



European Union

Valletta, 21 December 2015

Excellency,

The International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ) is pleased to invite two members from the Parliament of Denmark to participate and contribute to the Symposium on “*Enhancing the Role of Parliamentarians in Building Effective Counter-Terrorism Systems within a Rule of Law Framework*” to be held at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium, on 1-2 March 2016.

The IIJ is based in Malta with an international governing board of administrators representing its 13 members (Algeria, France, Italy, Jordan, Malta, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union). The IIJ's mission is to provide training to lawmakers, law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and other justice sector stakeholders on how to address terrorism and related transnational criminal activities within a rule of law framework.

The Symposium is part of a project implemented by the IIJ and funded by the European Commission in recognition of the critical role parliamentarians play in developing and overseeing counter terrorism policy in line with international good practices. The overall objective of the program is to enhance parliamentarians in the Middle East and North, West, and East Africa to respond to terrorism within the overarching objective of criminal justice reform in line with the rule of law and human rights.

Since the inaugural event held at the IIJ in Valletta in May 2015, and the following regional workshop hosted by the House of Representatives of Morocco in October 2015, parliamentarians' experience and advice on counter terrorism are forming a set of good practices. This draft document will be further refined during the upcoming Symposium at the European Parliament.

Findings that will emerge during the Symposium will also be reflected in the ongoing analytical study of the priorities, challenges and recommendations in developing terrorism legislation, policy, and oversight. This will lead to a dedicated training module to better support the work of parliaments in the field of counter terrorism as well as a Good Practices memorandum that will be submitted to the Global Counter Terrorism Forum (GCTF) Ministerial in September 2016.

A further objective of the Symposium is the consolidation of the non-political forum created under the present project. This aims at strengthening cooperation among national parliamentarians working on the development and oversight of counterterrorism policy.

With a view to engage in a constructive debate, as well as to facilitate future activities, the ideal delegation to the Symposium would consist of two members from Danish Parliament who are committed in justice and security matters.

Interpretation will be available in English, French and Arabic.

We would appreciate if you could confirm the participation of two representatives from the Parliament of Denmark by filling and sending the registration form here enclosed no later than 9 February 2016 to the attention of Mr. Valerio de Divitiis, IJJ Program Manager (dedivitiisv@theijj.org, phone: +356 2122 6142).

We look forward to continued co-operation with the Parliament of Denmark and please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Robert Strang



IJJ Executive Secretary