



Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill

Top Lines

- The terrorism threat to the UK is considerable. It is as bad as at anytime since 9/11. We need to act to ensure that our law enforcement and intelligence agencies have the powers they need to keep us safe.
- The Bill will:
 - give the police new powers to disrupt people travelling abroad to fight for a terrorist organisation, and manage their return to the UK;
 - strengthen law enforcement agencies' ability to monitor and control the actions of those in the UK who pose a terrorist threat; and
 - enhance the Government's ability to combat the underlying ideology that feeds, supports and sanctions terrorism.
- These new powers will ensure that our law enforcement and intelligence agencies have the powers they need to stop people travelling to fight for terrorist organisations overseas, and to deal decisively with those already here who pose a risk to the public.

Background

- The collapse of Syria and the emergence of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), not only threatens the stability of the Middle East, but presents a clear danger here in the UK. On 29 August 2014, the independent Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre raised the UK national terrorist threat level from SUBSTANTIAL to SEVERE, meaning that a terrorist attack is 'highly likely'.
- Approximately 500 individuals of interest to the security services have travelled to the region from the UK since the start of the conflict. A number of these individuals have joined terrorist organisations, including ISIL, and it is estimated half of them have returned to the UK.
- This legislation has been brought forward at the earliest opportunity to respond to this increased threat. The new powers in the Bill will help to stop people travelling overseas to fight for terrorist organisations or conduct terrorist related activity, and deal with individuals already in the UK who pose a risk to the public.
- This new legislation will sit alongside the existing suite of powers that is already used extensively to combat the terrorist threat: pursuing prosecution against those suspect of terrorism-related activity, using the Royal Prerogative to remove the passports of those who want to travel abroad to engage in terrorism; barring foreign nationals from re-entering the United Kingdom, where they are suspected of terrorism-related activity and stripping British citizenship from those who have dual nationality; working with the internet industry to remove terrorist material hosted in the UK or overseas; and enacting recent emergency legislation to safeguard the retention of communications data and ensure a firm legal basis for our interception powers, both of which are crucial in the investigation of those involved in terrorist activity, in this country and overseas.

Key facts

- Since April 2010, over 750 people have been arrested for terrorism-related offences, more than 210 have been charged and over 140 have been successfully prosecuted.
- The enhanced Royal Prerogative power has been used on 29 occasions in order to disrupt the travel of people planning to engage in terrorism-related activity overseas.
- Since December last year, over 46,000 items that encouraged or glorified acts of terrorism have been removed from the internet.

Key Quotes

"...there are 2 key areas where we need to strengthen our powers to fill specific gaps in our armoury: preventing suspects from travelling; and dealing decisively with those already here who pose a risk."

David Cameron, Prime Minister, 1 September 2014

"ISIL and its western fighters now represent one of the most serious terrorist threats we face. They have shown their brutality by murdering, raping and torturing men, women and children in the territories they hold and by murdering western hostages – including British citizens – in the most savage way imaginable."

Theresa May, Home Secretary, 24 November 2014



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What is in the Bill?

Measures to disrupt travel to and from Syria and Iraq

- Providing the police with a power to seize a passport at the border temporarily, during which time they will be able to investigate the individual concerned. *(Part 1 Chapter 1)*
- Creating a Temporary Exclusion Order that can temporarily disrupt the return to the UK of a British citizen suspected of involvement in terrorist activity abroad and ensure that they return in a manner which we control. *(Part 1 Chapter 2)*
- Enhancing our border security for aviation, maritime and rail travel, with provisions relating to passenger data, authority-to-carry ('no fly') lists, and security and screening measures. These will help us to enforce our security requirements with carriers that provide transport to and from the UK. *(Part 4)*

Measures to deal with people in the UK who pose a terrorism threat

- Enhancing existing Terrorism Prevention and Investigation Measures, including stronger locational constraints on subjects and a power to require them to attend meetings as part of their ongoing management e.g. with the probation service or JobCentre Plus staff. *(Part 2)*

Measures to disrupt the activities of terrorist organisations

- Enabling the retention of additional information by communications service providers in order to attribute an Internet Protocol address to a specific individual, enhancing vital investigative capabilities. *(Part 3)*
- Explicitly prohibiting insurers from reimbursing a payment that has been made in response to a terrorist demand. *(Part 6)*

Measures to support people at risk of being drawn into radicalisation

- Creating a general duty on a range of organisations to have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism. *(Part 5 Chapter 1)*
- Putting the voluntary programme for people at risk of radicalisation on a statutory basis. *(Part 5 Chapter 2)*

What safeguards have been included?

- Use of these powers will be stringently safeguarded, including suitable legal thresholds and judicial oversight of certain measures.
- The Bill includes a power to create a Privacy and Civil Liberties Board to support the work of the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation. *(Part 7)*

Doesn't the Government always jump to legislate in an emergency?

- The Government constantly reviews the suite of available tools and resources necessary to counter terrorism and keep us safe.
- The Bill represents a considered, properly thought through set of proposals, developed in close consultation with the police and intelligence agencies.
- It will ensure that our law enforcement and intelligence agencies have the powers they need in the context of this heightened threat to our national security.

Are these proposals compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights?

- Yes. We have worked across Government and with international partners to ensure that our proposals meets the UK's international – and domestic – legal obligations.