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# **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.

### **Social Net Conferencing**

Social net conferencing offers offenders in prison the chance to develop a mandatory plan for their future after their release. Offenders work together with their social network (or net) to create this plan, which is then sent to the judge, who issues orders according to the plan, at the trial. The probation officer supervises compliance with the orders, and therefore also implementation of the plan.

The method benefits radicalised individuals by helping them develop a strategy or plan covering daily life, work, housing and so on, alongside their social network and associated professionals.

The social net conference is organised by one or two coordinators, who set up the meeting between radicalised individuals and their social nets. Under the social net conference and the plan developed, radicalised individuals are obliged to fulfil the conditions of the plan. In this way, the individual's return to radicalised environments can be prevented — initiating a change for the better.

The probation officer participates in the conference, and formulates the main concerns in terms of release and recidivism. The plan should address these concerns.

### **Key themes**

Prison and probation





Please <u>choose</u> 2 key themes most corresponding with the practice.	Family support
Target audience  Please <u>choose</u> a minimum of one target audience most corresponding with the practice.	Families Prison / Probation Add additional target audience.
Geographical scope  Please indicate where the practice has been/is implemented (countries, regions, cities).	Austria
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  It is in practice and is defined by the Juvenile Code.
Deliverables  Please indicate if the practice has led to concrete deliverables, such as (links to) handbooks, training modules, videos.	<ul> <li>Hofinger, V., &amp; Schmidinger, T. (2017).</li> <li>Deradikalisierung im Gefängnis. Wien, Institute for the Sociology of Law and Criminology. Retrieved from http://www.irks.at/assets/irks/Publikationen/Forschungsberic ht/Endbericht_Begleitforschung_2017.pdf</li> <li>Grafl et al. (2014). Evaluationsstudie zum Projekt Sozialnetz-Konferenz in der Bewährungshilfe, Abschlussbericht.</li> </ul>
Evidence and evaluation  Short description on performance measures of the practice, including	The studies mentioned above evaluate the method and include feedback from target groups (participants).  Social net conferencing is part of the NEUSTART service, and therefore forms part of the quantitative data which NEUSTART deliver via the internal electronic documentation system.



- 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?
- 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.

## 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.

To transfer the practice, it is important to get the Ministry of Justice on board, to ensure that the social net conferences can be held in prison. Cases for social net conferences are assigned by judges. The coordinators organising the conference are trained in workshops and seminars, and also by other coordinators already experienced in applying the method.

NEUSTART offers two different types of social net conferences: those held in pretrial custody and those held prior to release. For social net conferences in pretrial custody, offenders and the social network work on a plan, which will be presented to the judge at trial. It should be an additional basis for decision-making on the sentence. One coordinator organises this type of conference, and is granted 8 hours working time per conference.

For social net conferences held prior to release, offenders and the social network prepare a plan, which will be presented to the judge determining the parole. This type of conference is organised by two coordinators; in addition to the social net conference, a follow-up conference is held 6 months later. In this follow-up, offenders and participants review the status of the plan, and discuss what works and what does not work in implementing the plan.

# Presented and discussed in RAN meeting

Name: RAN 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.

Date: December 2016

Place: Riga

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.

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### 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.

NEUSTART is a non-profit organisation, set up as an association, funded by the Austrian Ministry of Justice. NEUSTART provides probation services in Austria. In addition, NEUSTART offers social work services in the fields of electronic home detention, victim-offender mediation, after-care services and community services. Since 2014, NEUSTART has also offered social net conferences, and therefore this method is also financed by the Ministry of Justice.

Type of Organisation: Other

#### **Country of origin**

Country in which the practice is based.

EU or EEA country: Austria

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: Castelligasse 17

1050 Wien Austria

Contact person: Bernd Glaeser Email: bernd.glaeser@neustart.at Telephone: +43 154595601201

Website: http://www.neustart.at/at/en/

More detailed information here:





	https://www.neustart.at/at/de/unsere_angebote/nach _haft/sozialnetz_konferenz.php
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