

Survey results

Positive impact for 90 % of RAN participants

Nearly 90 % of participants at RAN events foresee their attendance having a positive impact on their daily fight against radicalisation towards violent extremism. Close to 95 % (strongly) agree that these exchanges meet their expectations. These insights come from a survey among 175 RAN participants, originating from all but one (Luxembourg) EU Member States.

Between 80 and 90 % of respondents said they had received specific know-how relevant for their work in preventing radicalisation, as well as having strengthened their professional network and discovered good practices. A majority even went as far as to (strongly) agree that ‘the RAN event(s) improved the way I engage with my target group’. In addition, up to three quarters indicated that they disseminated lessons learned from RAN within their own organisations and networks. When asked whether RAN helped them influence policy makers, a little less than half agreed.

In addition to the meetings they attended, three quarters said they use the RAN Update newsletter, two thirds benefit from ex ante and ex post papers connected with physical meetings, and more than half use the website and RAN Collection of best practices. Nearly half of the respondents make use of RAN's issue and policy papers. It should be noted that only a few issue and policy papers had been published before the survey was conducted.

In an attempt to learn from potential weaknesses, respondents were also specifically asked which obstacles they had encountered, that may have diminished potential benefits from RAN events. Most claimed not to have encountered such obstacles. Of those able to indicate an obstacle, mentioned a lack of support within their own country, sector or organisation. Less than 9% mentioned topics that should have been addressed by RAN but were not. Suggestions for improving the RAN impact include discussing more case studies during working group exchanges and RAN(-like) gatherings at national level.

The survey was completed anonymously, allowing respondents to reply freely. Two thirds of the respondents are practitioners, while others include policy makers and academics. The vast majority have

attended 1 to 3 RAN events this and/or last year. Most participated in exchanges with a RAN Working Group of practitioners from a specific sector, while many know RAN from the support it offers to Member States, or from cross-cutting activities such as thematic events.

Since RAN was launched, more than 2 100 individuals, mainly first-line practitioners, have benefited from participation in the network.