

*Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2021*

**Statement on the National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism**

*June 15, 2021*

Domestic terrorism—driven by hate, bigotry, and other forms of extremism—is a stain on the soul of America. It goes against everything our country strives for, and it poses a direct challenge to our national security, democracy, and unity.

To meet this serious and growing threat, on my first day in office, I directed my national security team to confront the rise in domestic terrorism with the necessary resources and resolve. Today I am releasing the first-ever National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism. It lays out a comprehensive approach to protecting our Nation from domestic terrorism while safeguarding our bedrock civil rights and civil liberties, values that make us who we are as Americans. We have to take both short-term steps to counter the very real threats of today and longer term measures to diminish the drivers that will contribute to this ongoing challenge to our democracy.

This is a project that should unite all Americans. Together, we must affirm that domestic terrorism has no place in our society. We must work to root out the hatreds that can too often drive violence. And we must recommit to defending and protecting our basic freedoms, which belong to all Americans in equal measure and which are not only the foundation of our democracy, they are our enduring advantage in the world.

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