

March 2016

This is an update on the activities of the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN). You receive this e-mail, along with some 2 000 other people, because you have participated in a RAN working group activity, or if you have registered your interest in the network. If you do not want to receive such e-mails, please let us know. Feel free to distribute this RAN Update to colleagues and invite them to [subscribe](#).

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RAN activities since the last RAN Update

RAN LOCAL: How to create a local network

Enhancing local capacities to deal with radicalisation through multi-agency structures was at the heart of RAN LOCAL's kick-off meeting on 22-23 February. The meeting identified "dos and don'ts" when developing a local network. WG participants are all closely involved in local or regional prevent initiatives. In addition to exchanging on how to deal with their day-to-day challenges, a site visit was organised to two partner organisations working on preventive approaches in the city of Rotterdam. The regional Safety House of Rotterdam carries out consultations on individuals vulnerable to radicalisation, and Sprior - an umbrella organisation for Islamic institutions in Rotterdam. The working group is developing practical guidelines for a local approach, which will be presented at the end of this year.

RAN EDU: Empowering and supporting teachers

Resources and materials on educating students about democratic values and the prevention of radicalisation are already available. However, teachers need time to adopt these methods and exchange with colleagues on how best to do this. This was one of the main conclusions from the RAN EDU meeting in Gothenburg on 24-25 February, hosted by the Swedish Segerstedt Institute. Participants agreed that schools should educate students about living in a democracy, alongside teaching the regular curriculum. Governments' existing school evaluation methods focus mostly on skills, but a qualitative evaluation on citizenship education is also needed.

RAN P&P: multi-agency cooperation in prison and probation work

Multi-agency cooperation is key to dealing with radicalised offenders. WG participants at the 24-25 February Stockholm meeting concluded on the following principles:

- clear agreements on information sharing are the basis of multi-agency cooperation;

- trust and personal relationships often play a key role building effective cooperation;
- it is important to try to declassify some classified intelligence services information where appropriate (no information about source or how information was obtained, only on a need-to-know basis);
- need-to-know information to be defined for each actor involved;
- a strong political incentive or assignment is needed to stimulate more extensive multi-agency cooperation.

The meeting was organised in close cooperation with the Swedish Prison and Probation Service (SPPS). The country's model of joint intelligence centres was among the best practices discussed, as was the role of the Swedish National Coordinator Against Violent Extremism. The Coordinator helps create a strong multi-agency structure, together with SPPS and other partners. The meeting also saw presentations on the Belgian and French approaches to dealing with - and cooperating on - radicalised offenders.

RAN RVT: European Remembrance Day for Victims of Terrorism

The 11th of March 2016 marked the 12th European Remembrance Day of Victims of Terrorism. The European Commission hosted the event, organised in cooperation with the Remembrance of Victims Working Group (RAN RVT). Commissioner Avramopoulos opened the ceremony and held a minute of silence, which was followed by speeches by the European Counter-Terrorism Coordinator Gilles de Kerchove, amongst others. Testimonies were given by victims of terrorism, including from the Madrid train bombings, Utoya massacre (Norway), Sousse attack (Tunisia), the more recent Paris attack of 13 November 2015 - as well as [an interview](#) of a survivor of the 2005 Sharm-el-Sheik attack. Parents of Marie Lausch and Mathias Dymirski, a couple killed at the Bataclan concert hall, recalled in an emotional speech the promising lives of their lost children. The RAN Handbook offering advice and support to Victims' Organisations was presented and will be available shortly. The event ended with an interview of a French victim of terrorism, Guy Benarousse, by students from a local school, highlighting the importance of victim testimonies in addressing radicalisation.

Upcoming RAN activities

Steering Committee: Setting the agenda for 2016

The RAN Steering Committee has an important role in setting the broader RAN agenda, as well as steering and guiding the CoE in its activities. On 29 March 2016, the committee will meet in Brussels. The main issues on the agenda are: past and forthcoming activities, review of practices for the RAN Collection, research-related activities and the impact of the refugee crisis on radicalisation. In addition, the use of social media campaigns and videos for RAN will be discussed.

RAN POL: engaging with communities

How should the police successfully and effectively engage with communities? How can police training facilitate this? What kind of resources and skills are needed? The first 2016 meeting of RAN Pol - in Oslo on 6-7 April - will focus on these questions. Building trust and working relations between police and communities will be the focal point of this meeting. Existing projects engaging police, NGOs and informal networks will be presented and peer reviewed. Special attention will be given to engaging communities after attacks or incidents.

RAN YF&C ‘The role of religion in the prevention of radicalisation’

The meeting in Madrid on 7-8 April will discuss the role of religion, religious institutions, communities and leaders in preventing radicalisation. The participants will discuss to what extent religious partners are and should be engaged. RAN Youth, Families & Communities (YF&C) will invite Europe’s (religious) experts and practitioners to exchange views and examine best practices and approaches.

RAN Research seminar: Bridging research and practice

The EU RAN research seminar aims at flagging research needs, based on the findings of the RAN CoE the gap-analysis paper. The seminar in Vienna on 12-13 April will bring together academics and practitioners on the state of play of radicalisation research related to the themes of each of the RAN Working Groups. Practitioners will underline specific research needs for their fields and will feed back their knowledge and experience to academia.

Thematic Event: Challenges from the Migrant Crisis

The need for greater understanding of the dynamics of the refugee and migrant crisis and its influence on radicalisation is becoming more urgent. The RAN CoE is inviting 80 participants from the RAN Network to the Thematic Event ‘The Refugee and Migrant Crises and challenges for preventing further polarisation, recruitment and radicalisation’, taking place in Vienna on 14 April. The discussion will feed into a policy paper exploring the scenarios for tempering polarisation and radicalisation.

RAN EDU: Leadership for safety and democracy at school

Leadership has the potential to create a safe and democratic environment at schools. School principals will discuss the role of schools and their principals when they meet within the RAN EDU working group in Antwerp on 19-20 April. Participants will explore how they cope with tensions in their schools and the atmosphere after attacks or terrorist incidents. They will also look at the role of religion. Experiences and lessons learned will feed into the RAN Collection.

School leaders, preferably working in secondary and higher education are invited to express their interest in attending, by contacting Marjolein Keltjens (m.keltjens@radaradvies.nl) before 25 March the latest. Participants should have been confronted with tension or extremism in their school. The meeting will be held in English. An application does not guarantee participation.

Announcement: Registration for MS Support workshops

Registration for Member State Support workshops in May is now open!

Participants from Member States will exchange on and develop responses to the effects of the refugee and migrant crisis in their CVE policy and projects. On 11-13 May, three one-day workshops on ‘The Refugee and Migrant Crisis: challenges for CVE policy’ will be organised for small groups of Member States. The outcome of the April thematic event will feed first-line practitioners’ insights into these workshops.

Application

Member States are invited to contact RAN CoE (ran@radaradvies.nl) to secure a place in one of the one-day workshops. Per Member State a delegation may be comprised of three persons: 1) one person responsible for national CVE policy, 2) one policy officer

working on strategic issues, 3) a representative from the local level/a municipality who deals with CVE/polarisation and the effects of migration. An application does not guarantee participation; a total of fifteen delegations from Member States can participate.

Dissemination of RAN lessons at external events

IMPACT training

IMPACT Europe is developing an evaluation toolkit for CVE interventions. The toolkit is geared at practitioners, supporting them with practical tips and guidelines to evaluate their activities so as to build good practices into the design of future initiatives. This toolkit draws on a state-of-the-art knowledge database of radicalisation factors, existing initiatives for countering radicalisation leading to violent extremism, and approaches to evaluating these interventions. Experts from the RAN CoE have provided input into its development. More information about IMPACT can be found [here](#).

First RAN webinar on support to families

RAN CoE expert Merel Molenkamp shared insights from the RAN Collection on how to support families dealing with radicalisation in a RAN/ Deutscher Präventionstag webinar. The webinar and the presentation can be found [here](#). It was the first of a series of six that will take place in the run-up to the German Congress on Crime Prevention (6-7 June 2016). If you are interested in joining the webinars please contact ran@radareurope.nl or [Deutscher Präventionstag](#).

European Remembrance Day in Croatia

Raising awareness around violent extremism, radicalisation and its victims was central to local commemorations of European Remembrance Day. The RAN WG leader, Sergey Erdelja, supported the local events, organised by NGO Pragma. RAN representative Jelena Adamlje highlighted the social aspects of radicalisation in local communities. Those present recognized the fight against violent extremism as an issue for a wide range of professionals.

Other news

Update of the RAN Collection

The RAN Collection of practices and approaches highlights peer reviewed practitioners' approaches in the field of prevention of radicalisation, with lessons learned and a selection of practices and projects. The French and German editions are now [online](#). Some eight new practices were added in January.

Follow us on social media

Stay up-to-date with the latest news and updates from the Radicalisation Awareness Network on social media. Follow us, connect with us, 'like' us and talk to us and each other:

- on Twitter [@RANEurope](#)
- on [Facebook](#)
- on [LinkedIn](#)

RAN Calendar

March/April 2016	March/April 2016
STEERING COMMITTEE <i>Meeting of all Working Group leaders</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 29 March, Brussels (BE)	RESEARCH SEMINAR <i>Bridging Research and Practice</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 12-13 April, Vienna (AT)
RAN POL <i>Communities</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 6-7 April, Oslo (NO)	THEMATIC EVENT <i>The Refugee and Migrant Crisis and challenges for preventing further polarisation, recruitment and radicalisation.</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 14 April, Vienna (AT)
RAN YF&C <i>Religious Communities and Leaders</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 7-8 April, Madrid (SP)	RAN EDU <i>The School as an Organisation and a Community</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 19-20 April, Antwerp (BE)

Often, many more people register their interest in an event than can be accommodated. So that expectations are realistic, please note that the Working Group leaders decide who will be invited to attend RAN WG meetings. When selecting participants (depending on the meeting topic), division of Member States, type of expertise, contributions in meetings, etc. will be taken into consideration. Additionally, please note that only one person per organisation can be invited.

Contact details

The RAN Centre of Excellence is implemented by RadarEurope, which is a subsidiary of the RadarGroup:

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