

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 because 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

Victims of Terrorism: delivering practical advice

In the aftermath of a terrorist attacks victims go through an extremely difficult process. Apart from the grief and shock with which they are confronted, various needs have to be met before they can get their life back on track. These range from information to practical assistance, psychological help, financial solutions and judicial recognition. Victims often come together, either informally or within an association, to share experiences and look for solutions.

During the meeting of the RVT working group in Berlin on 12-13 September, victims discussed how these needs can be met, e.g. how to provide practical assistance and how to organise self-help groups. The ways in which some victim groups have cooperated with others, like specialised trauma therapists, or with the government to obtain accurate information, were discussed. The outcomes of the meeting will be translated in a document containing practical guidelines for new and existing victims' groups.

Coming up

Member State support workshops - dealing with returning foreign terrorist fighters

Representatives from a total of 22 EU Member States will attend workshops in Berlin from 19 to 21 September offering guidance on how to deal with returning foreign fighters and their families. The three consecutive one-day workshops will look at the differences and similarities that individual countries face in this area, and focus on the risk assessment and multi-agency cooperation that must be in place, as well as three specific topics: returnees in the prison and probation system; reintegration and resocialisation; and children. The workshops will build on

the [RAN Manual - Responses to returnees: foreign terrorist fighters and their families](#) to discuss these topics in more depth.

Supporting youth workers

Young people can be very vulnerable, and are therefore an important focus of prevent work. Youth workers and other practitioners working with young people in social settings need to be able to detect early signs of radicalisation and offer alternatives. RAN YF&C will hold a meeting on youth work on 26 September in Amsterdam to look into the needs of youth workers in this respect. The meeting will also feed into the YF&C tool for involving young people and empowering youth workers in preventing radicalisation, which will be available by the end of the year.

Steering committee

RAN Working Group leaders will meet with representatives from the European Commission and the RAN Centre of Excellence on 27 September in their quarterly Steering Committee meeting. On the agenda is the work of the recently-established High-Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R), in which Member States and EU institutions are exploring how to step up exchanges between practitioners and national policy-makers, among other topics. RAN has a seat in this group.

The Steering Committee will also look into the selection of participants to RAN events, the papers which each working group plans to produce this year and the preparation of its 2018 Activity Plan. Finally, it plans to adopt new best practices in the RAN Collection.

What link between school drop-outs and radicalisation - if any?

Some students continue to higher education after school, while others might drop out - for many different reasons. The link between dropping out and radicalisation is not strong. Many extremists are not drop-outs. Most drop-outs don't radicalise. This leaves us with certain questions. For example, what is the relationship between dropping out of school and the risk of being radicalised or recruited? Do we need drop-out programmes for specific individuals or groups who are at risk, or even for potential drop-outs in specific areas?

On 28-29 September, the RAN EDU Working Group will look into the role for the education sector in supporting those who dropped out, as well as those still in need of alternative education (e.g. job training, or resocialisation and rehabilitation). Both 'exit' and 'disengagement' strategies are relevant here.

RAN Local Academy

Approaches to extremism differ across Europe, influenced by local circumstances, governance structures and politics, resources, risk assessments and traditions. But despite a multitude of differences, there are also commonalities. Some of the more advanced and successful local municipal prevention programmes share certain features, such as the creation of a local action plan or strategy around a prevention framework.

The RAN Local Academy is focused on how to develop a local approach and action plan for the prevention of radicalisation. This 4-5 October workshop is specifically intended for local coordinators who work for a local municipality launching work on an approach to countering violent extremism (CVE). With a group of local coordinators who are relatively new to the job, the meeting will look into how to set up of a local CVE action plan. There will also be an opportunity to share and compare good practices.

Other news

Register for Member State Support and Training sessions

The RAN CoE connects, develops and disseminates its expertise on radicalisation while fostering a dialogue between practitioners, policy-makers and academics. Member States are eligible to request support from the RAN CoE. This can be in the form of a RAN advisory team, a train-the-trainer course, or a workshop on a specific topic. Find more information on [Member State support](#) on our website.

Call for papers: Deutsche Präventionstag

The 23rd Deutsche Präventionstag (German Congress on Crime Prevention) will take place on the 11 and 12 June 2018 in Dresden, Germany. The main topic will be 'Violence and Radicalism - Current Challenges for Prevention'. The organisation has opened a [call for papers](#), which must be submitted by 15 October.

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.

- Marzanna Pogorzelska of Opole University in Poland attended two recent RAN EDU meetings, and wrote an article - 'Young, angry and radical at the school door. Inspiration for pedagogical work in multi-cultural reality' - based on her experience. The text has now been published, in Polish, in one of Poland's most popular magazines for teachers and educators: [Problemy Opiekuńczo Wychowawcze](#). For a copy of the article, contact Marzanna via the RAN team (ran@radaradvies.nl).

RAN Calendar

September 2017	October 2017
Member State support <i>Dealing with returning foreign fighters and their families</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 19-21 September, Berlin (DE)	RAN LOCAL <i>The Local Academy</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 4-5 October, Barcelona (ES)
RAN YF&C <i>Youth work</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 26 September, Amsterdam (NL)	RAN P&P & RAN EXIT <i>The role of religion in the exit process</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 10-11 October, Madrid (ES)
RAN EDU <i>School drop-outs</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 28-29 September, Paris (FR)	RAN POL <i>The roles of police and family workers</i> <u>Date and location:</u> 12-13 October, Lisbon (PT)

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