

## GENERAL LIST OF EXPERTS

The EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism (hereafter: the EUCVT) is developing a General List of Experts on victims of terrorism in the European Union. Together with the List of Psychotrauma Experts, the General List will be crucial for the sharing of expertise between Member States. The list will also be used to share expertise developed between the experts and the EUCVT.

### 1. Expertise on the General List

The General List will consist of experts from three different groups:

1. First responders (in addition to the police, fire brigade and ambulance services) that will provide help to victims of a terrorist attack<sup>1</sup> in the emergency phase.
2. Victim Support Organisations that can help victims of a terrorist attack with emotional (psychosocial) and practical support in the medium/long term after a terrorist attack.
3. Experts that can support and assist victims of terrorism in legal/administrative procedures in the medium/long term after a terrorist attack.

#### a. First responders

After a terrorist attack, police, fire brigade and ambulance services will be the first to arrive on the scene of the attack. Victims who are severely wounded will be brought to a hospital as soon as possible. Victims with minor injuries will be treated on the spot. In many cases they are brought to a safe place, together with those who weren't physically wounded, but were on the scene and witnessed the attack.

Their stay in the safe place (which could e.g. be a police station, a school, a government building) may be used to register them as victims and/or to have a first interrogation by the police. The stay will (should) also be used to put them at ease.

This type of assistance (often called 'psychosocial support') in these safe places could be delivered by e.g. a victim support organisation, social workers or the Red Cross.

#### b. Victim Support Organisations

The organisations that provide assistance in the emergency phase (the 'first responders') aren't necessarily the same organisations that will provide support in the medium and long term.

In accordance with the 2012 and 2017 directives, Member States have to ensure that support services addressing the specific needs of victims of terrorism are in place and that they are available for victims of terrorism immediately after a terrorist attack and for as long as necessary.

Such services could be delivered by general victim support services and/or existing entities providing specialist support.

#### c. Legal/administrative support

Victims of a terrorist attack may be confronted with different types of legal/administrative procedures:

- Civil justice procedures aimed at getting financial compensation from responsible parties;
- Criminal justice procedures against the suspects of the terrorist attack;
- Administrative procedures to apply for financial compensation from state funds.

Such services can be delivered by e.g. lawyers specialised in civil (liability) law, criminal law, victims' law, victim support organizations, compensation funds.

Psychological support after a terrorist attack is crucial. Experts in this field will be included in the List of psychotrauma experts the EUCVT is developing too.

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<sup>1</sup> The words 'victims of terrorism' refer to direct victims of a terrorist attack, or to the families of victims who were killed in a terrorist attack.

## 2. The General List of Experts

The EUCVT is developing a general list of experts in these domains. It should include at least 3 experts per Member State. The inclusion of experts on the lists is on a voluntary basis. The experts will not receive remuneration for their inclusion. The lists of experts will be made available to VSE and will be available through the EUCVT. The list will not be available on the website of the EUCVT. Once the list is established, the EUCVT will provide for a mailing list for the experts on the lists and will include them in the online forum of the EUCVT that is currently developed. Experts might be invited to speak on training sessions of the EUCVT or to participate in conferences of the EUCVT. The EUCVT will make sure that the exchange of information is in accordance with the GDPR.

## 3. Qualifications of the experts on the list

The EUCVT is looking for experts in your Member State among:

- a. First responders providing psychosocial support in the emergency phase after a terrorist attack;
- b. General victim support organisations and/or specialised support organisations providing psychosocial, psychological or practical support in the medium/long term after a terrorist attack
- c. Organisations or individuals providing legal, paralegal or administrative support to victims of terrorism in civil, criminal or compensation procedures after an attack.

Experts could be organizations of professionals or NGOs working in the field. The organization should:

- Have at least 5 years of work experience in supporting victims (preferably have any experience with supporting victims of terrorism) or
- Have at least 3 years of work experience in supporting victims of terrorism

We invite you to provide us with the email address of a representative of this organization who:

- Has a sufficient level of English to communicate with experts in other Member States

Experts could also be individuals working in the field. The expert should:

- Have completed successfully a formal education in his/her domain
- Have at least 5 years of work experience in supporting victims (preferably have any experience with supporting victims of terrorism)
- Have at least 3 years of work experience in supporting victims of terrorism
- Have a sufficient level of English to communicate with experts in other Member States
- Preferably be a member of an organisation (national or international) of experts in their field
- Preferably have experience in supporting the development of (government) policies

If a Member State lacks experts and organisations that meet all the above criteria, exceptions can be made on a case by case basis.

***You are kindly asked to assist us in setting up the General List of Experts.***

Please propose experts and/or expert organization in your Member State by noticing the name, position, and contact details to [eucvt@victimsupporteurope.eu](mailto:eucvt@victimsupporteurope.eu).

After setting up the initial list, the EUCVT will ask the expert/representative to provide more detailed information on skills and qualifications, work experience nature of the work, language knowledge and ability to participate in international events/meetings/training sessions held in English.

In case you have any question regarding the above, please contact the EUCVT directly at:  
[eucvt@victimsupporteurope.eu](mailto:eucvt@victimsupporteurope.eu).