

## **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.

#### **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.

# Advice Centre Hesse — Religious Tolerance instead of Extremism

The main focus of the Advice Centre Hesse is to intervene in the radicalisation process. Targeted deradicalisation activities are aimed at people who tend to travel to war zones, return to Germany as 'foreign fighters' and/or are seeking to disengage from extremist ideologies. The Advice Centre Hesse also deals with cases of extremism related to other countries.

The Advice Centre Hesse deals with adolescents, parents and experts who have questions related to extremism. The centre provides prevention, intervention and deradicalisation measures that can help those who feel helpless and overwhelmed in their dealings with religious extremism. The Advice Centre Hesse promotes increased (religious) tolerance of different world views, as well as early detection, prevention and reversal of radicalisation processes.

A key feature of the Hessian approach is to provide adolescents, at an early stage, with in-depth information on interfaith and intercultural connections, and on dealing with interfaith conflicts. Interfaith communication allows for a basic understanding that does not reject fundamental principles such as democracy, non-violence, human rights and tolerance. Rather, it includes these values in one's own religion as well. At the same time, this understanding also prevents extremism and the trend towards radicalism.





| Target audience   | Authorities   |
|---|---|
| Please <u>choose</u> 2 key themes most corresponding with the practice. | Community engagement/civil society  |
| Key themes  | Deradicalisation/disengagement  |
|   | <ul> <li>Disengagement assistance: advice and dialogue-<br/>promoting measures with radicalised persons, foreign<br/>fighters and returnees (e.g. from Syria)</li> </ul>  |
|   | <ul> <li>Advice, support and special training for adolescents<br/>at risk of becoming radicalised, prior to delinquency</li> </ul>  |
|   | Advice for relatives dealing with religious extremism   |
|   | Intervention/deradicalisation/disengagement assistance:   |
|   |   |
|   | <ul> <li>Information, awareness-raising and educational<br/>events for early detection and strengthening of coping skills<br/>for those in contact with vulnerable young people</li> </ul>  |
|   | Qualification:  |
|   | Civic education for promoting tolerance and democratic capability   |
|   | Advice for parents, mosque congregations and other interested parties, in the framework of preventive work  Civil advantage for prevention to be prevented and a second conditions and a second conditions and a second conditions are second conditions. |
|   | Student workshops in schools on interfaith and intercultural responsibility   |
|   | Prevention:   |
|   | Range of services   |
|   | maraphers.  |
|   | <ul> <li>activate and professionalise institutions and multipliers.</li> </ul>  |
|   | promote interfaith/intercultural responsibility   |
|   | integrate returnees (e.g. from Syria or Iraq)   |
|   | prevent departure (e.g. to Syria or Iraq)   |
|   | <ul> <li>prevent and reverse radicalisation processes and violent behaviour</li> </ul>  |
|   | The objectives of the Advice Centre Hesse are to:   |
|   | In order to cover a broad spectrum within the target group, prevention as well as intervention measures are used. In particularly entrenched cases, deradicalisation measures and disengagement assistance are provided.                                  |
|   |   |





| Please <u>choose</u> a minimum of one target audience most corresponding with the practice.  | Youth / Pupils / Students Families  |
|--|---|
| Geographical scope  Please indicate where the practice has been/is implemented (countries, regions, cities).   | Hesse (DE)  |
| 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: 2014   |
| Deliverables  Please indicate if the practice has led to concrete deliverables, such as (links to) handbooks, training modules, videos.  | -   |
| 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. | The evaluation of the Advice Centre Hesse was published in 2018. It spotlighted the high quality of the services offered by the centre (http://violence-prevention-network.de/de/component/phocadownload/category/3-evaluationsberichte?download=404:evaluationsbericht-beratungsstelle-hessen).  In addition, continuous quality management is performed throughout the year, in the form of feedback from the target group, trainer reports and peer reviews. |



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

### Sustainability and transferability

(maximum of 200 words)

Short description on the sustainability and transferability of the practice, including e.g. information on the costs of the practice. Please elaborate on which elements are transferrable and how.

The Advice Centre Hesse is the result of a transfer process taking place over the last 20 years. Violence Prevention Network's methods, practices and approaches are gathered together here under one project, for the first time in Germany.

To date, negotiations with other federal states have culminated in the opening of more advice centres in the federal states of Bavaria, Berlin, Thuringia and Saxony.

## Presented and discussed in RAN meeting

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. Name: RAN Plenary and High Level Conference

Date: 16-17 June 2014

Place: Brussels

**Subject:** Enter subject of meeting.

#### Linked to other EU initiatives or EU funding

(maximum of 100 words)

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.

- Initiator and founding member of European Network of De-radicalisation (ENoD)
- Member of Advisory Board of Impact Europe
- WG Leader of the RAN Working Group EXIT (together with EXIT Sweden, until 2020)

#### Organisation

(enter maximum of 100 words and select organisation type)

Please briefly describe the organisation behind the practice including the legal status e.g. NGO, governmental, limited company, charity etc.

The NGO Violence Prevention Network is a group of experienced specialists with many years of experience in the fields of prevention of extremism and deradicalisation. Various federal ministries, state-level justice departments, state-level and national security agencies and institutional partners have worked closely with the association from its inception, and they value the group's high degree of knowledge and competency, and its outstanding reputation.



|   | The main focus of Violence Prevention Network is to work directly with radicalised people at different stages of radicalisation. The aim is to support them in disengaging from inhumane ideologies and violent behaviour.  The organisation's projects have been or are financed by institutional, regional, federal funds, the European Social Fund (ESF) or the European Commission.  Type of Organisation: NGO |
|---|--|
| Country of origin  Country in which the practice is based.  | EU or EEA country: Germany or: Non-EU country: Enter name if non EU country  |
| Contact details  Please provide contact details of who can be contacted within the organisation, with name and email address. | Address: Alt-Reinickendorf 25 13407 Berlin Germany Contact person: Judy Korn, CEO Email: judy.korn@violence-prevention-network.de Telephone: +49 3091705464 Website: http://www.violence-prevention- network.de/en/  |
| Last update text<br>(year)  | 2024   |