

This is an update on the activities of the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN). You receive this e-mail, along with more than 4 000 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 notice on the use of personal data

As you probably know, the [General Data Protection Regulation](#) (GDPR) entered into force on 25 May. We have therefore updated our notice on the use of personal data.

Your personal data is stored by the RAN CoE on its servers, as well as on the servers of the cloud-based content management system that the RAN CoE employs, located in the Netherlands. Unless you notify us otherwise, the RAN CoE will retain data for the duration of the RAN project. Read the full [Privacy Notice](#) here.

RAN activities since the last RAN Update

RAN YF&C: evaluating family support

Evaluation is the only reliable way of measuring the effectiveness of work done, and can help improve working methods. It is also important in terms of legitimising investment in family support related to preventing and countering violent extremism (PCVE). But are there currently any reliable evaluation tools or methods designed for family support programmes? What are the challenges involved in evaluating such programmes? And how can the findings of an evaluation be used?

These questions were discussed during the Youth, Families & Communities meeting on 17 May. The small-scale meeting brought together 11 family workers and experts on evaluating family support programmes from 7 EU Member States. Participants discussed how we can know whether

or not an intervention is working, and explored how the lessons learned by some can enhance or add value to existing family support programmes elsewhere in the EU. Key conclusions included:

- There is no single form of family support that is suitable for all. Each programme has a different context and target group and uses different methods. Outcomes are therefore different.
- An evaluation always needs to work from a theory of change: you need to establish a set of objectives in advance.
- People often don't realise that they are already evaluating their programme from day to day. A first step towards setting up permanent internal evaluation is to become aware of the things that you are already doing.

Since this was a small-scale meeting, no ex post paper will be published.

Steering Committee

Recent policy developments were on the agenda at the 22 May Steering Committee, with a special focus on the High-Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R), the Civil Society Empowerment Programme and the EU Internet Forum. Participants also discussed the first two RAN Policy and Practice events (4 April in Sofia, 25 April in Madrid). Those that had attended these meetings praised them for fostering interaction between policy-makers and practitioners, and discussed lessons learned that can be applied to future Policy and Practice events. The remaining four events are:

- 4 July - Warsaw: Resilience of children (aged below 12) against radicalisation
- 28 September - Berlin: Working with local communities in CVE
- 6 November - Vienna: Exit. Leaving terrorism behind (in collaboration with the forthcoming Austrian Presidency)
- 23 November - Paris: Optimising Triple P (Police - Prison - Probation)

The Steering Committee also discussed the outcomes of surveys conducted in the first quarter of 2018 to evaluate the quality of seven RAN meetings. It gathered views on working documents, other participants and logistics. Results are summarised in the [previous Update](#).

Discussions on the various working groups' current activities and the open call to create an expert pool completed the programme.

RAN EDU – RAN RVT joint meeting: Boosting resilience in the classroom by using the valuable voices of victims and formers

More than 30 participants from the RAN EDU and RAN RVT Working Groups met in Madrid on 24-25 May to explore how the strong voices of victims and former extremists can be used to prevent extremism and boost positive forces in society - particularly in classrooms.

Participants explored psychological, didactical and victims' perspectives of resilience-building. If victims' testimonies are used to change resilience and attitudes among pupils, engaging with these young people is key. Interaction should address fears, emotions, perceived grievances, identity and sense of belonging.

Participants in Madrid were introduced to several inspiring projects answering questions on how we can reach pupils' hearts and minds to enhance their resilience. Recommendations from this

meeting on preparation, implementation and follow-up will be shared in the ex post paper, to be published on the RAN website.

The lessons learned during RAN working group meetings are shared in ex post papers. Papers are published on the [RAN website](#), usually around a month after the meeting date.

Coming up

Study visit: Youth involvement in Leicester

The importance of involving young people in PCVE is widely accepted around the EU. However, involving young people does not only refer to their engagement in discussions about the prevention of radicalisation, but also in policy and decision-making processes. Involving young people in the development of a national/local approach is sometimes treated as simply 'ticking the box'. This study visit aims at providing participants with an inspiring example of how Leicester has involved young people in the setting up and the implementation of the local PCVE approach, as well as decision-making processes. Participants will be inspired by the Leicester City Young People's Council and Young Consultants, and visit projects such as Reclaim radical and Real talk on 5-6 June.

RAN H&SC: Embedding social- and health care workers within institutional structures

The 2017 H&SC issue paper serves as an introduction to multi-agency working and preventing violent extremism in the context of health and social care. This year RAN H&SC will build on this paper and look for concrete examples and cases of inter- or multi-agency cooperation approaches across the EU. Bringing together a mix of policy-makers and practitioners in both health and social care, the meeting will discuss how professionals are currently embedded in institutional structures across the EU.

We will look at the different models or approaches in which multi-agency collaboration is organised. This includes cases in which it is mandated by law as well as those when it happens ad-hoc or pragmatically. We will also look at both formal and informal structures. They might be organised nationally, regionally, locally or even between a few individuals in a particular context. As there is a plethora of approaches, structures and habits of 'working together', the meeting will keep an open mind and explore all the options. The meeting will take place in Munich on 6-7 June.

Study visit: Juvenile extremist offenders in prison

A study visit to the German state of Hessen, organised together with the Hessian Ministry of Justice, will take place on 7-8 June. The group will visit two prisons (in Wiesbaden and Frankfurt). The visit will focus on how to deal with violent extremist and terrorist offenders, especially when they are 'juvenile' (below 18) or 'young' (18-29). Participants will meet the prison governors and hear about the Hessian approach to violent extremists in general, as well as monitoring inmates and information-sharing. They will also be introduced to a case study of a juvenile extremist offender.

The group will also hear from the state's probation service and the Violence Prevention Network on their work with juvenile and young extremist offenders, as well as from the Ministry of Justice in the state of Bremen. The latter will present a recent handbook on dealing with radicalised juveniles. Finally, the group will have time to discuss the topic, focusing on the

differences between juvenile/young violent extremist offenders compared to adults, and looking at approaches used in other EU Member States.

RAN POL: Lessons from adjacent fields: crime prevention

For police, the lessons learned from decades of well-researched and evaluated crime prevention practice is the most relevant adjacent field. This is why the international German Congress on Crime Prevention (GCOCP, or DPT in German) has been selected as the venue for the next RAN POL meeting (Dresden, 11-12 June). Under the heading, [‘Violence and radicalisation, current challenges for prevention’](#), some 2 000 experts and researchers on prevention will gather to share from Europe, Jordan, Pakistan, Lebanon, Canada and the United States. This is a unique opportunity for RAN POL police prevention experts to tap into the current challenges and new insights. It also presents a unique opportunity for RAN POL to compare and contrast radicalisation prevention and general crime prevention.

RAN YF&C: Building resilience among vulnerable children brought up in an extremist environment

Children growing up in a social environment with extremist influences are particularly vulnerable to becoming radicalised themselves. Additionally, children that have fled Syria, Iraq and other conflict areas may have been exposed to trauma and violence, adding to potential risk factors. Exposure to trauma represents a significant risk to the child’s development and overall functioning and increases the risk of physical and mental issues in the future. These vulnerable children may therefore require long-term care and safeguarding.

But how can you safeguard children who have grown up in a social environment with extremist influences? How do you work with them to help them deal with their trauma and limit the potential for this to negatively impact their future behaviour? How do you ensure that they integrate and resocialise in mainstream society? What type of interventions are required for the long term? And what lessons can be learned from adjacent fields? This meeting will involve experts from youth work, health- and social care and education who are responsible for long-term PCVE interventions alongside experts from adjacent fields, such as cult studies. Participants will exchange experiences regarding the questions above and will work on practical guidelines and policy recommendations.

New publications

[RAN Policy & Practice Event: Common P/CVE challenges in the Western Balkans and European Union](#)

For those who couldn’t attend our first Policy and Practice event of the year in Sofia on 4 April, our paper summarises the recommendations and best practices drawn from the meeting. This document is intended for policy-makers and practitioners who want to better understand the needs and goals of others, and who wish to improve mutual cooperation at all levels.

[RAN H&SC: PTSD, trauma, stress and the risk of \(re\)turning to violence](#)

With increasing numbers of returning foreign fighters (expected) in Europe, together with their children who have grown up in conflict areas, trauma awareness and recognition of trauma signals are important skills for mental health and social workers. Our paper aims to help practitioners in contact with returnees and to give relevant lessons and practices from Northern Ireland and former Yugoslavia.

[RAN YOUNG: Holding difficult conversations](#)

Our paper outlines new perspectives, gathered by the RAN YOUNG people in Stockholm on 1-2 March. This will make interesting reading for practitioners working with vulnerable young people, and needing to hold difficult conversations with them.

Other publications

The current radicalisation prevention model is based on surveillance, the predictive profiling of suspects, a broad use of administrative practices and new models of multi-agency public-private partnerships. They reduce the role of the magistrates in favour of administrative prevention practices.

[This paper](#), published by Agenfor International, deals with the contradictions in current prevention, and highlights the role that the EU should play.

RAN Calendar

June 2018	July 2018
<p>Study visit 'Youth involvement in Leicester' <u>Date and location:</u> 5-6 June, Leicester (UK)</p>	<p>RAN EDU and RAN HS&C Resilience of children against radicalisation Policy & Practice event <u>Date and location:</u> 4 July, Warsaw (Poland)</p>
<p>RAN H&SC Embedding social workers and health workers into new or existing institutional structures <u>Date and location:</u> 6-7 June, Dresden (Germany)</p>	<p>RAN P&P Assessment Tools- State of play <u>Date and location:</u> 9-10 July, place TBC</p>
<p>Study visit 'Juvenile extremist offenders in prison' <u>Date and location:</u> 7-8 June, Hessen (Germany)</p>	<p>Study visit 'Local approach in the city of Hamburg to countering violent extremism' <u>Date and location:</u> Date TBC, Hamburg (Germany)</p>
<p>RAN POL An exchange of experiences on police prevention in radicalisation. <u>Date and location:</u> 11-12 June, Dresden (Germany)</p>	
<p>RAN YF&C Building resilience among vulnerable children</p>	

Date and location: 21-22 June, Stockholm (Sweden)	
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The full calendar for 2018 is available online

If you are interested in attending a forthcoming RAN meeting, please contact the appropriate RAN CoE staff member. Check the RAN website for a [full list of contacts by working group](#).

Contact details

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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