

October 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](#).

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The impact of RAN on practitioners' work

RAN works for an EU-wide network of first-line practitioners. Last summer we conducted a survey to assess the impact of our activities on its participants. In the results of the survey the benefits of RAN's work were confirmed. Practitioners emphasised the value of up-to-date knowledge, being part of an extensive network with other professionals and hearing about best practices. Nearly 90% of RAN participants perceive the network has a positive influence on their day-to-day fight against radicalisation and violent extremism. Read a summary of the impact assessment survey results [here](#).

RAN activities since the last RAN Update

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

Professionals in the health and social care sector are encountering more and more children who are growing up in a radicalised environment. These children are at risk of cross-generational radicalisation and violent extremism. Practitioners within the H&SC Working Group came together in Hamburg (DE) on 14-15 September to discuss how best to help these children. They examined, for example, the nature of the trauma experienced by children growing up in the midst of an armed conflict, as well as the obstacles and issues that professionals encounter when working with children in far-right or jihadi environments. The meeting also debated the extent to which professionals are likely to encounter child returnees in the near future, and which existing tools can be used to solve the complex set of issues these children face.

Member State workshop ‘The Refugee and Migrant Crisis: Challenges for CVE policy’

In spite of the influx of migrants greatly declining since the refugee crisis last year, some of the challenges it created for countering and preventing violent extremism are still relevant today. Both Daesh and right-wing extremist parties have capitalised on the refugee and migrant crisis to create polarisation as a breeding ground for radicalisation. Delegations from Belgium, Estonia, Greece, Malta and the United Kingdom participated in the fourth Member State workshop on the topic in Leiden (NL) on 16 September. The extent of polarisation and the threat of right-wing extremism differ between countries. Even countries with a low risk are advised to commit to relation-building with citizens and communities, strategic communication and swift justice for any crimes committed against - or by - refugees and migrants. On the other hand in order not to fall pray to recruiters, refugees and migrants are vulnerable and require help in resilience and relationship building as well as integration based on trust with host communities. Training is also needed for personnel within refugee reception centres.

RAN YF&C: working with families

Families are crucial in recognizing signs of radicalisation and protecting individuals at risk. Practitioners working on family support met in Manchester on 29 and 30 September to gather the key methodologies, knowledge on pre-conditions and guidelines for working with families on prevention. Participants agreed the field has developed significantly over the past years, in many EU countries resources and support structures are still insufficient. The role of families in contributing the safety and security is widely recognized, but they need support to succeed in this role.

Member State workshop ‘Building partnerships to improve CVE communication’

Although the volume of counter- and alternative narratives is growing, they cannot match the propaganda machine of Daesh or other extremist groups - either in volume or quality. As outlined in the [Issue Paper on Counter Narratives and Alternative Narratives](#), one of the obstacles to closing this gap is the lack of productive, sustained and long-term partnerships between governments, civil society and the industry. On 27, 28 and 29 September the CoE organised a workshop in Brussels (BE) on building partnerships to improve CVE communication. The workshop emphasized the position of authorities in facilitating and stimulating civil society in creating (online) narratives. Participants also discussed the cooperation of authorities and the social media and advertising industry.

Upcoming RAN Working Group activities

RAN POL and LOCAL joint event: local solutions and local approaches, who is in charge?

Both police forces and local authorities play an important role in the prevention of radicalisation at the local level. Who is best placed to coordinate efforts or take action? In short: who is in charge? The joint meeting of RAN POL and RAN LOCAL in Berlin (DE) on 20-21 October will address this issue. The two working groups, bringing together practitioners from police forces and local authorities, will discuss questions such as: who is in charge of prevention efforts? What can this actor ‘bring’? What are the mandates and the capacities of the local municipality? Is prevention of radicalisation a national government responsibility? When are the intelligence agencies or national police in charge and what is the role of local police? Will a prevention policy led by a municipality always involve a police led approach?

RAN P&P: study visit to Venice prison

The RAN P&P working group will gather in Venice on 26-27 October to visit a prison and find out more about Italian strategies for countering radicalisation in prison and probation environments. Italy has developed a scanning system for radicalised inmates and a reintegration programme for them while they are still in prison. The meeting will also address strategies for juvenile rehabilitation and reintegration, and issues linked to private-public cooperation.

RAN EXIT: building multi-agency structures

Exit work demands strong multi-agency structures. While this approach is almost universally supported, putting a structure in place is not so easy. It requires flexibility from different agencies and from governments providing funding. Coordinating a structure of multi-agency work is becoming increasingly complex because the number of exit cases is increasing. The RAN EXIT Working Group will organise an exchange of views on multi-agency structures in Milan (IT) on 1 November and will define requirements for such a structure.

Other news

Exit Hate campaign

The Exit Hate campaign has been a huge success on social media. Thousands of people have been reached via Twitter and Facebook every day. Audiences are responding positively to the content and targeting the campaign is working. Follow the Exit Hate stories via ww.exithate.com.

RAN Collection - looking for stories of inspiration

This autumn the RAN CoE is producing a video on the RAN Collection. We are looking for stories of people who have been inspired by a practice they've seen in the Collection, and who have gone on to implement a similar activity, or perhaps an activity inspired by a Collection practice. If you have a story to tell, please get in touch: ran@radaradvies.nl.

New publications

RAN produces papers on a variety of topics every month, while institutions within our network are also publishing interesting work. From now on, we will highlight new publications in each Update. If you are interested in seeing your publication on this list, please contact the RAN team via ran@radaradvies.nl.

- The RAN [EDU paper](#) on the role of school leaders in the prevention of radicalisation was inspired by the Antwerp meeting in April, when school leaders gathered to discuss how to create a safe democratic environment in schools.
- A Vienna meeting on involving young people in the process of prevention resulted in a 'paper' in video format. Watch the [video here](#).
- The RAN POL working group published [a new guide](#) on training programmes for police officers.
- The Institute for Strategic Dialogue recently published a [handbook on counter-narratives](#). The publication focuses on online narratives and provides practical tips and tricks for designing a campaign.

RAN Calendar

October 2016	November 2016
RAN POL & RAN LOCAL <i>Joint event on local solutions and local approaches</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 20-21 October, Berlin (DE)	RAN EXIT <i>Building multi-agency structures</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 1 November, Milan (IT)
RAN P&P <i>Study visit</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 26-27 October, Venice (IT)	RAN Plenary and High Level Conference <u>Date and location:</u> 8-9 November, Brussels (BE)
	Steering Committee <u>Date and location:</u> 22 November, Brussels (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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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](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [YouTube](#).

Website: ec.europa.eu/ran