

Terrorism Prevention Centre of Excellence

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Protection of public space is a special challenge for EU member states

Another meeting of the Public Space Protection Operators Forum.

On Tuesday, June 6, 2023, a representative of the CPT ABW took part in the EU Forum for the Protection of Public Space. This body focuses on the protection of public space from terrorist threats. Participants in the regular meetings include representatives of EU member states, associations involved in the operation of public spaces (e.g., public transportation, shopping centres, mass events, etc.) and private security actors.

The Forum is a cornerstone of *the Action Plan for Promoting the Protection of Public Spaces*, a 2017 European Commission document that supports and encourages member states to enhance cooperation, coordination and exchange of best practices. The main goal of the Forum is to understand security challenges, support awareness-raising programs and public-private

partnerships to protect sensitive sites from terrorist attacks and contribute to ensuring the safety of European city residents.

The result of this inter-institutional collaboration is the publication *Security by design*, which helps plan, design, manage and secure the sensitive targets that are urban spaces. The protection of public space is a complex challenge for both local and regional governments, which are trying to incorporate a security component in the design of public spaces.

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