



Press Release

- Saudi Arabia continues to fight terrorism and the extremism at its source.
- Saudi Arabia condemns terrorism in all its forms, its supporters and those who justify it.
- The Kingdom has a track record on countering radicalisation, extremism and terrorism.
- Saudi Arabia continues to clamp down on the funding of terrorism and its misguided ideology.
- Saudi Arabia will continue to work closely with its international partners to eradicate extremism.

BRUSSELS.10.02.2017 There is a deeply embedded misconception about Saudi Arabia that does not reflect the reality on the ground. Saudi Arabia does not fund or support any radical institution in Belgium or any other country. The Kingdom is a pioneer in addressing the problem of radicalisation and terrorism at its root; a fact that all too often goes unacknowledged. Saudi Arabia has consistently made its position clear: the Kingdom condemns terrorism in all its forms.

These are not empty words. Saudi Arabia has too often fallen victim to the same kind of attacks that have afflicted Europe in recent years, attacks that seek to destabilize our countries and terrorize our citizens. In response, the Saudi leadership has long been at the frontline of fighting terrorism, and has taken a series of concrete actions to counter this very real threat. This fight takes place on numerous different fronts, both within its borders and beyond: from its leading role within the international coalition to combat terrorist groups to the rigorous implementation of stringent financial controls advocated by the *Financial Action Task Force* (FATF) on money laundering and terrorist financing; from cracking down on fundraising at mosques and public places to outlawing international money transfers from Saudi charities to ensure funds cannot enter the hands of extremists.

On the international stage, Saudi Arabia works together with its partners, including the Belgian and European authorities, to combat terrorism, its funding and the extremist ideologies at its source. The Kingdom actively seeks to encourage dialogue between followers of different religions and cultures in order to promote harmony between them. By way of example, the *KAICIID Centre for Dialogue* in Vienna is an intergovernmental centre of exchange which was set up by Saudi Arabia to promote justice, peace and reconciliation, and counteract the misuse of religion to justify violence. Furthermore, the centre played a pivotal role in founding the *United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre* with a contribution of