# SAUDI ARABIA'S 2017 ANTI-TERRORISM LAW

AN ANALYSIS OF THE LAW ON COMBATING
TERRORISM AND ITS FINANCING ADOPTED BY THE
SAUDI COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON 31 OCTOBER 2017

## Contents

The law's vague definition of terrorism and criminalisation of freedom of expression	_ 1
Infringements to due process guarantees	_ 2
Punishments: Crack down on freedom of expression, and expanded application of the death penalty	_ 4
Other concerning provisions	_ 6
Translation of relevant articles	8

# The law's vague definition of terrorism and criminalisation of freedom of expression

#### VAGUENESS OF THE DEFINITION

First of all, the definition includes a long list of material acts and intents which can be considered as terrorist in nature. While the article does include a reference to the use of violence to inflict harm or cause death, it does not consider it as *sine qua non* element to define an act as terrorist. Article 1 criminalises non-violent acts including "disturbing public order", "obstructing the application of the Basic Law on governance or part of its provisions", as well as those which are deemed to "undermine public security" and "destabilise the state or endanger its national unity", all of which can be used to punish peaceful dissent.

Although the new law removed acts aimed at "harming the reputation and status of the State" from its definition of terrorism, Article 30 of the new law criminalises criticism of the ruling family, punishing anyone who "directly or indirectly describes the King or the Crown Prince in any way offensive to religion or justice" with five to ten years in prison.

Furthermore, Article 3 extends the personal and territorial scope of the law, thus applying to any Saudi or foreign national who is outside of the Kingdom and who commits any of the acts described in Article 1, with *inter alia* the aim of "changing the system of government in the Kingdom", "disrupting the Basic Law or some of its provisions", or committing any "prejudice to the Kingdom's interests, economy, or national security". Considering this overly broad definition of "terrorist purpose", we fear that this article might be used to request extraditions of peaceful political opponents and human rights defenders who sought refuge abroad.<sup>1</sup>

## CRIMINALISATION OF ACTS FALLING UNDER THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND OPINION

The definition of terrorism provided in the new law does not rectify the flaws of its predecessor; the Anti-Terrorism Law still lacks legal certainty and can be used to criminalise a wide spectrum of acts falling under the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly and association as well as the freedom of thought, conscience and religion enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). As such, Saudi Arabia has failed to implement the recommendations of the former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (SRCT) after his visit to Saudi Arabia in May 2017, including to "[...] bring the definition [of terrorism] into line with international human rights norms, and to refrain from using anti-terrorism and other forms of national security legislation to stifle peaceful political dissidence, criticism or non-violent protests".<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This would be particularly worrisome especially if the person is in a country with close political ties to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and where non-refoulement principle is routinely violated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> OHCHR, "UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism concludes visit to Saudi Arabia - Preliminary findings of the visit to Saudi Arabia", 4 May 2017, <a href="http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21584&LangID=E">http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21584&LangID=E</a> (accessed on 6 December 2017).

### Infringements to due process guarantees

#### PROVISIONS RELATED TO INVESTIGATION

Article 4 confers to the Presidency of the State Security<sup>3</sup> – which refers directly to the Prime Minister – the authority to conduct "search, investigation, seizure, criminal and administrative prosecution" without any independent judicial oversight.

Article 7, which details the conditions under which searches may be carried out, states that searches have to be conducted with a mandate except "in case of necessity" in which security forces can carry out searches in any location (private or professional) without any mandate. The article does not set any restriction to this exception, opening, therefore, the possibility of security forces using the argument of necessity to violate fundamental guarantees.

Article 6 compels all individuals and entities to provide information for counter-terrorism investigations upon demand of the Public Prosecutor or of the Presidency of the State Security. This provision establishes an absolute obligation to disclose information, without reference to any exception or limitation; it could therefore be enforced on lawyers, in violation of the client-attorney privilege, and on NGOs reporting human rights violations, thus exposing witnesses and sources of information to the risk of reprisals.

#### ARRESTS AND CUSTODY

Article 5 requires the Public Prosecution to issue an arrest warrant within seven days from the day of the arrest. This time frame widely exceeds accepted human rights standards which limit the period of time between arrest and indictment to 48 hours. Moreover, this article does not explicitly require that the arrest warrant enounce the charges or the reasons for taking the suspect into custody.

In the past, Alkarama has found that Saudi security forces systematically violated the obligation to inform the suspects of the reasons for their arrest, in spite of provisions of domestic law demanding the public prosecution to issue an arrest warrant within five days from the arrest.<sup>4</sup> Individuals have been routinely held in custody for prolonged periods of time and informed of the charges held against them only when presented to a judge, which may be months or even years after their arrest. We believe that this law does not provide any further guarantee in this regard.

#### INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION AND DENIAL OF THE RIGHT TO LEGAL COUNSEL

The combined reading of Articles 5 and 19 still provides for prolonged custody without charge during the investigation. Under Article 19, based on the sole assessment of the Public Prosecutor's Office, a suspect can remain in custody for up to 12 months (in renewable six-month periods) before his case is referred to a judge.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Presidency of the State Security was established by royal decree in July 2017 to coordinate all Saudi security institutions, including counterterrorism and domestic intelligence services, placing them under the direct authority of the Prime Minister and sidestepping the Ministry of Interior (see Saudi Gazette, "Saudi Arabia creates new security authority", 20 July 2017, <a href="http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/513421/SAUDI-ARABIA/King-Salman">http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/513421/SAUDI-ARABIA/King-Salman</a> (accessed on 6 December 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Article 113 of the Penal Code reads as follow: "if it appears, following the interrogation of the accused, or in the event of his flight, that there is sufficient evidence of a serious crime against him, or if the interest of the investigation requires his detention, the investigator shall issue a warrant for his detention for a period not exceeding five days from the date of his arrest".

Furthermore, Article 20 allows for suspects to be detained *incommunicado*, since the Public Prosecution has the power to "issue an order barring contact with or visit to the accused" for up to 90 days "if the investigation so warrants". This constitutes a serious violation of due process, since suspects are denied access to legal counsel. By placing individuals outside the protection of the law, *incommunicado* detention facilitates the practice of torture and ill-treatment, while prolonged *incommunicado* detention can constitute a form of torture and arbitrary detention *per se*.

In addition, Articles 19 and 20 grant the Specialised Criminal Court (SCC) the power to extend the period of custody indefinitely, even for those detained *incommunicado*. This constitutes a clear violation of the right to promptly be brought before a judicial authority and to challenge the legality of the detention.

Article 21 further provides for the Public Prosecutor to forbid lawyers from communicating with their client at any moment during the investigation, without providing any limit to this restriction.

#### VIOLATIONS OF FAIR TRIAL RIGHTS

Lastly, under the new law, the SCC remains the competent jurisdiction to try terrorist crimes both in the first and second degrees of jurisidiction. This exceptional court suffers from a clear lack of independence from the executive since its members are directly appointed by the Ministry of Interior. This court has been found to systematically disregard fair trial guarantees. In this regard, in 2016, the UN Committee against Torture found that the SCC judges "[...] repeatedly refused to act on claims made by defendants facing terrorism charges that they were subjected to torture or ill-treatment during interrogations for the purpose of compelling a confession", in violation of the state's obligations under the UNCAT.<sup>5</sup>

Another concerning provision is Article 27. Its first paragraph authorises the SCC to hear the testimonies of secret witnesses and experts without providing the defence with the opportunity to challenge the incriminating evidence, under the pretext of "ensuring the safety of witnesses". This provision violates the fundamental principle of equality of arms in criminal proceedings. Inasmuch as Article 27 (2) of the law provides that the Public Prosecution can request the filming of hearings, this articles does not address a crucial flaw of the procedure adopted before this courts which is the holding of hearing *in camera*.

We further highlight that this court, depite having been set up to have jurisdiction over cases of national security, has been increasingly used to prosecute peaceful dissidents on terrorism-related charges. This practice derives notably from the tendency of Saudi authorities to consider act of peaceful dissent and criticism as a form of terrorism.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Committee Against Torture, Concluding Observations on the second periodic review of Saudi Arabia (CAT/C/SAU/CO/2), 8 June 2016, para. 17.

# Punishments: Crack down on freedom of expression, and expanded application of the death penalty

The Anti-Terrorism Law includes a new section on "punishments" (Articles 30 to 57) which warrants harsher measures to curtail freedom of expression on media and social networks and expands the application of the death penalty.

## PUNISHMENT OF ACTS FALLING THE RIGHTS TO FREEDOM OF OPINION, EXPRESSION, PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

#### Freedom of expression

Article 34 criminalises a wide range of activities considered as "promoting terrorism", including "acquiring or obtaining - for the purpose of publication or promotion - any publication or record of any kind, including a justification or promotion of a terrorist ideology or a terrorist crime". Since these activities do not necessarily require the intent to advocate terrorism, this provision risks criminalising the simple diffusion of information on the matter. Given that the definition of terrorism can include peaceful advocacy for regime change or criticism of the king, any support given to peaceful political dissident or human rights activist tried under this law can therefore be prosecuted as an "apology of terrorism" under this provision.

In addition, Article 35 specifically mentions "misus[ing] [...] academic or social status or media influence" as an aggravating factor for activities regarded as "promoting terrorism", and punishes it with a minimum of 15 years of imprisonment. While the wording of the article is unclear, we note that this provision can be used to heavily sentence individuals prosecuted for acts of free speech such as activists, journalists or human rights defenders.

Article 43 of the law states that anyone who establishes a website to commit or promote the ideas of someone who commits a crime under this law shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twenty years and not less than five years. Article 44 extends the criminalisation of acts which may fall under the right to freedom of expression by stating that "anyone who broadcasts or publishes by any means news, statements, false or malicious propaganda, or the like, for the purpose of carrying out a terrorist offense shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years and not less than one year".

These articles might be used against anyone who advocates for political change or who criticises the king or the crown prince or shares such information.

#### Freedom of association and peaceful assembly

Article 45 criminalises in the same wording as Article 43 anyone who organises or attends meetings which aim at planning or committing any of the acts described in the law.

Moreover, Article 49 provides that any legal entity whose owners, representatives, directors or staff committed any of the crimes stipulated in the law or contributed to it shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten million riyals and not less than three million riyals if the crime is committed in the name of the legal person or on its behalf, without prejudice to the responsibility of the natural person who committed the crime (Article 49 (1)). Furthermore, the SCC may decide to "suspend the activity of the entity on a

temporary or permanent basis, or to close its branches or offices" associated with the perpetration of the crime, dissolve the organisation or liquidate its assets, or appoint a legal guardian to manage its funds and operations (Article 49(2)).

Lastly, the law places NGOs and charities under the monitoring of a regulatory organ called the "supervisory body". Article 82 gives the regulatory authority in charge of investigating acts of terrorism financing the right to request and seize any information or data from any "specific financial institutions, non-financial businesses and professions, and non-profit organisations".

#### CORPORAL PUNISHMENT AND THE DEATH PENALTY

Furthermore, we note that Articles 40 and 41 provide for the application of the death penalty on cases of hostage taking and hijacking of means of public transportation, including when it involves the "display of weapons or explosives". As such, these provisions do not meet the internationally agreed requirement that the death penalty be applied "only for the most serious crimes", meaning those crimes where it "can be shown that there was an intention to kill which resulted in the loss of life".<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Article 1(22) (our translation): "Supervisory body: The entity responsible for verifying the compliance of financial institutions, specific non-financial businesses and professions, and non-profit organizations with the requirements set forth in the Regulations and Rules or any relevant resolutions or instructions."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Philip Alston to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/4/20), 29 January 2007.

### Other concerning provisions

#### TRAVEL BANS

Article 10 further allows the Presidency of the State Security and the Public Prosecutor to impose travel bans without notifying the individuals targeted "whenever the interest of the investigation requires it", constituting a violation of due process. In the same vein, Article 53(1) imposes travel bans on individuals convicted on terrorist charges as an automatic additional penalty, prohibiting them from travelling outside the country after their release "for a period of time equal to the period of imprisonment." This provision legalises an existing practice of imposing excessively long and indiscriminate travel bans for terrorist crimes. We recall that numerous human rights defenders were sentenced to lengthy prison terms under the previous Anti-Terrorism Law, including all the members of the Saudi Civil and Political Rights Association (ACPRA). As a result, they were barred from travelling after the end of their imprisonment, thus being exposed to renewed harassment from the authorities for several years.<sup>8</sup>

#### **USE OF FORCE**

Article 15 gives police officers or military personnel authorisation to use force in the implementation of counter-terrorism strategies "according to regulations specified in the law", without any specification. This does not set clear limitations for the use of force, and is contrary to standards applicable to the use of force in law enforcement operations. It opens the door to arbitrary deprivation of life in general and does not set any guarantees to protect individuals participating in peaceful gatherings. This is all the more concerning since acts falling under the right to freedom of expression can be considered as terrorism.

#### ARBITRARY DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY IN COUNSELLING CENTRES

Furthermore, Alkarama is concerned about the establishment of counselling centres (Munasaha Centre or "مركز المناصحة") "to provide educational awareness to the detainees and convicts in the crimes set out in the law" and aimed at "[correcting] their ideas and [deepening] their national affiliation" (Article 88).

These counselling centres were set up a few years ago and, in practice, are used to deprive individuals of their liberty after the termination of their sentences, without providing for the right to challenge the legality of the detention. The centres are placed under the direct authority of the President of the State Security (Article 89) to whom medical doctors and other staff in charge of assessing the success of the "rehabilitation" of the internee report directly (Article 90).

It is important to highlight that several peaceful dissidents have been transferred to such "deradicalisation" centres after serving their sentences, since peaceful political dissent is considered as a form of extremism.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See for example the case of Essa Al Hamid. Alkarama, Saudi Arabia: Sentence of Prominent Human Rights Defender and ACPRA Member Essa Al Hamid Increased to 11 Years in Prison, 2 December 2016, <a href="https://www.alkarama.org/en/articles/saudi-arabia-sentence-prominent-human-rights-defender-and-acpra-member-essa-al-hamid">https://www.alkarama.org/en/articles/saudi-arabia-sentence-prominent-human-rights-defender-and-acpra-member-essa-al-hamid</a> (accessed on 6 December 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The official religious doctrine in Saudi Arabia considers the refusal to obey or the public criticism or the attempt to overthrow a ruler ("*Khrurooj 'an al-hakim"*) even under tyranny as a form of "religious deviance", regardless of whether or not this opposition takes a peaceful or violent form. This would be prosecuted generally under the charge of "breaking allegiance to the King". See for a definition of this concept, its Saudi origin and its exportation in post-revolution Libya: Anas Al Gomati, « Libya's Arab Spring: Revolution against a 42-Year Dictatorship », *in* Larbi Sadiki (dir.), *Routledge Handbook of the Arab Spring: Rethinking Democratization*, Routledge, 2014, p. 120.

Alkarama recently submitted the case of Mr Khaled Al Omeir <sup>10</sup> to the UN Special Procedures. Mr Al Omeir was held in administrative detention at the Mohammed bin Nayef Centre for Counselling and Care after the termination of his prison term. A member of Islah movement, Mr Al Omeir was arbitrarily detained for eight years solely for attempting to organise a peaceful demonstration against the Israeli "Operation Cast Lead" in Gaza. After the completion of his sentence, the Court refused to release him as he was considered to pose a "threat to society", warranting his transfer to the Munasaha Centre, where he remained for six months.

## REPRISALS AGAINST MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, LAWYERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

It is noteworthy that Article 38 can be used *inter alia* against physicians who provide medical care to individuals or against lawyers or human rights defenders who provide legal advice to any person who is found to be a terrorist under this law. This article, which punishes legal and medical professionals for adhering to their ethical duties, put them at risk of being sentenced to 10 to 20 years imprisonment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> For further information, see Alkarama, *Saudi Arabia: Authorities Refuse to Release Khaled Al Omeir After he Served His Full Sentence*, 18 October 2016, <a href="https://www.alkarama.org/en/articles/saudi-arabia-authorities-refuse-release-khaled-al-omeir-after-he-served-his-full-sentence">https://www.alkarama.org/en/articles/saudi-arabia-authorities-refuse-release-khaled-al-omeir-after-he-served-his-full-sentence</a> (accessed on 6 December 2017).

### Translation of relevant articles

#### Article 1(3):

Terrorist crime: any conduct committed by the offender in the implementation of a criminal project, individually or collectively, directly or indirectly, that is intended to disturb public order, undermine public security, destabilize the state or endanger its national unity, obstruct the application of the Basic Law on governance or part of its provisions, or cause damage to any State facilities or to its natural or economic resources, or attempt to compel one of its authorities to do or to refrain from doing any act or to harm or cause the death of any person when the purpose, in its nature or context, is to terrorise people or force a Government or international organization to carry out or prevent it from carrying out any action, or the incitement or threat to commit acts resulting in the aforementioned purposes.

#### **Article 3:**

Without prejudice to the principle of territoriality, this law shall apply to every individual, either Saudi or foreign national, who committed – outside the Kingdom – one of the crimes described in the law, or contributed to carry out these acts or to their planning, or incited them, or contributed to them or participated in them, whenever these acts were pursuing one of the following aims:

- 1- Changing the system of government in the Kingdom.
- 2- Disrupting the Basic Law or some of its provisions.
- 3- Inducing the state to do or to refrain from doing any act.
- 4- Attacking Saudi citizens abroad
- 5- Bringing damage to the public property of the State and its offices abroad, including embassies and other diplomatic or consular places thereof
- 6- Carrying out a terrorist act on board of means of transportation registered with the Kingdom or carrying its flag
- 7- Committing any prejudice to the Kingdom's interests, economy, or national security

#### **Article 4:**

The Presidency of State Security shall assume the functions of forensic investigation and evidence-gathering including through search, investigation, seizure, criminal and administrative prosecution, collection of evidence and leads, financial investigation and confidential operations, as well as identification, tracking, seizure and custody of suspect funds and proceeds of crime or their means in the crimes set out in the law

#### **Article 5:**

The Public Prosecution shall be competent to issue a summons to appear or an arrest warrant and bring to justice any person suspected of committing any of the crimes stipulated in the law.

And in all cases, the arrested person may not be detained for more than (7) days except by written order, in accordance with the regulations and procedures defined in this matter.

#### **Article 6:**

1. The Public Prosecution may, on its own initiative or at the request of the criminal investigation officer, request from any person, financial institutions, specific non-financial businesses and professions or non-profit organizations to provide records, documents or information, and the parties requested to do so shall implement it properly, accurately and urgently as specified in the request.

In case the request is directed to a financial institution, it shall be carried out by the monitoring body in charge of its control. The Regulations shall specify the mechanisms for implementing such requests.

2. During the preliminary investigation, the head of State Security may request any person, financial institutions, specific non-financial businesses and professions, or non-profit organizations to provide records, documents or information, and the parties requested to do so shall implement it properly, accurately and urgently as specified in the request. In case the request is directed to a financial institution, it shall be carried out by the monitoring body in charge of its control. The Regulations shall specify the mechanisms for implementing such requests.

Whoever receives the request in accordance with paragraph (1) or paragraph (2) of this article shall not disclose to any person the existence of this request or related thereto, except to a person concerned with its implementation or to another employee or member of the administration for advice or to identify the necessary steps to implement the request

#### Article 7:

- 1. The Public Prosecution shall issue a warrant to enter or search houses, offices or buildings at any time during the period specified in the warrant for the inspection and arrest of persons, and to analyse and seize funds, property, documents, evidence or information in any of the crimes stipulated in the law.
- 2. If any of the procedures set out in paragraph (1) of this article are applied to financial institutions, specific non-financial businesses and professions, and non-profit organizations, the regulatory body shall be notified.
- 3. In case of necessity, no authorisation is required to carry out any of the procedures referred to in paragraph (1) of this article, provided that a record states the reasons and causes of urgency.
- 4. The Public Prosecution shall report this procedure and the result thereof within a period not exceeding (24) hours, and the regulations shall clarify the conditions of necessity.

#### Article 10:

- 1. The head of the State Security is enabled to prevent those suspected of committing any of the crimes stipulated in the law from traveling outside the Kingdom. The prohibition order shall be presented to the Public Prosecution within 72 hours from the date of the issuance of the order or take any other measures related to his comeback, and the prohibition order may state not to inform him of the measures taken against him whenever the interest of the investigation requires it.
- 2. The public prosecutor is enabled to prevent the accused from committing any of the crimes set forth in the law from traveling outside the Kingdom. The prohibition order may state not to inform him of the measures taken against him whenever the interest of the investigation requires it.

#### Article 15:

Criminal investigation officers or military officers in charge of combating crimes set forth in the law are allowed to use the force in order to stop any of these crimes in accordance with the regulations specified by the law.

#### Article 19:

The Public Prosecution shall issue an arrest warrant for any accused of any of the crimes Stipulated in the law for a period or successive periods, none of each shall be exceeding more than thirty (30) days, the periods shouldn't be not exceeding in total of twelve (12) months. In cases where a longer period of detention is required, the matter shall be referred to the competent court to decide on the extension.

#### **Article 20:**

Without prejudice to the right of the relatives of the accused to be informed of his arrest, the Public Prosecution may issue an order barring contact with or visit to the accused for a period not exceeding ninety days if the investigation so warrants. If the investigation requires a longer period of detention, the matter shall be referred to the competent court to decide on the extension.

#### Article 21:

Without prejudice to the right of the accused to seek the assistance of a lawyer or agent for his defense, the Public Prosecution may, during the investigation, restrict this right whenever the interests of the investigation so require.

#### Article 27:

Where required, the Court may consult experts and hear witnesses separately from the accused and his lawyer, and report to the accused or his lawyer the content of the testimony or the experts' report without disclosing the identity of the source. The Court ensures the necessary protection as required by the situation of the witness or the expert and by the circumstances of the case and by the type of threats expected.

#### **Article 30:**

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding ten years and not less than five years, anyone who directly or indirectly describes the King or the Crown Prince in any way offensive to religion or justice.

#### Article 34:

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding eight years and not less than three, anyone who supports or calls for any terrorist ideology, terrorist entity, terrorist crime or offensive approach, or who expresses his sympathies, allowed its act or crime, promoted it, praised it, acquired or obtained any publication, publication or record for the purpose of publication or promotion of any kind, including a justification or promotion of a terrorist ideology or a terrorist crime or to praise it.

#### **Article 35:**

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding twenty five years nor less than eight years any person who incites another person to join any terrorist entity or participate in such activities or enlist him or contribute to the financing of the previous crimes. If anyone tried to prevent another person from leaving a terrorist entity, or misuse to this purpose the authority or responsibility he may have, or his status as academic or trainer or guide or counsellor or his social status or media influence, the penalty shall not be less than fifteen years.

#### Article 38:

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding twenty years and not less than ten years, any person who has provided a terrorist entity or any of its members or any terrorist any means of communication, or provided to any of them information or advice, or subsidy, or means of living, or housing, or shelter, or medical treatment, or transportation, or meeting place, or other facilities that enable the person or entity to achieve its purposes.

#### **Article 40:**

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty (30) years and not less than (10) years anyone who kidnaps, detains, imprisons a person or threatens to commit any of these acts in pursuance of a terrorist offense or a crime of financing terrorism. The competent court may decide to impose a death sentence if any of these acts involve the use or display of any weapons or explosives.

#### **Article 41:**

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty (30) years and not less than (10) years any person who abducts any means of public transportation or threatens to do any of these acts, in order to carry out a terrorist offense or a crime of financing terrorism. The competent court may decide to impose a death sentence if any of these acts involve the use or display of any weapons or explosives.

#### **Article 43:**

Anyone who establishes or uses a web site, a program on a computer or any electronic device, or publishes in any of them, in order to commit any of the crimes set out in the law shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twenty years and not less than five years, or anyone who uses these devices in order to facilitate contact with a leader or members of a terrorist entity, to promote his ideas, to finance him or to disseminate information on how to manufacture incendiary devices or explosives or any instrument used for a terrorist offense.

#### Article 44:

Shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years and not less than one year anyone who broadcasts or publishes by any means news, a statement, false or malicious propaganda, or the like, for the purpose of carrying out a terrorist offense.

#### Article 45:

Any person who has been taken from the territory of the Kingdom to a planning or meeting place shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years and not less than five years for the commission of a terrorist offense or a crime of financing terrorism outside the Kingdom.

#### Article 49:

Shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten million riyals and not less than three million riyals, any legal entity whose owners, representatives, directors or staff committed any of the crimes stipulated in the law or contributed to it, if the crime is committed in the name of the legal person or on its behalf, without prejudice to the responsibility of the natural person who committed the crime.

The Specialised court may decide to suspend the activity of the entity on a temporary or permanent basis, or to close its branches or offices that have been associated with the temporary or continuous perpetration of the crime, dissolve the organisation or liquidate its assets, or appoint a legal guardian to manage its funds and operations. In all cases, the sentence may include the publication of its summary at the expense of the sentenced person in a local newspaper issued at his residence, if there is no newspaper in his nearest area, or published in any other appropriate manner. The judgment is definitive.

#### Article 53:

- 1. A Saudi who is sentenced to imprisonment in any of the crimes stipulated in the law shall be prohibited from traveling outside the Kingdom after the expiration of the sentence of imprisonment for a period of time equal to the period of imprisonment.
- 2. A non-Saudi who is sentenced to imprisonment in any of the crimes provided for in the law shall be removed from the Kingdom after the execution of his sentence and shall not be allowed to return to it.

#### Article 66:

Financial institutions and specific non-financial businesses and professions should apply strict due diligence on labor relations and transactions with any person who comes from or resides in a country identified by it or by the Standing Committee on Combating Terrorism and its financing as a high-risk country.

Financial institutions, and specific non-financial businesses and professions, should implement measures to limit the high risks identified by regulatory administrations (watchdog agencies).

#### Article 73

A person accused or convicted for any of the crimes stipulated in the law may be received or extradited to another State, the extradition shall be effected pursuant to a valid agreement between the Kingdom and the requesting State or on the basis of the principle of reciprocity. If a request for extradition of a wanted person in any of these crimes is rejected, the competent courts in the Kingdom shall prosecute him and the investigations submitted by the requesting State shall be used in this regard, the regulation shall specify the mechanism of receipt and extradition.

#### Article 82:

The regulatory authorities shall carry out the following tasks:

- 1. Collect information and data from specific financial institutions, non-financial businesses and professions, and non-profit organizations, and apply appropriate supervisory procedures, including field and office inspections.
- 2. To require financial institutions, specific non-financial businesses and professions, and non-profit organizations to provide any information deemed appropriate by the regulator to perform its functions, and to obtain copies of documents and files, wherever they are stored.

#### **Article 88:**

Specialised centres shall be set up, its tasks shall be to provide educational awareness for the detainees and convicts in the crimes set out in the law, to correct their ideas and deepen their national affiliation, the working rules of the committees in these centres, the formation of and the reward of their members and those recruited to help shall be determined by a decision of the Head of State Security.

#### Article 89:

The Presidency of the State Security establishes a role called "the role of reform and rehabilitation" whose functions are to look after the detainees and sentenced in the crimes stipulated in the law, facilitate their integration into society, deepen their national affiliation and correct their misconceptions. The President of the State Security shall issue the rules governing this role and the rewards of its employees and collaborators.

#### Article 90:

The President of the State Security shall issue a list of security procedures, rights, duties, irregularities and penalties, classification of detainees and prisoners within the detention centres and prisons designated for the implementation of the provisions of the law and what is necessary to correct and improve their social and health conditions.