

**Global Conference**  
**Inclusive Democratic Participation to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism**  
24-25 November 2021 | online Zoom Webinars

**Program**

**Day 1 - Wednesday, November 24, 2021 (3 p.m. – 5:40 p.m. Rabat time )**

---

**Chair of the Opening Session** – Thomas E. Garrett, CoD Secretary General

3:00 – 3:50 p.m.      **Opening session**, remarks by:

- Foreign Minister of Morocco, H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita
- Foreign Minister of Romania, H.E. Mr. Bogdan Aurescu
- CoD Secretary General, Mr. Thomas E. Garrett
- President of the National Human Rights Council, Ms. Amina Bouayach
- Secretary General of the Rabita Mohammadia of Ulemas, Mr. Ahmed Abaddi

**Moderator (following the Opening Session)** – Mr. Iulian Fota, Director General of the Romanian Diplomatic Institute and Associate Professor at the National Intelligence Academy

3:50 – 4:10 p.m.      **Keynote – Ms. Clare Hutchinson**, former NATO Secretary General’s Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security

4:10 – 4:25 p.m.      **Presentation of results of training sessions with youth** on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (training took place in Rabat, 15-16 July 2021) - by Youssef El Mezzaoui and Salma El Mattichi.

4:25 – 5:25 p.m.      **Panel I: Radicalization risks of social media** - The panel will draw attention to the digital revolution, that has brought both advantages and threats to our modern world, such as the weaponization of social media by malign forces seeking to radicalize tech-savvy youth. Extremist organizations have developed particularly convincing tactics that appeal to frustrated youth, fueling grievances, promoting extremist ideologies and inciting violent actions. They often use half-truths, misinformation and conspiracy theories to interpret history and geopolitics, often seeking to de-humanize the ‘enemy’.

**Speakers:**

1. Mr. Abdessamad Ghazi - Director of the Massarat Center for Studies and Research in Communication and Forecasting

2. Mr. Rafiu Lawal, CoD YouthLead, Nigeria, the National Coordinator for Nigeria Youth 4 Peace Initiative (NYPI)
3. Ms. Alina Bârgăoanu, University professor and the Dean of the College of Communication and Public Relations, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest
4. Mr. Mounir Bensalah - Secretary-General of the National Human Rights Council

5:25 – 5:40 p.m.      **Q&A session**

## **Day 2 - November 25, 2021 (2 p.m. – 5 p.m. Rabat time)**

---

### **Chair of the Day/Moderator - TBD**

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.      **Panel II | Importance of women’s participation in preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE)** - The panel will focus on the critical role women can play in P/CVE, when they are given proper roles and tools. The gender aspect of violent extremism has been largely understood through awareness about how women and girls uniquely suffer from its impact. What is less understood is the important role that women can, and should, play in preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE).

#### **Speakers:**

1. H.E. Ms. Simona Miculescu, Ambassador of Romania to UNESCO
2. Ms. Salimatou Fatty, CoD YouthLead, The Gambia
3. Ms. Aicha Haddou - Director of the Research and Training Center on Interconvictional Questions and Peacebuilding
4. Ms. Malika Benradi - Member of the National Human Rights Council

3:00 – 3:30 p.m.      **Q&A session**

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.      **Panel III Promoting a dialogue of inclusivity and tolerance to counter extremist narratives.** The panel will discuss the challenge of exclusion and underrepresentation in public life based on religion and

ethnicity which may contribute to radicalization. Additionally, it will highlight how international human rights law recognizes the equal treatment before the law as a fundamental and inalienable right, regardless of distinction of any kind such as religion or any other status.

**Speakers:**

1. Mr. Yacine Bellarab - Member of the Rabita Mohammadia des Oulémas
2. Mr. Abdelhafid Edmino, Member of the National Council of Human Rights
3. Mr. Jędrzej Czerep, Analyst, Program Middle East and Africa, Polish Institute of International Affairs

4:30 – 5:00 p.m.      **Q&A session**

5:00 – 5:30 p.m.      **Closing Remarks**