
U.S. Designation of Terrorist Organizations

By

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[The following is a reprint of a statement by Secretary Albright on the Designation of Terrorist Organizations in Washington DC on 8 October 1997.]

Good afternoon. Today the United States is demonstrating once again its leadership and determination in the struggle against international terror.

Under a provision of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1996, I'm designating 30 groups as foreign terrorist organizations. These designations have three main consequences.

First, as of today, it is a crime to provide funds, weapons, or other types of tangible support to any of the designated organizations.

Second, members and representatives of these organizations are hereby ineligible for visas to enter the United States, and are subject to exclusion from the United States.

And third, any funds that these organizations have in our country will be blocked.

The Anti-Terrorism Act was designed to put a stop to fundraising in the United States by and on behalf of organizations that engage in or sponsor terrorist acts. President Clinton has rightly identified terrorism as one of the most important security challenges we face in the wake of the Cold War.

As the designations made today suggest, terrorism is a worldwide phenomenon. No nation is immune: certainly not the United States—where terrorists have struck from lower Manhattan to Oklahoma City.

The United States is responding to that threat with every available tool. We are seeking the help and cooperation of all our citizens, and we seek the help and cooperation of peoples from around the world. This requires a recognition that terrorism is not a self-sustaining enterprise. It needs money and supplies to succeed.

Our goal is to make the United States fully a no-support-for-terrorism zone. Our message to anyone who comes into our country intending to raise money for a terrorist organization is, you risk going to jail. And our message to anyone who is part of a terrorist organization and who wants to enter the United States is, you are not welcome here.

We are aware that some of the designations made today may be challenged in court. Due process under the law affords this opportunity. But we're also confident that the designations are fully justified, and I would note that they have the concurrence of both the Attorney General and the Secretary of Treasury.

I want to emphasize, as well, that our review of organizations under the anti-terrorism law is ongoing. Other groups may be designated at any time.

The steps we are taking today of cracking down on fundraising for terror and of banning terrorists from our shores are steps we urge other countries to take within their jurisdiction. By steadily reducing the habitat in which terrorism thrives, we can hope to make terrorists first an endangered species, and ultimately, an extinct one.

FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

Released by the Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State, October 8, 1997. [Descriptions added by DISAM from information in Department of State annual report, *Patterns of Global Terrorism*.]

- **Abu Nidal Organization (ANO)** [Splinter group from the Palestine Liberation Organization, best known for its attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports and its hijacking of Pan Am flight 73 in Karachi, Pakistan.]
- **Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG)** [Islamic extremist group that operates in the southern Philippines. Raided the town of Ipil in April 1995.]
- **Armed Islamic Group (GIA)** [The most extreme Islamist group from Algeria. In addition to raids and assassinations in Algeria, the group has also been responsible for a series of deadly bombings in France.]
 - **Aum Shinrikyo (Aum)** [Japanese cult noted for its sarin attack on the Tokyo subway.]
 - **Euzkadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA)** [Basque separatist group active in Spain.]
- **Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine-Hawatmeh Faction (DFLP)** [Marxist group that split from the PFLP, DFLP continues to oppose Israeli-PLO peace talks.]
- **HAMAS (Islamic Resistance Movement)** [Seeks to establish a Palestinian state in place of Israel. Have conducted numerous bomb attacks in Israel in an attempt to derail the Israeli-PLO peace process.]
- **Harakat ul-Ansar (HUA)** [Islamist militant group that seeks to unify Kashmir with Pakistan.]
- **Hizballah (Party of God)** [Radical Shia group responsible for the bombing of the embassy and U.S. Marine barracks in Lebanon.]
- **Gama'a al-Islamiyya (Islamic Group, IG)** [Egyptian Islamic extremist group committed to establishing an Islamic state in Egypt. Responsible for the recent attack on Luxor Palace. Spiritual leader Shaykh Umar Abd al-Rahman is jailed in the U.S. for connection with the World Trade Center bombing.]
- **Japanese Red Army (JRA)** [Marxist revolutionary group seeking to overthrow the Japanese monarchy. Now located in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, they have conducted activities in the U.S., Europe, and throughout Asia.]
- **al-Jihad** [Islamic extremist group seeking to establish an Islamic state in Egypt. Responsible for the assassination of Anwar Sadat and other high ranking Egyptian officials.]
- **Kach** [Fundamentalist extremist Israeli group seeking to restore the biblical state of Israel.]
- **Kahane Chai** [Offshoot of Kach founded by the son of assassinated ultra-orthodox rabbi Meir Kahane.]
- **Khmer Rouge** [Communist insurgency committed to the overthrow of the Cambodian government. Responsible for the "killing fields" genocide of over one million Cambodians in the 1970s.]