JANUARY 2019

UPDATE 57

Radicalisation Awareness Network

RAN

CONTENTS

ec.europa.eu/ran

CIVIL SOCIETY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (CSEP) CALL

There is still time to submit your proposal to receive funding for your campaign!

What is it? The objective is to address the sharp rise in extremists and terrorists use of the internet. To support the production of alternative/counter-narratives, in particular online, their dissemination and monitoring by civil society organisations, and the evaluation of their impact.

Who can apply? All EU Member States, with the exception of United Kingdom and Denmark. In duly justified cases, entities established in third countries (except for the United Kingdom and Denmark) can participate as partners/co-applicants.

What is the deadline? Applications must be submitted by 12 February 2019.

Interested? Read here the A to Z of a successful online campaign.

Apply here.

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RAN ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST UPDATE

RAN C&N 'Communications to drive offline interventions' (22-23 November)
The RAN C&N working group met in Amsterdam in November to discuss how online communication can yield concrete offline action and interventions. Lively discussions among participants resulted in sharing expertise and the formulation of tangible tips on how to inspire targeted audiences to take action. For example, one tip is to find an existing offline action involving your target group and to add to it or join it with your campaign's call to action. This is one way to prevent alternative/counter-narrative campaigns from operating alone instead of in conjunction or in addition to other P/CVE initiatives already on the ground. Another tip is to match the wording of a call to action to fit the language used by your target audience and to test it with the target audience before using it.

RAN EXIT Management of Exit programmes (17-18 January)
The overall aim of the two past editions of the Exit Academy was to realise the skills needed to work in the field of exit. A small-scale RAN Exit Academy on 'Management of Exit work' was held in Frankfurt (DE) on 17-18 January. The first day delved into the internal factors of exit management. Participants explored what it takes to manage an exit programme/facility. They also discussed how to organise a programme and how to recruit, safeguard and coach staff. The second day focused on the external factors influencing the management of exit facilities, such as how to deal with the media and public pressure. Participants also discussed how to organise or work within a multi-agency cooperation and how to cooperate with the government and/or other stakeholders that provide funding.

The programme was set up as a structured discussion between experts on exit work. Participants outlined the main challenges for managers of exit programmes: recruiting the right staff, managing a diverse team, expectations from politicians as regards the timeframe in which you are required to solve problems, and securing funds, especially on a sustainable basis. While no ex post paper is foreseen for this meeting, a document with practical guidelines for managers of exit facilities will be published.

RAN LOCAL – dealing with far right extremism on a local level (23–24 January)
To understand the phenomenon of far right extremism, RAN LOCAL practitioners (P/CVE coordinators from all around Europe) shared their experiences and brainstormed ideas on strategies that may be used to address this specific form of extremism. This exercise involved understanding the motives for engaging in the far right scene, as well as the methods they use to engage with new recruits. The motives are not very different from those identified for other forms of extremism. However, the methods they use are often not violent; instead they work through social actions and aim to win the political discourse. All participants agreed on the need to invest more time in the discussion of far right extremism at the local level, as it is emerging as a growing problem throughout Europe.

RAN POL dissemination and implementation of RAN POL lessons (24-25 January)
A group of committed Points of Contact of RAN POL met in Budapest on January 24-25 to brainstorm how they can join forces to ensure meetings in 2019 are successful. Several Points of Contacts shared inspiring stories about how they brief and debrief participants of RAN meetings. They also explained how they have created internal structures to disseminate the lessons and projects of RAN meetings. Many agreed there is a need for more organised exchanges between participants from other working groups, rather than limiting this exchange to RAN POL participants only. RAN offers support in facilitating this exchange.

The first meeting of 2019 also addressed the need for evaluating the police P/CVE interventions and programmes. Due to the urgency of the work and the limited resources, everyone involved needs to know whether they are doing the right thing in the right way. What is more, participants contributed to the upcoming events of 2019, which will focus on information sharing, soon-to-be released prisoners and the shifts in narratives and strategies of far right and Islamist extremists.

Overall, the meeting proved to be successful in forming as a platform for exchange between RAN POL and police official from different EU Member States.

> The lessons learned during RAN working group meetings are shared in ex post papers. Papers are published on the RAN website, usually around a month after the meeting date.

COMING UP

RAN EDU 'Make a change' (20-21 February)
From the very start, this working group has been building a library of resources to support schools with their responsibility to contribute to prevention of violent extremism PVE. The policy paper 'Transforming schools into labs for democracy', the education projects in the RAN Collection, the EDU Manifesto and, for instance, the contributions to the Returnee Manual and the Polarisation Management Manual, all provide valuable guidance for schools.

In 2019, RAN EDU aims to improve the dissemination and implementation of all relevant strategies. In this regard, how governments support education to contribute to PVE is crucial. This is where the 2018 policy paper (to be published) on support structures comes into play.

In February, RAN EDU will invite experts to discuss how existing products, information and tools can be used to make a bigger impact. In this discussion, RAN EDU will reinforce the case for evaluation and show how evaluation can be done in educational PVE projects and approaches. Participants will benefit from practical suggestions and pointers on how evaluation can be included in these projects.

We are still looking for educators and experts committed to PVE in schools. Experts must know which projects and what type of support are available and be aware of the reasons keeping the educational sector from applying.

RAN C&N effective alternative and counter-narrative campaigns (21-22 February)
The C&N working group has already looked into the effects of alternative/counter-narratives to verify if they work, how they work and when they work. However, there remains a need for more evaluation of alternative/counter-narrative campaigns, especially as regards their impact. Many academics and practitioners still struggle to determine how to monitor and evaluate the impact of their alternative/counter-narrative campaigns. Another difficult question to answer is about how to ensure you are not causing more harm than good. How can practitioners with limited time and resources integrate evaluation into their campaigns? What can we learn from campaigns that did not work? These are among the questions that will be answered during the C&N meeting. With participants' expertise, the aim is to find ways to make monitoring and evaluation of alternative/counter-narratives possible in a practical, feasible way without needing enormous budgets.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CROSS-CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGIST — PODCAST

Meet Kinga Bialek, cross-cultural psychologist at the Society for Intercultural Education, Training and Research Poland (SIETAR) in Poland. She tells us how she tackles radicalisation in her work.

Listen to the podcast **here**.

LATEST PUBLICATIONS

RAN EDU The role of primary education in preventing radicalisation: a realistic and optimistic perspective
This ex post paper presents the perspectives of practitioners and academic in the role of primary educators in tackling radicalisation.

RAN Study visit Learning from adjacent fields: the relation between extremism and hooliganism
Although the majority of ultra supporters and hooligans do not back extremist ideologies and their situations differ across EU countries, far right extremism is an increasing phenomenon among hooligan and ultra groups. This paper explores the relation between extremism and hooliganism.

RAN Research Seminar
Learn how to enhance the dialogue between researchers, practitioners and policymakers in preventing and countering violent extremism. This paper stresses that funds for research should include a dedicated budget for a chapter on the implications for practitioners and policymakers.

RAN LOCAL Tabletop exercises: Practicing multi-agency cooperation
This ex post paper contains a brief summary of our most important findings and reflections about practicing multiagency cooperation.

RAN RVT Checklist Shaping your testimonial
Those who have been victims of terrorist attacks sometimes wish to tell their stories and provide a testimonial. Our checklist is for them and should help in addressing difficult issues such as dealing with emotions.

RAN Policy and Practice Dealing with radicalised individuals during and after imprisonment
How should we deal with radicalised individuals during and after imprisonment? Our paper aims to provide policymakers, NGO practitioners and prison officials, as well as prison and probation staff, with valuable new input.

RAN YOUNG review panel – Collection practices
RAN YOUNG came together in Riga to review RAN Collection practices. This paper presents their insights.

Developing counter- and alternative narratives together with local communities
Are you a practitioner looking for tips on how to develop alternative/counter-narrative campaigns together with local communities in tackling radicalisation? This paper is for you.

RAN HSC Methods of evidence-based approaches
Monitoring and evaluating individuals associated with radicalisation and extremism can be challenging. This paper includes recommendations for social workers and healthcare practitioners.

EDITORIAL BOARD – ORLA LYNCH

Terrorism and extremism remained a significant issue for security services and policymakers across Europe in 2018. Despite the ongoing vigilance (or perhaps because of it), we witnessed a drop in the number of fatalities from terrorism in 2018. According to the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) Global Terrorism Index (2018), there was a reduction in terrorist fatalities from 168 deaths in 2016 to 81 in 2017. However these figures do not tell the whole story. While the fatalities decreased the incidence of attacks increased. We also witnessed a greater spread of attacks – this means more countries experienced fatalities from terrorist attacks than in the past (see).

In 2018, there were a number of important trends and developments in the literature on terrorism and political violence. Both GLOBSEC and Kings College London are currently conducting Europe-wide research on the links between ordinary crime and terrorist offending (see here and here). This personogenic approach follows the well-established tradition of focusing on the qualities of the individuals involved in terrorism. An alternative that prioritises the importance of existing scientific approaches to understanding behaviour and importantly the role of situational factors in understanding terrorism and extremism is that of Paul Gill (see The Grievance Project) and the Applying Psychology approach developed by the current author.

Finally, it is worth noting (as we leave 2018 behind us) is the documented rise in right wing extremism in Europe and the United States. Over the past five years, we have witnessed an increase in the number of terrorist attacks and fatalities carried out by far right extremists (IEP, 2018), but also their increasing influence in both the offline and online worlds. This is reflected in the increasing breath of publications in what might be called the terrorism studies in literature. An account of far right extremism in the online space by Erin Saltman et al (2018) (see here) is testament to this.

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RAN Calendar

February 2019

RAN C&N
'Evaluating and monitoring the impact of your counter-
and alternative narrative campaign'
Date and location 21-22 February
Berlin, Germany

RAN EDU
'Make a change' - Expert session on dissemination,
implementation and evaluation'
Date and location 21-22 February,
Antwerp, Belgium

RAN C&N
'Evaluating and monitoring the impact of your counter-
and alternative narrative campaign'
Date and location 21-22 February
Berlin, Germany

March 2019

Steering Committee
Date and location: 5 March
Brussels, Belgium

RAN YF&C
The role of sports, cultural
and other leisure activities in P/CVE
Date and location: 11 March
Lisbon, Portugal

RAN LOCAL
How are we doing? – Evaluation
Date and location: 13-14 March
Vienna, Austria

RAN YF&C
RAN YOUNG Academy session 1
– Kick-off and setting goals
Date and location: 25-27 March,
Amsterdam, Netherlands

RAN P&P
Specialised risk assessment tools
Date and location: end of March
Bucharest, Hungary

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The **full calendar for 2019** is available online

**If you are interested in attending a forthcoming RAN meeting, please contact the appropriate
RAN CoE staff member. Check the RAN website for a full list of contacts by working group.**

Contact details

**The RAN Centre of Excellence is implemented
by RadarEurope, which is a subsidiary of the
RadarGroup:**

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**Would you like more frequent updates on RAN's activities? Get access to all public RAN papers as they
are released, other RAN news and thought-provoking articles on the radicalisation process by following
RAN on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn or YouTube.**

Website: ec.europa.eu/ran