

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.

Training for prison guards: 'Identification of signs of radicalisation'

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.

At its root, this training need was identified through operational requirements in information flow and detection of radicalisation. The training addresses limited knowledge among prison staff on how to recognise signs of radicalisation. Staff appear to lack knowledge about simple signs as well as knowledge of the radicalisation process itself. As a consequence, they are not able to report signs of radicalisation to the relevant services.

The training set up by the Belgian Ministry of Justice was devised to overcome this challenge. It is delivered over 2 days by an internal trainer from the prison service.

The main focus of this training is on: 1) getting to know the process of radicalisation, 2) recognising different signs of radicalisation, 3) interpreting signs of radicalisation in relation to the external context in which they are perceived, and 4) reporting appropriately on these signs.

The training was not developed from scratch. Training on radicalisation was already used by the federal police service and was known as 'copra-training'. This was embedded in a philosophy of community policing. As such, copra-training required adaptation to be relevant for a penitentiary setting. In the adaptation, the Training Centre for Penitentiary Staff, psycho-social assessment departments as well as expert units on radicalisation within the Belgian penitentiary administration were involved.

	Setting up the training requires at least one simulation room to apply the observation skills learned.
<p>Key themes</p> <p>Please <u>choose</u> 2 key themes most corresponding with the practice.</p>	<p>Prison and probation</p> <p>Training</p>
<p>Target audience</p> <p>Please <u>choose</u> a minimum of one target audience most corresponding with the practice.</p>	<p>Prison / Probation</p> <p>Add additional target audience.</p> <p>Add additional target audience.</p>
<p>Geographical scope</p> <p>Please indicate where the practice has been/is implemented (countries, regions, cities).</p>	The training is applied in the Dutch-speaking part of Belgium.
<p>Start of the practice</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Starting year: 2015</p> <p>Ending year: Select ending year of practice in case practice has ended.</p>
<p>Deliverables</p> <p>Please indicate if the practice has led to concrete deliverables, such as (links to) handbooks, training modules, videos.</p>	This classical face-to-face training takes place in a classroom setting. Course participants receive handouts of the PowerPoint presentation and links for further study. The exercises, some with actors, take place in simulation rooms. Either real footage is used or fragments involving actors, games and computer games. Course participants are assigned take-home observation exercises.
<p>Evidence and evaluation</p> <p>Short description on <u>performance measures</u> of the practice, including</p>	<p>The training starts with broad information on beliefs, religions and diversity as a theoretical / legal framework. This is considered necessary for participants to learn how to recognise signs of radicalisation and the radicalisation process.</p> <p>The training also covers the need for a clear reporting policy to clearly describe the entire process of radicalisation and the role and responsibility of prison staff. It shows how, for</p>

<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>instance, a number of processes should be in place to avoid having knowledge, but no reporting.</p> <p>The original training programme needed to be adapted to a penitentiary context. This took time but was considered a success.</p> <p>Since its launch, the training has been gradually improved by increasing the course participants' involvement. This was done by giving them observation exercises and assignments to carry out on their own during the 2 days of training.</p> <p>A reporting tool developed was tested on the basis of experiments during the training, and was then optimised.</p> <p>Prior to the training, there was insufficient knowledge and therefore a certain degree of suspicion of the new course. However, in subsequent courses there was no further resistance to participating, and more demand than course places.</p> <p>The training was evaluated by the first group of participants, and feedback led to further refinement. Evaluation of the training (internal and external) has not (yet) been carried out.</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>The training is ongoing and does not depend on external funding. It is organised and funded by the prison service.</p> <p>The training can be easily used by other Member States if it is translated into their language and if they already have some sort of 'train the trainer' provisions. The use of a simulation room is not obligatory.</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: Enter name of the RAN working group or event.</p> <p>Date: Select date of the meeting.</p> <p>Place: Enter place of the meeting.</p> <p>Subject: Enter subject of meeting.</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 (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>We have developed an e-learning programme on extremism and radicalisation within prisons through the ISF fund. The target audience includes all prison staff in Belgium and has been rolled out from 2019. The following topics are covered in the e-learning programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Symbolism and extremism - Radicalisation process - Indicators - Legal framework - Reporting - Who does what - Exercises
<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>Ministry of Justice</p> <p>Type of Organisation: Governmental institution</p>
<p>Country of origin</p> <p>Country in which the practice is based.</p>	<p>EU or EEA country: Belgium</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: Click or tap here to enter text. Contact person: Iris Naert, Serge Lukacs Email: iris.naert@just.fgov.be ; serge.lukacs@just.fgov.be Telephone: Click or tap here to enter text. Website: Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
<p>Last update text (year)</p>	<p>2022</p>