

July 2016

*This is an update on the activities of the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN). You receive this e-mail, along with some 2 400 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](#).*

*Would you like more frequent updates on RAN's activities? Get access to all public RAN papers as they are released, other RAN news and thought-provoking articles on the radicalisation process by following RAN on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [LinkedIn](#).*

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## RAN activities since the last RAN Update

### **Member State Support: kick-off for National Resilience Expert Network in Belgium**

With support from the RAN CoE, the Belgian government has initiated a national network to increase resilience to radicalisation. The network brings together practitioners, local, regional and national authorities as well as researchers working to prevent radicalisation. The network will focus on interventions that increase the resilience of individuals, groups, communities, cities and municipalities and ultimately Belgian society as a whole. The Belgian network's objectives resemble those of RAN: a platform to share best practices and lessons learned, provide policy advice and build professional connections across local and regional borders. The RAN CoE supported the event amongst others, by providing the keynote speaker and drafting an issue paper on the role of protective factors (to be published later in the summer).

### **RAN joint event: Involving young people**

Young people involved in the prevention of radicalisation and (violent) extremism could be empowered to take on an even more active role. There is also a need to better connect professionals and practitioners with young people in better tackling radicalisation. With this in mind, RAN's EDU, YF&C and C&N working groups brought together practitioners and young people in Vienna on 1-2 June to further understanding of what both professionals and youngsters want and need to prevent radicalisation and extremism in their communities. Discussions focused on (social) media, education and communities.

### **Study Visit to the German Congress on Crime Prevention**

The ‘German Congress on Crime Prevention’ (GCOCP) or ‘[Deutscher Präventionstag](#)’ (DPT) provided an opportunity for RAN practitioners from eleven countries to directly learn from German CVE policy makers and practitioners. Topics included CVE, the role of gender, ethics in counter-terrorism and CVE, and deradicalisation programmes for both right-wing extremism and Islamic radicalisation.

### **RAN P&P: exit programmes in prison and probation environments**

RAN practitioners agreed to following conclusions on exit interventions in a prison and probation setting:

- interventions need to be tailored to the background and needs of the participant of the exit programme, whilst maintaining a certain flexibility in delivering these programmes;
- to allow prisoners to successfully re-enter society after a sentence has been served, a multidisciplinary approach is needed;
- those providing interventions need to guarantee transparency towards both the offenders and other stakeholders;
- NGOs and independent entities can be effective in implementing interventions as they are often considered by prisoners to be credible messengers;
- voluntary cooperation is a fundamental prerequisite for the success of any intervention aimed at disengagement and de-radicalisation.

The meeting in Berlin’s [Violence Prevention Network](#) (VPN) on 14-15 June also included presentations on behavioural interventions and standards, the work of the VPN, the Berlin approach to exit work in prisons and probation, the Health Identity Intervention (HI) implemented both in prison and in probation in the United Kingdom, as well as the Dutch approach to supporting families during probation.

### **RAN POL: working on a European guide for police training**

If police officers are to play a key role in preventing radicalisation, they need tailored training. RAN POL brainstormed and compared the most promising programmes in their Athens meeting on 14-15 June. Participants concluded that trainings should not only include knowledge on signs of radicalisation, but also how to support local multi-agency cooperation and build trusted local networks and communities. RAN POL’s guide on training programmes will be published this summer. CEPOL, the OSCE and AEPC participated in this meeting, and will support the dissemination of the guidelines.

### **RAN EXIT: exploring and developing interventions: dialogue between exit workers and researchers**

Exit workers must simultaneously pre-define goals for exit programmes and form learning communities for stakeholders, according to academics and practitioners attending the RAN EXIT working group meeting in Barcelona on 16-17 June. The event allowed for unique in-depth exchanges between academia and practitioners - allowing to highlight practitioners’ further needs regarding exit research. The practice of the Barcelona based association [AIS](#) was shared to show that research and practice can be closely combined in one organisation. Participants also discussed the discrepancy between the limited capacity of exit worker and programmes and the high level of media and research interest in their clients.

### **Study visit: UK ‘Prevent Strategy’**

Policy-makers and first-line practitioners from local, regional and national levels from nine EU countries came together for this study visit on 16-17 June. The strategy’s counter-radicalisation and de-radicalisation programmes were in the spotlight during the visit, along with strategic communication and the wider counter-extremism strategy.

Reflections were sparked on which elements of the strategy could be useful and applicable to other MS' own CVE policies, such as involving different government departments for a longer-term and effective response.

### **Third-country support to Turkey**

There was a warm welcome for RAN participants at the first-ever meeting between the network and Turkish authorities, practitioners and academics. The meeting was called to share RAN's learnings on the importance of tackling radicalisation at a local level, provide insights into RAN's structure to Turkish participants and enable RAN members to learn from Turkey's approach to CVE. The sessions focused on how best to transfer practitioners' best practices and experiences into policy. The RAN delegation brought together practitioners from seven EU countries with representatives from the European Commission's DG HOME and European External Action Service, the EU's Counter-Terrorism Coordinator and one RAN CoE expert. The Turkish delegation comprised representatives from the ministries of justice, education, youth and sports, EU affairs, religious affairs, the Turkish national police and academics.

### **RAN-Deutscher Präventionstag webinar: community policing**

What can the police do to prevent radicalisation? How can they reach out to vulnerable groups and build sustainable relationships? And how is this related to the law enforcement aspects of police work? On 27 June, Teemu Metsäpelto, Chief inspector of the Preventive Policing Unit from the Helsinki police (FIN) and Darren Coventry-Howlett from the Garda Racial, Intercultural and Diversity Office (IE), explained their approaches. The webinar and the presentations can be accessed [here](#).

### **RAN-Deutscher Präventionstag webinar: role of communities**

The next RAN-DPT webinar will deal with the role of communities in preventing radicalisation. What can communities do to build resilience and help their members? The webinar will also ask how (local) authorities are engaging and cooperating with communities, with Diana Schubert from the city of Augsburg (GER) and William Baldet from the city of Leicester and the county of Leicestershire & Rutland (UK) at hand to share their expertise. Find more details on the webinar, which will take place on 11 July from 16:00 until 17:00, [here](#).

## **Upcoming RAN activities**

### **RAN H&SC: children born into and growing up in radicalised families**

A growing number of children are 'returning' to Europe, having been born to foreign terrorist fighters or taken out of Europe by parents wanting to join Daesh. On top of this, a growing number of children are growing up in Europe in radicalised surroundings. In Hamburg (DE) on 14-15 September 2016, the RAN H&SC working group will discuss the effects of violent extremist ideologies on children, as well as the (social, pedagogical, psychological) work being done with children. How can European practitioners properly support children born in, or returning from, armed-conflict areas, with severe traumas? This applies not only to children who have spent time in Syria or Iraq (or aspired to do so), but also those in violent right-wing families. Lessons learned from across Europe on working with radicalised families will be presented.

### **Additional Member State workshop on 'Refugee and Migrant Crisis: challenges for CVE policy'**

There is still a restricted number of seats available for this one-day RAN CoE workshop (Amsterdam, 16 September). The small-scale interactive event is designed for a three-

person Member State delegation, each comprising a strategically positioned police officer, a representative from a local authority and a national policy-maker. The workshop will discuss ideas presented in the RAN policy paper on the same topic, and the Thematic Event on refugees, polarisation and violent extremism. These themes will be applied to the national context of the countries participating. In May, 15 Member States took up this opportunity to learn and be inspired. Many came to the conclusion that a more holistic CVE approach is needed, encompassing polarisation, integration and right-wing extremism. Any interested national authorities that have not yet participated in this workshop can apply by e-mail to Steven Lenos ([s.lenos@radaradvies.nl](mailto:s.lenos@radaradvies.nl)) and Wessel Haanstra ([w.haanstra@radaradvies.nl](mailto:w.haanstra@radaradvies.nl)).

### **RAN YF&C: working with Families**

The RAN YF&C working group will develop methodologies for best practices for working with families in preventing and exiting radicalisation in Manchester (UK) on 29-30 September. The programme will cover the roles different family members can play, gender perspectives, family dynamics, cultural influences and how these factors affect CVE work.

## **Dissemination of RAN lessons at external events**

Magnus Ranstorp, RAN CoE Quality Manager, presented RAN lessons at the EU Security Research Conference at the World Forum, where he discussed research into CVE. At a Nordic Safe Cities event and a conference organised by the “Local Institutions Against Extremism II” (LIAISE 2) project, he spoke about the radicalisation challenges for European cities.

The RAN Centre of Excellence was also invited to give the keynote speech at a workshop in Budapest, organised to promote information-sharing between Hungarians who have participated in RAN’s various working groups and events. The inspiring meeting was organised by the National University of Public Service and the Migration Research Institute. The RAN CoE explained the RAN DNA and advised on how to establish local and national networks. The event was attended by many RAN participants, including from the police, research, prisons, intelligence, ministries and NGOs. Plans for further Hungarian participation in RAN were made in a positive atmosphere.

## **Call: register your interest co-chairing RAN H&SC**

The RAN Health and Social Care (RAN H&SC) working group is looking for a co-chair, to work with Mr Sergej Erdelja, who already leads the group. This working group focuses on raising awareness among health and social workers of their role in identifying and supporting those vulnerable to radicalisation.

The European Commission and the RAN Centre of Excellence (CoE) therefore invite practitioners linked to this working group and engaged in preventing radicalisation, to register their interest via the Call to register interest template. More information is available in the working groups’ Mission Statement. Completed templates should be sent to [applications@radareurope.nl](mailto:applications@radareurope.nl) before 15 August.

## **Other news**

### **RAN explained: leaflets on RAN and Member State support**

The RAN CoE has created a [leaflet](#) that explains the RAN network and its activities clearly and concisely. Intended for those unfamiliar with RAN, it gives an overview of the working groups, its papers, the RAN Collection and RAN events. Readers should feel

free to share the leaflet with their networks and stakeholders, as appropriate. A second [leaflet](#) describes the various forms of support available to the EU Member States, and explains how to request this support.

## RAN Calendar

July/August 2016	September 2016
There will be no RAN working group meetings in July or August.	<p><b>RAN H&amp;SC</b>  <i>Children born into and growing up in radicalised families</i>  <u>Date and location:</u> 14-15 September, Hamburg (DE)</p> <p><b>RAN Member States workshop</b>  <i>Refugees, polarisation and CVE</i>  <u>Date and location:</u> 16 September, Amsterdam (NL)</p> <p><b>RAN Steering Committee</b>  <u>Date and location:</u> 20 September, Brussels (BE)</p> <p><b>RAN YF&amp;C</b>  <i>Working with families</i>  <u>Date and location:</u> 28-30 September, Manchester (UK)</p>

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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