Update 38

April 2017

This is an update on the activities of the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN). You receive this e-mail, along with some 3 000 other people, because you have participated in a RAN activity, or 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

Engaged and creative young activists make RAN YOUNG kick-off a huge success!
Don’t judge, don’t impose your own views, don’t use boring policy-terms. Listen, speak the language of young people, invest in the relationship and create links with other professionals. These are some of the recommendations for first-line practitioners from RAN YOUNG participants (all between 18 and 25 years old). On 28 and 29 March, 34 young people from 13 different EU countries came together in Madrid to discuss their views on the work of 1) community police officers 2) teachers 3) online content creators and 4) community workers. Their views will be presented in an energetic video. In addition, each participant reviewed his or her local or national strategy and formulated key recommendations for policy-makers: don’t only focus on Islamic radicalisation or terrorism in your policies, promote intercultural dialogue and friendship, and invest in digital and media literacy. Participants said young people are worried about content online and about the attitudes of their politicians and journalists.

RAN POL: Points of Contact meeting
The RAN POL points of contact (PoCs) form an important link between RAN POL and police organisations around Europe. RAN POL spent the first meeting of 2017 seeking to optimise the working relationship with these PoCs and discussing plans for the future. The PoCs of RAN POL help to identify and select suitable participants. In order to do successfully it is vital that they receive a detailed description of the desired profile as soon as possible. RAN POL will send an attractive one-pager outlining the meeting’s findings to help PoCs disseminate these lessons. Some of the potential topics for 2017 are: evaluation of police CVE practices; the relationship between mental health and radicalisation; dealing with “lone wolves”; the role of police in dealing with radicalisation on social media; lessons from crime prevention.
RAN POL: Police dealing with returnees from and Syria and Iraq
On 30-31 March, RAN POL brought experts from across the EU together in Düsseldorf to discuss ‘Police dealing with returnees from and Syria and Iraq’. The number of returnees and experiences with them differ greatly between EU Member States. Some countries could benefit from a more in-depth study of the returnees in their country. Participants discussed four areas in which the police can play a role: first reception, risk assessment, resocialisation and safeguarding the environment. Participants agreed that it is possible to use existing protocols and structures for this target group. However, the monitoring and resocialisation of returnees will demand a great deal of resources and therefore it is crucial that a multi-agency approach is in place and prepared for returnees. Details on the types of risk assessment, opportunities to influence the returnee and specific measures to safeguard the environment will be shared in the ex-post paper.

Upcoming RAN activities

RAN H&SC: Training for social and health care practitioners
Training increases understanding of the process of radicalisation, and provides guidance as to what practitioners can do to share information, recognise signals, and ultimately prevent or counter it. At its next meeting on 11-12 April in Madrid, the Health and Social Care working group will look into training needs and lessons, as well as those elements of training for social and health care professionals that have proved successful. Specific needs and challenges will be discussed, such as patient confidentiality, possibilities and limits around sharing information, and the need for multi-agency collaboration. Perspectives from Spain, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Italy, Sweden, Poland and the Netherlands will be presented.

Call for WG co-chairs

RAN P&P
The Prison and Probation working group is looking for a new co-chair, to work alongside Mr Finn Grav. This group brings together practitioners from the sector, such as prison staff, governors, psychiatrists, chaplains and probation staff. The working group supports them in their prevention work. Topics to be addressed in 2017 include: the prosecution of returnees, the role of religion and the development of probation tools. We are looking for a co-chair with specific expertise in the probation field. Please find more information on the profile and the work of this group in this call.

Apply for the position
The European Commission and the RAN CoE invite prison and probation professionals who have current tasks and responsibilities directly connected or related to the prevention of radicalisation to register their interest to co-chair. If you match the profile and your organisation supports your application, we welcome you to register your interest and fill in the template by 15 April 2017. Forms should be submitted to applications@radareurope.nl. For more information, please contact Maarten van de Donk (m.vandedonk@radaradvies.nl).

RAN LOCAL
Last year the RAN LOCAL working group focused on building a strong network of local coordinators doing prevent work. Depending on a country’s structure, the ‘local’ in this Working
Group refers to both big cities and small towns, but also to regional or other sub-national authorities. The focus is on enhancing local capacities to deal with radicalisation and countering violent extremism through multi-agency structures. The working group is now looking for a new co-chair to lead alongside Ms Jessika Soors. Please find more information on the profile and the work of this group in this call.

Apply for the position
Professionals who represent local authority themselves, who have tasks and responsibilities directly connected to the prevention of radicalisation, and whose organisation supports their application, are invited to register their interest via this online form. Applications should be submitted to applications@radareurope.nl, no later than Friday 15 April 2017. For more information, please contact Marije Meines (m.meines@radaradvies.nl).

New publications
RAN produces papers on a variety of topics every month, while institutions within our network also publish interesting work. When relevant, we 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.

- A new guide by young leaders for other young people about prevention of violent extremism. The document was produced by the initiative Extremely Together.

RAN Calendar

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<th>April 2017</th>
<th>May 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>RAN HS&amp;C</td>
<td>RAN C&amp;N</td>
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<td><strong>Training sessions for social workers</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dissemination strategies</strong></td>
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<td>Date and location: 11-12 April, Madrid (ES)</td>
<td>Date and location: 3-4 May, Budapest (HU)</td>
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<td>RAN Study visit</td>
<td>RAN P&amp;P</td>
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<td><strong>Northern Ireland</strong></td>
<td><strong>Confederation of European Probation</strong></td>
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<td>Date and location: 25-26 April, Belfast (UK)</td>
<td>Date and location: 22-23 May, Dublin (IE)</td>
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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
The RAN Centre of Excellence is implemented by RadarEurope, which is a subsidiary of the RadarGroup:

RAN Centre of Excellence
Veemarkt 83
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