

RAN Collection practice template

<h2>Name of the practice</h2> <p>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.</p>	<h2>New Connexion</h2>
<p>Description (max. 300 words)</p> <p>Short description of the aim and working method of the practice. Please note that in this description, it must be clear that <u>there is an explicit connection to preventing and/or countering radicalisation and/or violent extremism</u>. 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.</p>	<p>New Connexion started their work in the spring of 2009 at a school where there were problems with racism and there was a risk for youth getting radicalised. New Connexion's first three years were spent locally at this school, meeting the students continually every other week.</p> <p>After these first three years, New Connexion started focusing their work on educating school staff. The strategy behind this focus was to reach a larger number of students through the daily interaction with a key person in the students' lives, namely the school staff. After all, they are people with valuable relationships and influence among the students.</p> <p>The main focus is the "approach to the students", consisting of four key components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A democratic approach. Listen respectfully and have a deliberative dialogue. 2. Emphasis on facts and being critical of sources. Show the students new perspectives! 3. Problematisation: dare to process experiences and challenges that can arise in the meeting of people with different backgrounds than their own. The focus should be on finding solutions, not on the problems. 4. Long-term and continuity. Attitudes and values are deeply rooted within us and take time to change.

	<p>The goal is for the students to begin reflecting on the views and attitudes they have themselves, and the view and attitudes they see in other people.</p> <p>A high demand for tools in the work against racism and radicalisation exists today, and to meet this demand New Connexion has developed two teacher's guides on this subject: one for grades seven through nine, and one for high school. The foundation of these materials is the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.</p> <p>New Connexion is a non-profit organisation whose employees travel to schools within Sweden to educate, to follow-up with, and to coach the school's staff. New Connexion has gained much experience in working in environments where xenophobic and racist reasoning is the norm, both amongst adults and youth.</p>
Peer reviewed	No
Key themes Please <u>choose</u> 2 key themes most corresponding with the practice.	Formal/informal education (Early) prevention
Target audience Please <u>choose</u> a minimum of one target audience most corresponding with the practice.	Law enforcement officers Local Community Organisations / NGOs Prison / Probation
Geographical scope Please indicate where the practice has been/is implemented (countries, regions, cities).	Sweden
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: 2009

Deliverables

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

New Connexion has developed two teacher's guides: one for teachers of students in grades seven through nine and one for teachers of high school students.

The material for grades seven through nine (students aged 13-16) was formed, tested, and refined in a process with students over a three-year-period. The lessons incorporate facts, small group discussions, role-playing and exercises. The material is made for long-term, continuous work and should be used during the entire three school years. There are 16 lessons per year. The material is based on the Swedish school curriculum.

The high school material (students aged 16-19) was written in close cooperation with students from four different high schools. The students chose relevant areas and compared them to the regulatory documents and made exercises and role-plays. The high school material is designed for a long-term and continuous work on questions related to racism and integration. It is closely connected to the subjects taught in high schools in Sweden and to the curriculum for the Swedish high school.

The base for both materials is the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. New Connexion's philosophy is that good conditions for a meeting place are created by an open climate for discussion, where the democratic approach, seeing things from different perspectives and facts are the focus.

Evidence and evaluation

Short description on performance measures of the practice, including

Since its start in 2009, New Connexion has held more than 600 lessons with students, and every year we educate approximately 1000 teachers in Sweden.

New Connexion's work and material have been observed and recommended in the governmental enquiry SOU 2012:74 The stranger's enemy inside of us.

New Connexion has over the past years carried out a number of surveys amongst those who have been through our education and also amongst those who work with the material. The results shows that New Connexion's educations and materials have had an impact on changing attitudes and situations in schools.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>qualitative views and quantitative (statistical) data</u> e.g. measure of the success of your project or intervention. 2. <u>evaluation and feedback</u>, 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. <u>peer review</u> which feedback did the practice receive in the RAN working group and/or study visit where the practice was discussed. <p>Please elaborate on the outcomes of your monitoring and evaluation efforts.</p>	
<p>Sustainability and transferability (maximum of 200 words)</p> <p>Short description on the sustainability and transferability of the practice, including e.g. information on the costs of the practice. <u>Please elaborate on which elements are transferrable and how.</u></p>	<p>New Connexion’s educations and methods are transferable to other contexts since it is built upon international research in social psychology in the areas of changing attitudes and values and of human interaction.</p> <p>Currently, the material is available only in Swedish.</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 EDU</p> <p>Date: 25/02/2016</p> <p>Place: Gothenburg</p> <p>Subject: Empowering and supporting teachers</p>
<p>Linked to other EU initiatives or EU funding (maximum of 100 words)</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</p>	<p>-</p>

<p>(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>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>New Connexion is a non-profit and non-governmental organization. New Connexion is funded primarily by governmental grants.</p> <p>Type of Organisation: NGO</p>
<p>Country of origin</p> <p>Country in which the practice is based.</p>	<p>EU or EEA country: Sweden</p> <p>or:</p> <p>Non-EU country: Enter name if non EU country</p>
<p>Contact details</p> <p>Please provide contact details of who can be contacted within the organisation, with name and email address.</p>	<p>Address: New Connexion Box 9 775 25 Krylbo Sweden</p> <p>Contact person: Birgitta Hägg Email: birgitta@newconnexion.se Telephone: (+46) 70-672 80 39 Website: http://newconnexion.se/</p>
<p>Last update text (year)</p>	<p>2016 and before</p>