of Terrorist Financing held its first meeting after Act 10/2010 entered into force.

In addition, legislation remains in force that was already passed by Spain regarding the prevention and freezing of terrorist financing, including Act 12/2003 of 21 May, which establishes the possibility of freezing any kind of financial flow or account which may be used to finance terrorist acts, and which also makes it possible to investigate operations with particular ties to terrorist financing. All of these are preventive measures, without the power to sanction.

These freezing and investigation activities are carried out under the authority of a specialized qualified body: the Commission on Surveillance of Terrorist Financing.

Moreover, Spain is party to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, signed in New York on 9 December 1999.

Legal Obligations of Telecommunications Providers and Operators.

Art. 2 of Act 34/2002 of 11 July on IT Services and e-Business Society establishes the obligation on the part of internet providers and telecommunications operators to store, for a period of 12 months, information traffic regarding electronic communications.

Design Basis Threat

The Ministry of the Interior, together with the Nuclear Security Council of Spain (CSN), began, in October 2010, a programme to define, update and maintain the Design Basis Threat (DBT). There is currently a very advanced draft describing the

intentions, motives and capacities of adversaries who could try to commit an attack against or sabotage nuclear power plants on Spanish territory.

Cybersecurity

The National Centre for Protecting Critical Infrastructure, under the aegis of the Ministry of the Interior, is designing the National Cybersecurity Strategy, whose first draft is pending publication.

On 4 October of 2012, an agreement was signed between the Ministry of the Interior (signed by the Secretary of State for Security) and the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism (signed by the Secretary of State for Telecommunications) on cybersecurity, including aspects regarding cybercrime, cyberterrorism, and the protection of critical infrastructure.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

National Authorities

Royal Decree 1887/2011, of 30 December, which establishes the basic framework of the Ministries, and Royal Decree 400/2012, of 17 February, which develops the basic organizational structure of the Ministry of the Interior, have effectuated the following changes:

- Separate Directorates-General for the Police and for the Civil Guard are created, eliminating the Directorate-General for the Police and the Civil Guard, with the aim of providing the National Police and the Civil Guard with their own command structures, without prejudice to the tasks of coordination carried out by the Secretary of State for Security and the Minister of the Interior's higher command authority.
- The **National Counter-Terrorism Coordination Centre** (CNCA), created by an Agreement of the Council of Ministers of 28 May 2004, was moved under the aegis of the Secretary of State for Security.
- The **Executive Committee for Operative Coordination** (CECO) was created as the State Secretariat for Security's strategic body for executive coordination, replacing the Executive Committee for the Unified Command of the State Security Forces (CEMU).

Pursuant to Royal Decree 400/2012, tasks involving information and/or intelligence and counter-terrorism, whether of the National Police or the Civil Guard, fall under their respective Information Services:

- The **Commissariat-General of Information** (National Police) is responsible for collecting, receiving, processing and developing information of interest for maintaining order and public security within the scope of its Directorate-General, as well as its operational implementation or use, especially regarding counter-terrorism.
- The **Information Command** (Civil Guard) is responsible for organizing, directing and managing the collection, reception, treatment, analysis and distribution of information of interest to maintaining order and public security within the scope of its Directorate-General, as well as the operational use of information, especially regarding counter-terrorism.
- These intelligence and/or information services are, therefore, management bodies under the aegis of the State Security Forces, legally designated to combat terrorism, whether through prevention or repression. All of this without prejudice to the functions assumed, within this same area, by the **National Intelligence Centre** (CNI), under the aegis of the Ministry of the Presidency.

Coordination among Security Forces

Regarding the State Security Forces, their coordination is the responsibility of the CECO.

The **CNCA**, for its part, has the mission of harmonizing and avoiding overlapping or parallel actions between the counter-terrorist operations carried out by the National Police and the Civil Guard. Moreover, it should be the body in charge of proposing to the Minister of the Interior, through the Secretary of State for Security, a comprehensive strategy to combat terrorist threats against Spain and its interests. Likewise, the CNCA is required to regularly update it, as well as to coordinate and supervise its development and implementation within the framework of the guidelines established by the Spanish Security Strategy.

The CNCA has intensified its coordination and collaboration with the regional police forces of Catalonia and the Basque Country by signing Cooperation Protocols with each regarding the exchange of relevant information, analysis and assessment of terrorist threats, on 26 September 2006 with Catalonia, and on 28 December 2009 with the Basque Country.

The promotion, coordination and collaboration between State Security Forces and regional Police

Forces is regulated by Organic Law 2/1986 on State Security Forces:

- Security Policy Council: Presided over by the Minister of the Interior and comprising the Councillors of the Interior from Spain's Autonomous Communities and senior officials from the Ministry of the Interior, the Council guarantees coordination among the public security policies of the national and regional administrations.
- In each Autonomous Community having its own Police Force, there is a Security Commission with the mandate of coordinating the actions of the State Security Forces and of the Autonomous Community's Police Force. The Security Commission, moreover, has the authority to resolve incidents which may occur involving collaboration between the members of the State Security Forces and the Autonomous Community's Police Forces.

In June 2011, and with the aim of making the threat levels established in the Counter-Terrorism Prevention and Protection Plan have the effect of implementing the corresponding measures in the Autonomous Communities whose Police have comprehensive authority, Collaboration Protocols for the implementation of the Plan were signed by the Minister of the Interior and the Councillors of the Interior from the Autonomous Communities of Catalonia, the Basque Country and Navarre.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Spain gives an especially high profile to international cooperation as a means to combat crime, and consequently, terrorism. Therefore, Spain has for years been developing an international cooperation policy including bilateral and multilateral instruments.

Bilateral Instruments

Since 2006, Spain has continued to establish bilateral collaboration agreements with third States to combat organized crime. Terrorism is considered one of the most serious aspects of organized crime, which is why most of these agreements include clauses specifically related to terrorism. At present, this bilateral cooperation extends to more than 20 countries, among them: Albania, Algeria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, France (2), Israel, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Russia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Turkey, United States of America, and Ukraine.

Other agreements are more specific, such as those signed with the United States (on scientific and technological cooperation of interest to national security), with France (concerning counter-terrorism cooperation) and with Morocco (on cross-border police cooperation).

At present, the Ministry of the Interior is physically accredited with Counsellors and Attachés in 56 countries, and their accreditation extends to another 46 countries.

The information services of the State Security Forces, as well as the CNCA, have strengthened and maintained bilateral cooperation with their counterpart services.

Multilateral Instruments

Spain has been extremely active in all the international forums of which it is a member (European Union, Council of Europe, United Nations, OSCE, etc.), backed by its wide-ranging experience in this field, in order to contribute to enhancing cooperation in the fight against the terrorism on the international level.

European Union

Within the framework of the European Union, Spain participates actively in all the groups, forums and institutions which deal with aspects relating to counter-terrorism, presenting initiatives, making contributions and implementing them once the mechanisms and instruments agreed by the 27 Member States have been approved. In this regard, there are noteworthy instruments, such as the Council Framework Decision on combating terrorism,

the Council Framework Decision on European arrest warrants and the surrender procedure between Member States, and the Council Framework Decision on joint investigation teams, all adopted in 2002.

Council of Europe

Within the framework of the Council of Europe, Spain has ratified the following Conventions:

- European Convention on Extradition and its First and Second Protocols;
- European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism;
- European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and the First Additional Protocol;
- European Convention on the Transfer of Proceedings in Criminal Matters;
- European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes;
- Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime;
- Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism;
- Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism.

United Nations

Spain has ratified all of the international conventions combating terrorism, and has signed the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation. Moreover, Spain participates actively in the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee. In particular, Spain has played an important role in negotiating the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.