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Website: ec.europa.eu/ran



RAN ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST UPDATE

CSEP meeting (Brussels, 30-31 January)

Since December 2018, and as part of the EU Internet Forum, the European Commission has been funding campaign projects to promote alternative narratives and to empower credible voices. Under the Civil Society Empowerment Programme (CSEP), civil society organisations (CSOs) are developing campaigns to counter polarisation and radicalisation online.

During the CSEP meeting in Brussels, representatives of multiple CSOs from across Europe met with representatives of EU member states, as well as social media companies and online campaign experts. More than 70 project partners came from all over the EU, namely Austria, Belgium, Bosnia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain and the Netherlands. More projects will follow in the course of 2019, continuously growing the CSEP network.

While the overarching aim of this event was to help initiate the projects, participants also heard from experts who explained how to face various challenges while designing and implementing online campaigns.

Be inspired and join the CSEP network via:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/CSEPregistration>

RAN EDU 'Making a difference' Expert session on dissemination, implementation and evaluation in PVE-E (Dublin, 20-21 February)

The RAN EDU working group evaluated a library of resources that aims to support schools in preventing extremism through an educational prism. Starting from a school perspective, the working group discussed how to move beyond generating output and really start making a difference.

Specifically, there is a need to build a dissemination strategy to reach the teachers and schools that would benefit from these documents in order to make a real impact. Dissemination challenges exist, such as the sustainability of the successful innovation itself, and its uptake and adaptation within different contexts. For each country, a different strategy is needed and this depends, among other factors, on the national organisational structure. By using the [GAMMMA+ model](#) from the C&N working group, participants identified the need to establish who should be reached and how this is best achieved. Additionally, it is important to tailor messages to the audience, for example, with a video and having a credible messenger bring it to them with a clear call to action.

RAN C&N Monitoring and evaluation of counter- and alternative campaigns (Berlin, 21-22 February)

Meeting in Berlin with several monitoring and evaluation (M&E) experts (practitioners, academics and marketing and communications specialists), the C&N Working Group discussed monitoring and evaluation of counter- and alternative campaigns. Lively discussions among participants resulted in sharing of expertise and the formulation of tangible tips on what to take into account before, during and after a campaign regarding M&E. Participants agreed that monitoring and planning in advance are two aspects that are often still overlooked in the evaluation process. A Theory of Change and baseline assessment were mentioned as valuable tools to monitor and evaluate the progress of a campaign. Another key outcome is the need for both practitioners and donors to put more emphasis on

monitoring and evaluation and to set clear preconditions about what can be expected of the M&E.

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

RAN YF&C 'The role of sports and leisure activities in P/CVE' (Lisbon, 6-7 March)

Sports and other leisure activities can provide a sense of belonging, identity and purpose which are all essential in building resilience against extremism, but can also be used in exit programmes. While there are many good practices that apply for these types of activities in P/CVE, this has not been discussed within RAN yet. On the other hand, some sports clubs have been identified as hot spots for extremist recruitment. At this expert meeting, academics, first-line practitioners, police and policymakers (all working in the field of preventive/exit work with a focus on sports) will explore the role that sports and leisure activities can play in P/CVE, and how sports clubs can show resilience by withstanding extremist influences. One practical outcome of the meeting will be a call to action for both sports clubs and P/CVE initiatives and projects that incorporate sports.



European Remembrance Day for Victims of Terrorism (Brussels, 11 March)

Monday 11 March 2019 will mark the 15th European Remembrance Day for Victims of Terrorism themed 'Standing Together'. The European Union has devoted this day, the anniversary of the 2004 Madrid train bombings, to commemorating all EU citizens who have fallen victim to terrorism in the EU and worldwide.

A ceremony in Brussels will be attended by victims of terrorism and high-level European representatives, as well as students and representatives of police and emergency services. Victims of terrorist attacks that took place in 2018, and in previous years, have been invited to speak about their experiences. The RAN Remembrance of Victims of Terrorism (RAN RVT) Working Group is organising the ceremony in close cooperation with the European Commission.

RAN LOCAL How are we doing? – Evaluation (Vienna, 13-14 March)

There is a need for the evaluation of local strategies, interventions and training programmes. How do we improve local P/CVE work by using evaluation and monitoring tools? Many local and regional authorities struggle with the structural monitoring and evaluation of their local P/CVE strategy and the interventions employed. During this meeting, experienced evaluators will assist those less experienced to make evaluation and monitoring feasible and doable through tangible tricks, suggestions and inspiration. During the meeting, participants will look into the reasons why and how to monitor and evaluate local and regional CVE and PVE strategy and the interventions employed.

RAN H&SC The connection between mental health issues and radicalisation - the specific cases of autism/Asperger's syndrome or schizophrenia (Turin, 13 March)

Radicalised individuals may suffer from specific neuropsychiatric disorders, such as autism/Asperger's syndrome (ASD) or schizophrenia. Considering what is already known about the push and pull factors of radicalisation, the symptoms of these disorders could cause some mild concern for practitioners from different fields. The meeting will focus on understanding and recognising how particular mental illnesses or disorders (like autism and schizophrenia) can lead people down the pathway to violent extremism and radicalisation as well as prevention efforts that professionals could employ.

RAN Study visit Manchester Responding to crisis — building resilience (21-22 March)

The visit to Manchester is aimed at understanding how the city responded to the terrible Arena bombing, which took place on 22 May 2017 and cost 22 lives, most of whom were children. During this study visit, participants will gather insight on how the municipality of Manchester and the greater city of Manchester dealt with the terrorist attack. What did their preparation look like? How did they work together with affected communities and how does building resilience work in the aftermath of the attack? These are just some of the questions to be raised. The focus will be on the perspective of the City and affected communities.

RAN YOUNG Academy session 1 (Amsterdam, 25-27 March)

The RAN YOUNG Empowerment Academy is a programme to provide young people everything they need in order to set up their own local P/CVE initiative. A diverse group of 30 young people from all over Europe (aged 18-25),

who would like to actively participate in P/CVE, has been selected for the programme. In the Academy, they will work on their personal development, learn about the topic of P/CVE (knowledge development), develop skills and competences needed to be a youth influencer and to set up their local sustainable P/CVE initiative (professional development). This first Academy meeting will serve as a kick-off during which participants will get to know one another and start working on their action plans!

RAN P&P Specialised risk assessment tools (Bucharest, 28-29 March)

The Prison and Probation Working Group will discuss specialised risk assessment tools. This topic was discussed most recently during the P&P Working Group meeting in Brussels in July 2018. During that meeting the most common assessment tools were presented and discussed. This meeting will build from there. The idea is to delve deeper into the practice of working with assessment programmes. To do so, practitioners who work with these programmes will be invited to share their experiences and lessons learned.

Topics will include, among others, the purposes for which the programmes are used, their added value (also compared to regular assessment tools) and the challenges and pitfalls as regards implementation. This will be a small-scale expert meeting.



PODCAST: A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A RADICALISATION PREVENTION PROJECT COORDINATOR

Meet Eric Poinot, a radicalisation prevention project coordinator in the city of Strasbourg (France). He tells us how he tackles radicalisation in his work. He also references a pedagogic tool called [Hexagon](#), which supports the analysis of situations of radicalisation leading to violence, and which was presented for the first time in France by a team from the Centre for Prevention in Montreal (Canada).

Listen to the podcast [here](#).

LATEST PUBLICATIONS

Ex-post papers

[High-Level Conference on child returnees and released prisoners](#)

This paper presents the recommendations formulated at the RAN High-Level conference which focused on child returnees and released prisoners.

[RAN YF&C The role of gender in extremism and P/CVE](#)

There are different ways in which men and women play a role in extremist groups. Furthermore, there are differences in the role that gender plays in different types of extremism. This paper explores those aspects.

[RAN Policy & Practice — The challenge of resocialisation: dealing with violent extremists and terrorist offenders](#)

This paper aims to provide policymakers, NGO practitioners and prison governors, as well as prison and probation staff, with valuable new input for dealing with radicalised individuals. It has a special focus on radicalised individuals during and after imprisonment.

[RAN C&N How can online communications drive offline interventions?](#)

The paper looks specifically at the call to action, a central element when seeking to use online communications to drive concrete offline prevention and counter violent extremism (P/CVE).

[RAN P&P Revisiting the notion of prisons as a breeding ground for radicalisation](#)

This paper focuses on how to provide support and structure in the lives of prisoners to reduce the risks of radicalisation.

EDITORIAL BOARD — TORE BJØRGO

Special Issue on "Terrorism from the Extreme Right"

Following the 9-11 attacks in 2001, extreme-right terrorism has received far less scholarly and political attention than Islamist terrorism. However, with a few notable exceptions, political violence from the extreme right tends, in many Western countries, to be more frequent than attacks by Salafist jihadists. At the same time, right-wing attacks usually result in fewer victims per attack than those emanating from jihadi terrorists. Cumulatively, however, incidents of extreme right-wing violence add up to large numbers. A new special issue of the online journal Perspectives on Terrorism, titled "Terrorism from the Extreme Right", explores the modus operandi of extreme right terrorism and violence – investigating not only why but also how violent events occur. The issue, edited by Jacob Aasland Ravndal and Tore Bjørgo from the Centre for Research on Extremism (C-REX), is available via free download [here](#).

Report on Managing Returned Foreign Fighters

A recent [report](#) entitled How to manage returned foreign fighters and other Syria travellers? Measures for safeguarding and follow-up, by Tina Wilchen Christensen and Tore Bjørgo, Centre for Research on Extremism (C-REX).

Society for Terrorism Research conference

The 13th annual conference of the Society for Terrorism Research (STR) will take place at the University of Oslo on 20-21 June 2019. The theme of this year's conference is "The data revolution in terrorism research: implications for theory and practice". On 22 June, there will be an optional excursion to Utøya, the site of the 22 June, 2011 massacre. Survivors and police officers will tell their stories and scholars will present research on the attacks and the aftermath. Although the deadline for proposing papers has passed, it is still possible to register for participation.

[More information here.](#)

EUROPRIS — RADICALISATION WORKSHOP (BRUSSELS, 14-15 MARCH)

Public sector prison experts from European jurisdictions are invited to take part in a radicalisation workshop being organised by the European Organisation of Prison and Correctional Services (EuroPris) in Brussels (Belgium) on 14-15 March.

The agenda includes the following topics:

- Regime issues for radicalised prisoners: challenges for practitioners to maintain a balance with safety aspects
- Academic and practitioner-driven approaches related to the framework of radicalised prisoners
- Radicalised prisoners and mental health problems
- Radicalisation Matrix 2.19: Visualisation of aspects on radicalisation

Registration closes on 7 March.

[More information](#)

3RD INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUMMER COURSE (BARCELONA, 2-5 JULY)

The Criminal Justice Platform Europe (CJPE) is organising the 3rd International Criminal Justice Summer Course in Barcelona. It will be a combination of workshops, plenary sessions and field visits bringing together participants with a background in prison, probation and restorative justice from a variety of European countries.

Registration closes on 20 June.

[More information](#)

LATEST VIDEOS AND PODCASTS — A NEW RAN MEDIA PAGE!

Video “Optimising Triple P (Police, Prison & Probation)”

Police, prison and probation services are known as the Triple-P. All three work in tandem when dealing with radicalised and terrorist offenders before, during and after imprisonment. The RAN Policy and Practice event in Paris on 22 November 2018 focused on how to enhance cooperation frameworks within, between and beyond Triple-P organisations to deal effectively with radicalised and terrorist offenders.

[Watch our video.](#)

Video “The challenges of resocialisation”

The number of extremist offenders incarcerated in Europe has increased. As a result, a significant number of convicts will be released in the near future. The question now is how to reintegrate those who have served their prison sentences and how to prevent further violent extremist acts. RAN brought together policymakers and practitioners from the police, prison and probation services to discuss the challenges of resocialisation in Vienna on 6 November 2018.

[Watch our video.](#)

Podcast “Research Seminar”

We met five experts who shared with us their hopes and expectations regarding the dialogue between researchers, practitioners and policymakers in tackling radicalisation.

[Listen to our podcast.](#)

A new RAN media page!

We have a new page on our website showcasing all podcasts and videos! Check it out [here](#) and feel free to share videos and podcasts within your network.

RAN Calendar

March 2019

Steering Committee

5 March
Brussels, Belgium

RAN YF&C

The role of sports and leisure activities in P/CVE
6-7 March
Lisbon, Portugal

European Remembrance Day for Victims of Terrorism

11 March
Brussels, Belgium

RAN LOCAL

How are we doing? – Evaluation
Date and location: 13-14 March
Vienna, Austria

RAN H&SC

Neuropsychiatric disorders
13-14 March
Turin, Italy

Study visit

Responding to crisis — building resilience
21-22 March
Manchester, UK

RAN YOUNG

RAN YOUNG Academy session 1
– Kick-off and setting goals
25-26-27 March
Amsterdam, Netherlands

RAN P&P

Specialised risk assessment tools
28-29 March
Bucharest, Romania

April 2019

Multi-agency meeting RAN POL – C&N

Current and future most used and most watched narratives and strategies of far right extremists and Islamist extremists
4-5 April
Stockholm, Sweden

RAN RVT

Evaluation of the impact of victims' terrorism testimonials
10-11 April
Prague, Czech Republic

RAN YF&C Academy

Children growing up in an extremist family
24-25 April
Rome, Italy

RAN H&SC

Grooming for terror – Manipulation and control
24-25 April
Bucharest, Romania

Kick-off meeting Prosecutors

25-26 April
Paris, France

The [full calendar for 2019](#) 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](#).

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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