

RAN Collection practice template

Name of the practice

Please note that by practice we mean an activity/method/tool that has been used or is in use by professionals and/or community members.

Against Violent Extremism (AVE)

Description

(max. 300 words)

Short description of the aim and working method of the practice. Please note that in this description, it must be clear that there is an explicit connection to preventing and/or countering radicalisation and/or violent extremism. This means that in the aims and/or the activities/methods/tools of the practice, there is a link to preventing and countering radicalisation and/or violent extremism. Practices without this link cannot be included in the RAN Collection.

The Against Violent Extremism (AVE) network of the Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD) is a unique and powerful global force in the ongoing struggle to tackle violent extremism. Former violent extremists ('formers') and survivors of violent extremism are empowered to work together to push back against extremist narratives and prevent the recruitment of 'at risk' youth.

AVE uses technology to connect, exchange, disseminate and influence violent extremism in all forms: the far right and far left, Al Qaeda, and violent gangs in South America. Via the AVE website, or through the AVE app, formers and survivors can join the network (also on Facebook, Twitter and Google+), find and assist related projects and connect to and support members of the network.

By connecting former extremists from different backgrounds, we facilitate the sharing of best practice and ideas so as to encourage member collaboration. The network leverages the lessons, experiences and connections of individuals who have dealt first-hand with extremism, in an effort to challenge it effectively.

The network has three primary functions:

1. To connect credible messengers to one another so they can learn best practices and share ideas.

	<p>2. To match credible messengers to private sector resources, skills and support. In the aftermath of an extremist attack AVE can act as a positive outlet for members of the public wishing to 'do something' as they can register their skills and interests in order to get involved with AVE projects working to counter extremism. The AVE network and associated website will allow individuals and organisations to share practical expertise, pool resources and find donors or volunteers.</p> <p>3. AVE advocates for an increase in the role that former extremists and survivors of violent extremism play in pushing back against extremist narratives to governments and international bodies.</p> <p>The AVE network has played a vital role in the success of the ISD's counter-narrative programmes, including our Extreme Dialogue counter-extremism education programme and our One to One direct intervention initiative. We draw on the experience of our AVE network members to inform and develop our wider counter-extremism work.</p>
Peer reviewed	No
Key themes Please <u>choose</u> 2 key themes most corresponding with the practice.	Alternative and counter narratives Formers
Target audience Please <u>choose</u> a minimum of one target audience most corresponding with the practice.	Formers Victims of terrorism Youth / Pupils / Students
Geographical scope Please indicate where the practice has been/is implemented (countries, regions, cities).	Global: members across Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, Middle East, North America and South America.
Start of the practice Please indicate when (year) the practice was developed and implemented to indicate the maturity of the practice. In case the practice is no longer active, please indicate when it ended.	Starting year: 2011 AVE began in June 2011, and was launched publicly in April 2012.

Deliverables

Please indicate if the practice has led to concrete deliverables, such as (links to) handbooks, training modules, videos.

Given the nature of AVE as a network, its deliverables to date are as follows.

- Connecting credible messengers to each other to share best practices and ideas concerning countering violent extremism.
- Connecting members to private sector funding.
- Facilitating the establishment of ongoing sub-projects between members and other partners. An example of the latter is the ISD's Extreme Dialogue project that uses members' stories to create educational resources for the prevention of violent extremism. This initiative started in Canada and is now being rolled out in the UK, Germany, and Hungary. AVE members also play an active role in other ISD-led programmes; these include one-to-one interventions in order to facilitate dialogue between former extremists and young people who demonstrate extremist tendencies online.

Evidence and evaluation

Short description on performance measures of the practice, including

1. qualitative views and quantitative (statistical) data e.g. measure of the success of your project or intervention.
2. evaluation and feedback, including surveys and/or anecdotal evidence e.g. have you done either an internal or external evaluation, have you encouraged any feedback from your target group?
3. peer review which feedback did the practice receive in the RAN working group and/or study visit where the practice was discussed.

Please elaborate on the outcomes of your monitoring and evaluation efforts.

As a network, AVE's performance can be measured principally by the growth of the network and partnerships facilitated. To date, AVE has an ever-growing membership of over 2 625 connections (306 formers, 165 survivors, and 81 projects, inclusive). In addition, AVE has also facilitated partnerships offline which have led to the establishment of numerous sub-projects involving AVE members.

- Working as part of the ISD's One to One online intervention programme, AVE formers achieved a 60 % engagement rate with individuals expressing extremist sympathies online, and assisted in the development of best practice guides and indicators for future online intervention initiatives.
- ISD's Extreme Dialogue project has reached over 450 000 educators, parents and young people online, with AVE members involved in delivering training in use of the educational resources to over 250 practitioners.

Sustainability and transferability

(maximum of 200 words)

Short description on the sustainability and transferability of the practice, including e.g.

Through its network, AVE allows members to share ideas, collaborate, and identify partners and resources to find ways of amplifying their initiatives and message to a wider audience. Members are encouraged, to cross-pollinate their expertise, and transfer these to other local contexts.

<p>information on the costs of the practice. <u>Please elaborate on which elements are transferrable and how.</u></p>	
<p>Presented and discussed in RAN meeting</p> <p>Please note that to be included in the Collection, the practice is preferably nominated through one of the RAN meetings. Add name of the RAN Working Group/event, date, place and subject of meeting.</p>	<p>Name: RAN DERAD</p> <p>Date: 04/05/2021</p> <p>Place: Stockholm</p> <p>Subject: First line De-radicalisation Practitioners and Interventions</p> <p>Name: RAN DERAD. Date: 10-11 October 2012. Place: Barcelona. Subject: De-radicalisation and Exit Interventions.</p> <p>Name: RAN@ First Working Group Session. Date: 14 November 2012. Place: London. Subject: Exploring innovative ways in which the Internet and social media may contribute to the fight against violent extremism.</p> <p>Name: RAN@ Working Group. Date: 25-26 March 2013. Place: London. Subject: Internet and social media.</p> <p>Name: RAN@ Working Group. Date: 29 January 2014. Place: The Hague. Subject: Internet and social media.</p> <p>Name: RAN INT/EXT Working Group. Date: 26-27 May 2014. Place: Berlin. Subject: Reintegrating foreign fighters.</p> <p>Name: RAN C&N and RAN Exit Working Group. Date: 26-27 June 2017. Place: Bordeaux. Subject: Working with formers.</p>
<p>Linked to other EU initiatives or EU funding (maximum of 100 words)</p>	<p>AVE provided assistance and networking opportunities to EU TerRa (Terrorism and Radicalisation), a European-based prevention and learning program.</p>

<p>Please indicate how your project was funded, if your practice is linked to other EU initiatives or projects, AND explicitly note if it is (co-) funded by the EU, and if so, by which funds? Such as Erasmus +, Internal Security Funds (ISF), European Social Fund (ESF), Horizon 2020, etc.</p>	<p>AVE facilitated the use of members' testimonies for Extreme Dialogue (Prevention of and Fight against Crime (ISEC) Counter-Narrative Project (CNP)).</p> <p>AVE surveyed our members and prepared a paper which fed into the INT/EXT working group paper: "Proposed policy recommendations for the high level conference, from the ran INT/EXT working group (December 2012)"</p>
<p>Organisation (enter maximum of 100 words and select organisation type)</p> <p>Please briefly describe the organisation behind the practice including the legal status e.g. NGO, governmental, limited company, charity etc.</p>	<p>The ISD is a global counter-extremism organisation dedicated to powering new generations against hate and extremism.</p> <p>For 10 years, we have responded to the rising challenge of extremist movements and the ideologies that underpin them. We deliver cutting-edge programmes built from world-leading expertise in communications and technology, grassroots networks, knowledge and research, and policy advice.</p> <p>Our approach is to counter extremism and the ideologies underpinning it in ways that are practical, affordable, effective and scalable. We support this through cutting-edge research, analysis, data management and capacity building.</p> <p>As an independent organisation, we are able to coordinate government, private, academic and civil society sectors that are often at odds with each other. We help synergize their efforts and ensure each of them plays an appropriate and effective role in fighting extremism.</p> <p>We have honed this approach with a decade of experience, working from both inside and outside government, grassroots communities, technology and media, to build a soft power strategy that is proportional in impact, professionalism and scale to the increasingly sophisticated propaganda and recruitment efforts of extremists.</p> <p>Type of Organisation: Other</p>
<p>Country of origin</p> <p>Country in which the practice is based.</p>	<p>EU or EEA country: Choose from list of EU and EEA countries.</p> <p>or:</p> <p>Non-EU country: United Kingdom</p>
<p>Contact details</p>	<p>Address: PO Box 7814 W1C 1YZ</p>

<p>Please provide contact details of who can be contacted within the organisation, with name and email address.</p>	<p>London United Kingdom Contact person: Henry Tuck, senior development manager Email: ht@isdglobal.org Telephone: +44 02074939333 Website: http://www.againstviolentextremism.org</p>
<p>Last update text (year)</p>	<p>2017</p>