

August 2016

This is an update on the activities of the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN). You receive this e-mail, along with some 2 600 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](#).

Table of Contents

- Upcoming RAN Working Group activities
- Support to EU Member States
- Other events
- Launch of the Exit Hate campaign
- RAN Calendar
- Contact details

Upcoming RAN Working Group 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. In addition, more and more children are growing up in Europe in radicalised surroundings, sometimes taken out of Europe by parents wanting to join Daesh. In Hamburg 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 to address this. 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.

RAN YF&C: working with Families

Families can be key actors in the prevention of radicalisation, can act as important agents of change and can provide enormous support structures for radicalised individuals. 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.

RAN C&N: the (online) response to foreign fighter propaganda

The next RAN C&N meeting will explore the propaganda of Islamist terrorist groups (such as Daesh, Al Qaeda and Al Nusra). First the meeting will explore the key elements in narratives aiming to a) recruit Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF's) to come to Syria and fight, b) these fighters traveling back to Europe to plan and carry out attacks, or c) radicalized individual in the EU to plan and carry out attacks. Second the meeting will discuss how to counter these narratives effectively, both online and offline. The workshop will bring together researchers, (online) practitioners and communication/industry companies in Amsterdam on 3-4 October.

Support to EU Member States

Additional workshop on 'Refugee and Migrant Crisis: challenges for CVE policy'

Building on the success of the Member State workshops on polarisation and violent extremism held in May, another one will be organised on 16 September in Amsterdam. During the workshop participants came to the conclusion that a more holistic CVE approach is needed, encompassing polarisation, integration and right-wing extremism. The event will be attended by several EU Member State delegations who did not have the opportunity to participate in the May event. Each delegation will consist of a strategically positioned police officer, a representative from a local authority and a national policy-maker.

One-day workshops on partnerships to improve CVE communication

The RAN CoE is organising a series of one-day workshops on partnerships to improve CVE communication. Communication is central to any CVE strategy. This applies to information from the authorities about their CVE strategies, as well to the counter and alternative narratives (online and offline). While the volume of counter- and alternative narratives is growing, they are not yet a match for the propaganda machines of Daesh and other extremist groups - either in volume or quality.

The primary obstacle to closing this gap is the lack of productive, sustained and long-term partnerships between governments, civil society and industry. Governments have reach and resources, social media and advertising industry has the channels and expertise to promote alternative and counter narratives online, and civil society (including NGOs) have the credible voices and the stories which form the heart of counter and alternative narratives. The workshops will delve into questions regarding: How can national and local authorities enhance the development and effectiveness of counter and alternative narratives? How could government resources be combined with support and expertise from the social media and advertising industry? How can authorities facilitate and stimulate civil society to create the much-needed narratives?

Few spots still available

In three one-day workshops in Brussels (BE) on 27, 28 and 29 September, Member States delegations will look into these questions. Delegations consist of a national government representative, and two representatives from either the grassroots level/an NGO, a creative marketing or advertising company, or the local level working on CVE issues. As a few spots are still available, Member States interested to participate are invited to contact the RAN CoE (ran@radaradvies.nl).

Train the trainer on user experience

The RAN experts have delivered train-the-trainer sessions in 8 Member States since 2014. On 22 September a session on user experience will be organised in Amsterdam to provide the latest updates to participants and learn about new demands from practitioners in several countries. The session will also facilitate the exchange between trainers of different countries.

Other events

RAN Plenary

The RAN Plenary will be a forum for the exchange of outcomes, plans and experiences between the different RAN working groups. During the meeting we will also contemplate new and upcoming challenges. The exchange will feed into the RAN 2017 activity plan.

High Level Conference

The High Level Conference will take place in November in Brussels. The event will bring together policy-makers and practitioners to discuss the current challenges to tackling radicalisation resulting in terrorism and violent extremism. More information will be circulated closer to the event.

Launch of the Exit Hate campaign

5 September 2016: Launch of #exithate online campaign

The RAN and the digital agency Bold Creative together with project partners are starting a storytelling campaign to provide an alternative to the appeal of narratives from extremist propaganda by presenting reasons to exit hate. The #exithate campaign will be launched in September and run for 6 weeks. Visit the campaign's [Facebookpage](#) and stay up-to-date with inspiring stories of former haters or follow it on Twitter [@ExitHate](#) and join the debate via #exithate. We reach out to our network to contribute stories as well. Please contact the Exit Hate team via team@exithate.com.

RAN Calendar

September 2016	October 2016
<p>RAN H&SC <i>Children born into and growing up in radicalised families</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 14-15 September, Hamburg (DE)</p> <p>RAN Member States workshop <i>Refugees, polarisation and CVE</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 16 September, Amsterdam (NL)</p> <p>RAN Steering Committee <u>Date and location:</u> 20 September, Brussels (BE)</p> <p>RAN YF&C <i>Working with families</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 28-30 September, Manchester (UK)</p>	<p>RAN C&N <i>Foreign terrorist fighters</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 3-4 October, Amsterdam (NL)</p> <p>RAN POL & RAN LOCAL <i>Joint event</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 20-21 October, Berlin (DE)</p>

<p>RAN Train the Trainer <i>User Experience</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 22 September, Amsterdam (NL)</p> <p>RAN Member State workshops <i>Online and offline communication</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 27-29 September, Brussels (BE)</p> <p>RAN YF&C <i>Working with families</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 29-30 September, Manchester (UK)</p>	
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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

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