



Solidarity, Justice and Freedom

After the terrorist attacks in Mali, Nigeria, Paris and Beirut

20th November 2015

We are shocked by the recent terrorist attacks in Mali, Nigeria, Paris and Beirut where hundreds of people were killed, seriously injured and taken hostage. The Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) condemns such barbaric acts of violence. Nothing justifies killing of innocent people. We are very concerned that this becomes a recurring reality in many countries, forcing millions of people to flee their homes and face suffering and death.

Our deep condolences go to all the victims of terror attacks worldwide. We express our solidarity with their families, friends and nations. Our thoughts are with them.

Fundamentalism, extreme nationalism and injustice are the genesis of terrorism. We must collectively combine our efforts to change and prevent the causes of terrorism wherever they occur. GCAP supports universal efforts to counter violence and extremism based on human rights and the rule of law.

The bombing of civilians, international interventions for regime change and arms sales to conflicting parties escalate conflicts. They, generate hatred, and breed terrorism. The most affected are people in vulnerable situations - women, children, youth, elderly and ethnic and other minorities. It's urgent that all nations work together to end the humanitarian crises in Syria, Yemen, and elsewhere. Foreign powers must stop pursuing geopolitical or economic interests and work instead for peace and security.

We are convinced that societies based on freedom, solidarity and justice will overcome terrorism. A vibrant civil society - which is supported, not hindered, by governments and intentionally developed - is needed in every country to achieve this.

Civil society must actively hold governments and private sector accountable. The new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations are a framework which can contribute to peace and security at global and national levels. But the SDGs must be implemented timely and effectively. We know that the SDGs will not solve all conflicts, but they will prepare the ground for more peaceful societies by reducing inequalities, eradicating poverty and ending environmental degradation.

While the massive Paris marches for climate justice, planned for 29 November and 12 December to coincide with the COP21 climate negotiations, have now been banned by the French authorities, we will express our solidarity with the French people and French civil society in global demonstrations taking place at the same time. We call on civil society and people across the globe to stand together on these days for peace, humanity and the planet.

GCAP condemns terrorism and all types of violence and is committed to working for peace for all people and care of the planet.

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