

CERIS FCT workshop

EU-funded projects on preventing radicalisation - Synergies and Insights

Geographical factors and approaches

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Structural Challenges

Dominant role of **state security actors**

Disconnection between **policy-making circles** and **CSOs**

Absence of **CSOs** in the **P/CVE** field

Political instability as an obstacle for a coherent P/CVE approach

Distorting role of **international donors**



Drivers of radicalisation and violent extremism
in the light of state dynamics in MENA and the Balkans

Damir Kapidžić (Ed.)



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Religion as the main area of concern

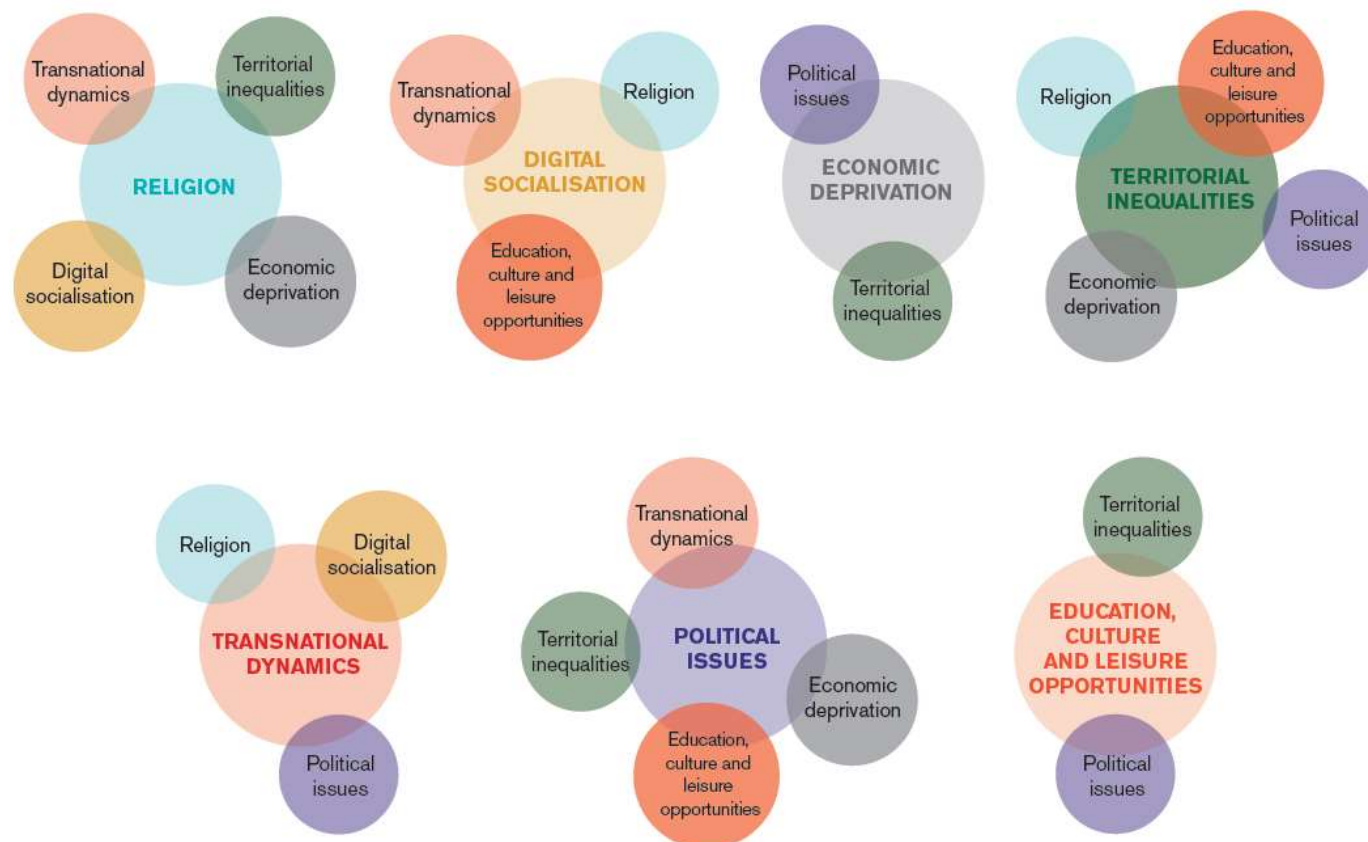
-Economic deprivation: essential element linked to development

Territorial inequalities: rarely considered, much more present in MENA

Link between **transnational dynamics** and **digital socialisation**

Lack of **political representation** in state institutions

Absence of cultural factors in state-level analyses



Cross-regional trends and differences: MENA and the Balkans

Synergies

- Shared reliance on **security structures** and approaches, centralizing policy making.
- Lack of adequate soft measures addressing **inequalities**, particularly considering interconnectedness of drivers.
- **Religion** as main driver in both regions

Differences

- MENA is more affected by **regional inequalities**; thus certain regions are already identified as being more vulnerable
- Balkans also has other forms of radicalisation such as **right-wing radicalisation** evident in MK, BG and BiH.
- The **digital** factor is more central in the Balkans



Macro/Meso-level main findings

Religion

Macro-level: main driver being addressed

Meso-level: religion is identified as a **preventive factor** more than a driver.

Emphasis on **lack of religious education (MENA)**

Territorial inequalities –
relative deprivation

Social and Economic Grievances

MENA region: identified as playing an important role in both **macro** and **meso-level** dynamics.

Considered a factor that many perpetrators of terrorist attacks have in common

Common and Strong
Sense of **Marginalisation**
and **Injustice**

Transnational dynamics

(online/cross-border) are activated, but **local grievances** are much more important.

Economic deprivation and social exclusion: main factor of vulnerability at the local level.

The less **youth frustration** is channelled through clear **political participation processes**, the more they express dissent and grievances through violence



Macro/Meso-level main findings

Ethnicity

The combination of ethnicity and **nationalism** (conflicting narratives + sensitive and complex management of multi-ethnic contexts) emerges in relation to VE vulnerability amongst youth.

Gender

Traditional **gender roles** (males as providers) and certain ideas of **epic heroic roles of masculinity**.

More present in the **meso** than the macro level.

Transnational Dynamics work in conjunction with **local grievances**: objective confluence

Education, culture and leisure opportunities

Digital socialisation: very strong in all case studies. It interacts with the factor of **transnational dynamics**.

- Face-to-face socialisation is being replaced by online socialisation

Football Fan Clubs: **Alternative Leisure and Contestation Platforms**

- Socialisation to violence and expressing political grievances through football fan groups affiliation (Tunisia, Kosovo, Morocco)
- Intersection between **transnational dynamics**, **digital socialisation** and **alternative leisure opportunities**



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