

WG REHAB

24/11/2021

SPECIAL OVERVIEW PAPER

RAN Rehabilitation working group

RAN activities on Rehabilitation

Introduction

The RAN Rehabilitation Working Group is the successor of RAN Derad/Exit and RAN Prison and Probation (only for the latter part) Working Groups. In the European Union (EU), exit and rehabilitation work for the extremist target group has a brief tradition (the first programmes appeared in the 1990s) and academic insights and developing best practices are still considered 'works in progress'. What's more, rehabilitation work is organised differently across the EU Member States. Some differences also exist within the same country.

- Dedicated exit programmes *versus* general services like probation or social work.
- State-led *versus* programmes run by non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
Programmes under judiciary obligation *versus* voluntary participation.

During the period 2012-2015, RAN Derad focused on building a network and establishing guiding principles. Important discussions centred on the professional role of the exit worker, and on how to motivate participants and formers. Interchangeability of methods for rehabilitating extremists from different ideologies became topical as Islamist Extremism (IE) increased.

During the period 2016-2019, there was growing attention on rehabilitation due to the (expected) returning foreign terrorist fighters and efforts to safeguard both society and individuals. There was also a need among practitioners and policymakers for more insights on impact, evaluation, and good working methods. This resulted in training sessions (academies) and learning from adjacent fields (cults, gangs) in RAN Exit.

While the Prison and Probation Working Group was mainly focussed on prisons during the first period (2012-2015), probation gained priority during the second period (2016-2019). The anticipated release of terrorist offenders triggered this. Also, the fact that not all EU MS have dedicated exit programmes and therefore probation plays a significant role in rehabilitation increased the need for more exchange. The importance of multi-agency cooperation on rehabilitation has been highlighted over the years because the process is multi-faceted and therefore many stakeholders are involved.

The target audience of the Rehabilitation working group are professionals working on disengagement, deradicalisation and rehabilitation of radicalised, extremist or even terrorist individuals. A part of them is fully dedicated to this target group, which includes practitioners of exit programmes or of dedicated projects within probation. For some professionals like psychologists, social and youth workers, rehabilitation is part of their professional duties. Others are 'formers' who were previously radicalised.

Current working group leaders: Robert Örell (2012-present) and Ioan Durnescu (2019-present)

Previous working group leaders: Harald Weilnböck (Derad 2012-2015), Yola Wanders (P&P 2012-2015) Finn Grav (P&P 2012-2018), Judy Korn (Exit 2015-2019), Angel Lopez Muriel (P&P 2015-2017) & Torben Adams (P&P 2018-2019)

Main theme 1: Guidelines for Rehabilitation work

Over the past 10 years the constituencies of the current RAN Rehabilitation Working Group have contributed to numerous practice-oriented guidelines and manuals aimed at supporting practitioners on various tasks related to their daily work. This section presents all meetings and papers related to this theme and outlines some of their key findings and recommendations.

General guidelines on rehabilitation

The key meetings, insights and recommendations from general guiding documents aimed at rehabilitation practitioners are presented here. This subtheme is divided into a) overarching guidelines and manuals and b) specific guidelines related to the probation contexts.

Overarching guidelines and manuals on rehabilitation work

Meetings and papers

- DERAD WG Meeting: Kick-off meeting, Stockholm, 04-05 June 2012
- DERAD WG Meeting: Principles and guidelines for good practice interventions of deradicalisation/rehabilitation from involvement in violent extremism and hate crime, Warsaw, 03-04 December 2014
- DERAD: Plenary meeting finalising the Derad Declaration, Budapest, 02-03 July 2015
- EXIT WG Meeting: Ex Post Paper [Outline for Interventions of Deradicalisation from Involvement of Violent Extremism](#), London, 15-16 March 2016
- Webinar on Rehabilitation ([Part 1](#), [Part 2](#)), 30 June 2020
- Paper: Luisa Ravagnani, [Rehabilitation work with convicted offenders outside of prison](#), 2021

Practices

The following practices provide an overview over some practices discussed during the meetings listed above. They only present a fragment of all practices listed in the RAN Collection. More information on inspiring practices and approaches can be found in the [RAN Collection of Approaches and Practices](#).

[Exit Sweden, Fryshuset, Sweden](#): A traditional Exit programme founded in 1998, providing support to individuals who want to leave white power/neo-Nazi environments. Exit Sweden offers support for functional and social (re)integration in an individualised manner. Aside from direct work with affected individuals, the programme offers counselling to the social environment of affected persons and works on capacity building with relevant institutions, such as schools, municipalities.

[Family support Sarpsborg, Sarpsborg Municipality, Norway](#): A holistic and systemic approach to engage family members of radicalised individuals to help families cope with the issues related to radicalised or even terrorist members, to engage and build trust with authorities and to support the deradicalisation of the extremist themselves.

[Foresee, Foresee Research Group, Hungary](#): By using restorative justice principles and methods, Foresee engages in multiplier trainings aiming at conflict prevention with, e.g., teachers, as well as direct conflict resolution, e.g., by working on in-cell or staff-inmate conflicts.

[Danish model, Aarhus Municipality, Denmark](#): This model is a multi-agency cooperative approach by the municipality and East Jutland police, comprising two prevention levels. The first addresses the general population and the other radicalised individuals. The aim of the former is to raise awareness among relevant stakeholders and to establish collaboration, while the latter engages in direct counselling (of radicalised individuals and/or their families), mentoring for at-risk youth exit work and all related tasks.

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Effective multi-agency collaboration is the key to successful rehabilitation efforts. To achieve such collaboration, long-term trust-building measures and clear protocols for responsibilities, boundaries, and information sharing need to be co-developed by all actors.
 - Involve communities, families, and municipalities in these collaborations to support societal acceptance of rehabilitation and reintegration measures and make reintegration more sustainable.
- Civil-society organisations should be considered to involve in rehabilitation measures as independent actors that can contribute specialist expertise and know-how and might be able to gain access to radicalised individuals more easily than state (and especially security) actors.
- Stigmatisation and discrimination need to be addressed, prevented, and countered at all levels (e.g., through continuous multiplier and staff trainings).

What needs to be further explored?

Rehabilitation work is subject of constant further development. Especially in light of changing extremist landscapes and scenes, rehabilitation practitioners and organisations need to stay up to speed. To enable this, programme structures need to be flexible and the necessary resources to implement continuous further trainings of staff and programme adaptations need to be reflected by the surrounding policy and funding frameworks.

Specific guidelines regarding the prison and probation contexts

Meetings and papers

- P&P WG Meeting: Kick-off meeting, Vienna, 19-20 November 2012
- P&P WG Meeting: Future trends and topics, Barcelona, 2-3 September 2015
- P&P Working Paper: [Dealing with radicalisation in a prison and probation context](#), March 2016
- Paper: [Polarisation Management Manual](#) (one chapter on prison and probation), Amsterdam, 6 July 2017
- Paper: [Rehabilitation Manual](#), 2020

Practices

The following practices provide an overview of some practices discussed during the meetings listed above. They only present a fragment of all practices listed in the RAN Collection. For more information on inspiring practices and approaches, please check [here](#).

[Radicalisation Prevention in Prison and Deradicalisation, Violence Prevention Network, Germany](#): This approach, implemented in various German states in the scope of different projects, targets young people arrested for ideologically motivated crimes as well as those radicalised in prison. The approach highlights the need to take responsibility for past and future actions and includes deradicalisation training, civic education measures, long-term group trainings, and post-release stabilisation trainings. Simultaneously, staff trainings, aiming at empowering prison staff to be positive actors in deradicalisation processes, are carried out.

[Train-the-Trainer for future prison officers, Romania](#) Awareness-raising and empowerment trainings for future prison staff focusing on topics related to violent extremism, radicalisation and deradicalisation.

[Back on Track, Danish Prison and Probation Service, Denmark](#): Trained mentors implement interventions supporting the offenders' personal resources (skill improvement, psychological resilience, etc.) and work on their motivation for change. Trainers are educated in various dialogue techniques, coaching and conflict management skills and are subject to a professional mentorship programme themselves.

[Team TER, Dutch Probation Service, Netherlands](#): The approach mainly aims to disengage Islamist extremists from extremist movements by using tailor-made probation measures designed to influence their behaviour. The team works closely with other partners (municipal authorities, prison, police, etc.) and is supported by experts on psychological and theological issues.

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Rehabilitation measures should always be planned and prepared as early as possible.
- Measures need to be planned and implemented within a trusting multi-agency collaborative setting to avoid harmful unintended consequences and reduce the risk that measures of individual partners counteract each other.
- Prison and probation staff need to receive substantial professional training related to radicalisation and violent extremism to develop them into positive actors for change.
- Following release, relocation needs to be considered.

What needs to be further explored?

While staff trainings for prison officers have been highlighted numerous times, there is still a lot to be done. Trainings need to be more substantial and long-term to have tangible effects.

Review and evaluation

With an increasing attention to the topic of evaluation and quality management in the international P/CVE debate, RAN began supporting practitioners to improve their internal quality management by producing manuals and organising events related to evaluation as well as self- and peer-review in the field of exit and rehabilitation work.

Peer- and self-review

Meetings and papers

- Policy & Practice Event: [Presentation and discussion of the Peer- and Self-review Manual](#), Madrid, 08 November 2019
- [Peer and Self Review Manual for Exit Work](#), February 2020
- REHAB WG Meeting: [Implementing the Peer- and self-review manual](#), online, 03 December 2020

Practices

None

Lessons learned and recommendations

- To make quality control a part of daily practice, clear objectives and indicators need to be set by programmes and approaches.
- Revising working methods based on structured self- or peer-review processes is a positive sign of quality control and management, not that the approach was “wrong” in the first place.
- To implement peer- and self-review in a project or within an organisation, someone needs to take the lead and dare to initiate the debate.
- Review processes are a tool to help improve, structure, and adjust your work based on changing needs and developments.
- Peer- and self-review are no alternative for external independent evaluations, nor as instruments for accountability towards funding/commissioning institutions.

What needs to be further explored?

Generally, structures processes of self- and peer-review do not appear to have been adopted by most organisations or projects working in this field yet. Further activities on raising awareness on the positive potential of these mechanisms need to be carried out.

Evaluation

Meetings and papers

- MS Workshops on P/CVE Evaluation: [Guideline Evaluation of PCVE Programmes and Interventions](#), July 2018
- Policy & Practice: [Evaluating disengagement, deradicalisation and resocialisation efforts](#), Madrid, 08 November 2019

Practices

None

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Ideally, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) measures should already be included in the project design. Provided the funding structure allows for it, this can ensure appropriate financial and time resources for M&E as well as the practitioners, who need to take part in these efforts.
- Trust and good relationships between the evaluators and the practitioners are necessary to make M&E effective and sustainable and base them on a common understanding and language. Trust building exercises and the timely resources to implement them need to be included in every M&E approach.
- A solid Theory of Change (ToC) should be at the heart of every rehabilitation approach. This can be used to understand what success can mean in the scope of a given project and will support M&E in defining indicators and the right methodology to understand a project's progress. ToCs also ensure that the focus of M&E efforts is placed on the right issues and may provide opportunities to identify unintended effects.
- Evaluations do not have to be impact-oriented. Depending on the given project and surrounding context, choosing a different evaluation format (e.g., process-oriented, formative, developmental) may provide more benefit than a hastily implemented impact evaluation with limited explanatory power. Evaluation implementation should focus on translating complex findings into tangible and applicable solutions.

What needs to be further explored?

The common understanding of M&E in the P/CVE and specifically the rehabilitation fields is still geared towards impact measurement. At the same time, impact measurement remains notoriously difficult to carry out, especially if the results should hold significant explanatory power. Therefore, it may be beneficial to shift the focus to different evaluation types aiming at strengthening methodologies and the resilience of projects while at the same time elaborating the funding and resource structures for rehabilitation programmes and corresponding M&E measures to make long-term impact assessment possible in the future. Another challenge remains the lack of standards in M&E which complicates the comparison of research results on rehabilitation programmes.

Management and organisation

To support practitioners not only regarding their practical approaches, but also concerning organisational management and development, RAN convened meetings on good management in Exit work and rehabilitation.

Meetings and papers

- EXIT: Academy [Setting up an exit intervention](#), Berlin, 13-14 February 2017
- EXIT: [Practical Guidelines – Management of exit programmes](#), Frankfurt, 17-18 January 2019
- Small scale expert meeting: [Effective and Realistic Quality Management in P/CVE](#), online, 2021
- Paper: Julian Junk, Quality Management of P/CVE Interventions in Secondary and Tertiary Prevention, to be published 2022

Practices

None

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Organisations or institutions wanting to get involved in Exit and rehabilitation work need to be aware of their specific objectives, structures, and positions within their respective societies. Each type of organisational feature comes with advantages and disadvantages. For example, while state-led approaches may have long-term access to resources and the stability attached to this, civil-society organisations may work in a more precarious funding structure but could hold higher social capital and may have easier access to target groups.
- Professionals working on rehabilitation need specific capacities, skills, and qualifications. Some basic requirements are the belief in change of people, the ability to motivate and stimulate, good conversation and dialogue techniques, ability to encourage critical thinking, a non-judgmental attitude, clear professional boundaries, curiosity, and patience. Also essential are good understanding of radicalisation and deradicalisation processes, recruitment mechanisms and social dynamics of extremist groups, together with good knowledge on the respective extremist phenomenon they are working on.
- Quality management procedures need to be integrated into the daily routines and practices as much as possible to have a long-term effect.
- Setting up good structures for multi-agency collaboration can be a measure of quality management.

What needs to be further explored?

To translate measures of quality management into daily practice requires long-term efforts and the necessary resource structures to engage in such measures. Practitioners and policymakers need to become more aware of the positive benefit of such measures and need to cooperate to make sure that the structures allow for improved measures of quality management and control.

Motivation & communication

Excellent communication skills that allow practitioners to motivate individuals in rehabilitation settings to take on an active role in their process are at the heart of Exit and rehabilitation work. The following events, papers and lessons take a closer look at this topic.

Meetings and papers

- Derad WG Meeting: Young people at risk of involvement in racist or sectarian hate crime and violent extremism, Dublin, 9-10 April 2013
- EXIT Academy (cooperation with ICSA): [Communicating with radicalised individuals in an exit setting](#), Rotterdam, 25-26 April 2018
- REHAB WG Meeting: [How to motivate individuals without intrinsic exit motivation](#), online, 13-14 May 2020

Practices

While not an approach per se, motivational interviewing (MI) is a key technique used by many practitioners across Europe to evoke and maintain motivation. The method's creators have called it "a client-centred, directive method for enhancing intrinsic motivation to change by exploring and resolving ambivalence".¹ In the case of working with extremists, this means the positive and negative sides of remaining an extremist (or remaining in an extremist environment) are considered based on the participant's own subjective perspective. A respectful and non-judgmental attitude of the practitioner leading the conversation could ideally help the participant realise the negative consequences of their current behaviour, which could make them more open to the idea of changing.²

[Social Net Conferencing, Neustart, Austria](#): Implemented since 2014, social net conferencing can be carried out for individuals in pre-trial detention as well as those facing release after having served a sentence (in slightly different

¹ W.R. Miller, S. Rollnick (2002): Motivational Interviewing. Preparing people for change. Second edition. New York: Guilford.

² Joachim Körkel, C. Veltrup (2003): Motivational Interviewing: Eine Übersicht.
http://www.drogenkonferenz.de/fileadmin/artikel/Koerkel_Veltrup.pdf

modes for each scenario). The accused/defendant/prisoner works together with their personal social environment to create an elaborate plan for after their release, including specific measures aiming to prevent reoffending. This plan is then considered by the judge and relevant authorities.

Lessons learned and recommendations

- An ideal setting for exit and rehabilitation processes consists of:
 - An individual determined to change their life in a positive way, and who is willing to take responsibility for this process
 - A practitioner who facilitates the participant and who can create an atmosphere characterised by mutual trust and understanding.
- The terms of the relationship need to be established early on. Confidentiality and trust are key elements that need to be clearly addressed and worked towards from the start to foster an environment that motivates the individual in question to come back and participate.
- Taking care of basic needs (e.g., tattoo removal) may create an opening for trust and motivation building by showing the sincere intentions of the practitioners to the person.
- Whether or not ideology can or should be addressed (and at which point) depends on the individual context and needs to be carefully assessed over the course of the first meetings. Addressing a topic like this too early may create a barrier to motivation.
- If intrinsic motivation cannot yet be achieved, try to work with external motivating factors in the beginning and aim to create intrinsic motivation later in the process.

What needs to be further explored?

While techniques such as MI may be helpful in working on motivation with individuals, the question of whether a person can be motivated is heavily dependent on the context in which a rehabilitation process takes place. Good multi-agency cooperation helps to enable positive settings and contexts in which all actors work together instead of occasionally counteracting each other and thereby running risk of demotivating the individual in question.

Gender

Meetings and papers

- Derad WG Meeting: Women, Girls, Gender in Extremism. Gender Specific Approaches in Prevention/Intervention (WomEx I), Berlin, 12-13 December 2013
- Derad WG Meeting: WomEx II, Frankfurt, 01-02 October 2014
- Paper: [The Role of Gender in Violent Extremism](#), 04 December 2015
- YF&C WG Meeting: [The role of gender in extremism and P/CVE](#), Manchester, 29-30 November 2018
- EXIT: [Gender-specific approaches in exit work](#), Rome, 22-23 October 2019

Practices

None

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Gender is central to understanding identity experiences in all forms of violent extremism.
 - Rehabilitation approaches need to address men and women based on a gendered understanding of their motivations and experiences.
 - Gendered does not necessarily equal “women-specific”. Men make gendered experiences as well and these need to be reflected on in rehabilitation work (e.g., specific notions of masculinity).
- Approaches need to reflect on the contexts and settings of their work. For instance, are activities, locations and settings gender appropriate?
- Practitioners and organisations need to become aware of whose input is guiding their thinking and work. For instance, were female voices heard when designing a project or an approach? Are women represented in the leading, design and implementation of rehabilitation work?

What needs to be further explored?

P/CVE approaches on the primary and secondary prevention levels usually directly address gender issues or focus on such matters. However, rehabilitation work that explicitly emphasises a gender-reflective or gender-sensitive approach is considered rare. Despite their tailor-made approaches, rehabilitation programmes need to be more alert regarding gender issues, especially since this field of work was initially designed with (mostly) criminal men in mind. Questioning mechanisms, techniques, engaging in further awareness-raising activities and trainings for staff should be the efforts of all approaches in this regard and need to be further integrated into existing approaches.

Main theme 2: Involving Stakeholders (in interventions)

Rehabilitation work generally entails a variety of interventions that cannot be fulfilled by one Exit or probation worker for reasons of expertise, capacity and/or mandate. Some rehabilitation programmes have specialised professionals on board (e.g., psychologists or religious counsellors) however hardly any programme is fully autarkic. Involved stakeholders can be specialists who are better placed to provide a certain need (e.g., trauma-therapy or addiction treatment) as well as general institutions who can provide assistance on important prerequisites for reintegration such as education, work and housing.

Rehabilitation workers often are the first point of contact, have the most comprehensive insides and have the best working/trust relation with the participants among all who are involved in the process. They are in contact with other stakeholders themselves or are working in a framework provided by their organisation. Stakeholders can be involved in a structural way or ad hoc basis either on a bilateral basis or within a multi-agency framework.

Although not part of the intervention the police can be an important stakeholder as safeguards of society, the participants and their families. They can signal worrisome behaviour. Rehabilitation work in the field of P/CVE is still rather recent and volatile when it comes to ideologies and the target groups it is working with. Academic expertise remains limited and so is the practice of evaluation. Therefore, it is important to improve cooperation between researchers, or at least increase transparency.

Involving families & communities

Family and community members have the potential for positive impact in the rehabilitation process of a radicalised or terrorist offender. They can, for example, help tackle problems, recognise strengths, and find opportunities to participate in the community. How this positive potential can be used is one of the key questions for practitioners who want to involve family in rehabilitation programmes. Preparing families and communities for the release of a radicalised or terrorist offender and working towards acceptance are helpful to achieve this.

Meetings and papers

- P&P: [The role of family and social networks in the rehabilitation of \(violent\) extremist and terrorist offenders](#), Utrecht, 06-07 March 2018,
- P&P & YF&C: [Multi-agency meeting – ‘Radicalised and terrorist offenders released from prison: Community and family acceptance’](#), Prague, 6-7 June 2019,
- Policy & Practice: [Radicalised and terrorist offenders released from prison: involving and preparing communities and families](#), Helsinki, 19 September 2019.

Practices

CAPREV (Belgium)

The Belgian Centre for assistance of people concerned by any radicalism or extremism leading to violence (CAPREV) provides social, psychological, and legal assistance in a multidisciplinary team including the following disciplines: psychology, criminology, political science, law, anthropology, social work and education. Interventions are voluntary and they include listening, advising, supporting by or from individuals as well as professionals. CAPREV works towards the objectives of prevention, social inclusion, global re-integration and starting a path of desistance.

Grüner Vogel (previous: Hayat) (Germany)

HAYAT (Turkish and Arabic for “Life”) is the first German counselling programme for persons involved in radical Salafist groups or on the path of a violent Jihadist radicalisation, including those traveling to Syria and other combat zones. Further, HAYAT is available to the relatives of a radicalised person as well.

Lessons learned and recommendations

For practitioners on involving family/community

- Ensure a **relationship of trust** between the family and communities and the offender and prepare them on how to act and what to say to families, friends, peers and communities.
- Keep looking for **windows of opportunity** to involve positive individuals from within the families and communities.

On stimulating acceptance by family/community

- Consider using **conflict resolution methods** such as mediation and restorative justice processes with an external mediator. This can stimulate a (healing) dialogue between family and offender.
- Ask the offender to write a **letter of apology** to his/her parents or community to send or as a way of reflecting on the consequences of past behaviour.
- Work with **key powerbrokers** to disengage the offender rather than working with the whole family or community. These are reliable partners with a personal connection to or similar background as the offender.
 - Within the family: identify the person who has the power to rehabilitate the offender in the eyes of the family.
 - Within communities: identify someone who can advocate to make the community more receptive.

For (local) authorities on facilitating and stimulating the role of communities and families

- **Establish a city/local strategy** with a short and clear vision on reintegration of these offenders and translate this to several tailored action plans: for the released offender, the actors around him/her (with baseline information and on what support is available), and a wider action plan (to ensure public safety).
- Work on **sensibilisation campaigns** in areas of opposing forces to positively stimulate the environment that released prisoners will return to and focus on how to live together.
- In dealing with the media:
 - prepare and counsel families and communities by for example, preparing statements with them.
 - get in touch with trustworthy journalists to share the offender's testimonial of his/her new life.
 - consider inviting trustworthy media to (parts of) multi-agency meetings as well, to inform the society about the actions that will be taken.

What needs to be further explored?

Future work should be dedicated to the more in-depth exploration and evaluation of ways and means in which more general rehabilitation instruments can be adapted and used in the work with terrorists and radicalised individuals released from prison.

Mental health and exit work

Living an extremist lifestyle and/or being in an extremist environment can cause mental health problems due to traumatic events as well as being part of a manipulative group. Extremist ideologies also can be attractive for people dealing with mental health problems or can explicitly reach out to them as they are easy to recruit. It is hard to work on rehabilitation if severe mental health problems are present and the other way around. Substance abuse can be an extra complicating factor. What is feasible for an individual should be assessed on a case-by-case basis. While the relation between radicalisation and mental health is sensitive (potentially stigmatising), the fact is that many (former) extremists have mental health problems. This has consequences for the interventions needed and in terms of the expectations about the possible extent of their autonomous functioning in society.

Meetings and papers

- EXIT: Mental health problems & exit work, 8 December 2015 (no ex-post)
- H&SC & EXIT: [Multi-problem target group: the influence of mental health disorders and substance abuse on Exit work](#), Vienna, 07 November 2018

Practices

None

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Working with multi-problem radicalised individuals should be comprehensive. This requires a multi-agency approach.
- Regular communication between practitioners would allow both social workers and mental health professionals also to acquire a broader vision and be able to identify the root causes of the problem(s).
- Need for radicalisation awareness raising (and training) among all actors involved in the process, including mental health professionals and social workers.
- The specific treatment to follow will depend on the specific circumstances of each case and must thus be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

What needs to be further explored?

- Exit practitioners confirm it is difficult to find specialised care for their participants that can proceed in parallel with the exit work. Where mental health and addiction treatment are often funded and organised by one institution, rehabilitation work isn't.
- Part of the Mental health workers are considering combining the phenomenon of mental issues and extremism as stigmatic. Further research-based information (per mental health spectrum/disease/disorder on the interlinkage would help this discussion forward.

Sub theme: Multi-agency cooperation

Both exit and probation work can be part of a larger multi-agency framework (as one of the stakeholders) or be the 'owner' of it. In a multi-agency setting the needs for rehabilitation and/or safeguarding society are divided over the stakeholders involved. Apart from more tailormade and effective it also can be time-consuming. Therefore, this working method is mostly used for complex cases where the separate stakeholders cannot provide what is needed. As rehabilitation of (formers) extremists often is multi-faceted, multi-agency work is the best solution.

Main challenges are ownership (who is responsible for the process and who is in position to make things happen) and the exchange of data of individuals (both between safety/intelligence partners and social work as due to professional secrecy codes of conduct). This (partly) can be mitigated by working with privacy protocols or by asking for consent to the participant.

Meetings and papers

- EXIT: [EXIT Work in a multi-agency setting](#), Milan, 01 November 2016
- P&P: [Multiagency cooperation around radicalised offenders](#), Stockholm, 24-25 February 2016
- POL & P&P: [Triple P: Coordination and collaboration between police, prison and probation services in dealing with violent extremist and terrorist offenders](#), Prague, 20-21 September 2018
- Policy & Practice (POL & P&P): [Dealing with violent extremists and terrorist offenders](#), optimising triple P cooperation (follow-up to Triple-P), Paris, December 2018 ([Video](#))
- [Rehabilitation manual](#), 2020

Practices

PSP Network (Denmark): The Danish effort in preventing radicalisation and violent extremism (CVE) is primarily organized in the SSP-network. The goal of the SSP-network is to prevent criminal activity and behaviour among youngsters. The network consists of members of the social services, schools, and police. In 2009 the initial SSP-network was by law supplemented with the PSP-network. PSP is comprised of the local Police (P), Social Services/social psychiatry (S) and Psychiatry (P) and has its target group on vulnerable people with a psychiatric diagnosis in risk of recurring criminal activity.

Lessons learned and recommendations

- An offender will encounter different people and organisations while making his/her way through the criminal justice chain. Exchange of information and referral is key.
- General objectives of the rehabilitation efforts should be known and supported by all agencies involved.
- For probation, good cooperation with prison and other stakeholders in society (local governments, Exit workers) is important.
- Mutual trust and personal relationships are prerequisites for effective work in a multi-agency setting.
- There is a need for a shared language and shared tools to optimise cooperation.
- Rehabilitation work also can be shaped in already existing multi-agency settings for reasons of efficiency (no set up time, protocols already available, time savings).

What needs to be further explored?

The exchange of data remains complicated between partners within multi-agency cooperation who are working on a case simultaneously. Transfer of information from consecutive multi-agency cooperation (e.g., from prison to probation, or from probation to local government) has even more challenges.

Practice & research cooperation

The field of rehabilitation is relatively young (around 25 years), both in terms of research and practice. The availability of evidence-based approaches and generally accepted theoretical frameworks is limited. Therefore, cross-fertilisation between practice and research can be fruitful for both sides. This cooperation between practice and research was the topic of an EXIT Working Group meeting in 2016.

Meetings and papers

- EXIT: [Cooperation of researchers and practitioners on Exit Work, Barcelona, 16-17 June 2016](#)

Practices

None

Lessons learned and recommendations

Recommendations for researchers and EXIT work practitioners

- Standardise data between interventions/practitioners, researchers etc. to make the available data more suitable for research.
- Stimulate/support temporarily embedding researchers in Exit work to have the access they need for their research.
- Stimulate popularisation of academic literature into forms that are suitable for Exit practitioners to read and digest.

What needs to be further explored?

- Further research and more programmes regarding the willingness and motivation of an individual to change.
- Dealing with trauma and mental health issues is an important topic, but participants are often in denial and are unwilling to accept treatment.

Main theme 3: Exit/Rehab phenomenon-specific lessons

This section focuses on the lessons learned and recommendations for Exit and Rehabilitation work that can be derived from specific radicalisation/extremism phenomena. Different types of extremism (Violent Islamist Extremism and Violent Left/Right-Wing Extremism), Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters, and Formers will be discussed as separate phenomenon.

Different types of extremism (VIE & VL/RWE)

Rehabilitating individuals who were involved in different types of (violent) extremism is a key subject of the RAN Rehabilitation working group. What can rehabilitation work learn from different types of extremism? The following paragraphs address this question for the phenomena of Violent Left/Right-Wing Extremism and Violent Islamist Extremism.

Violent Right-Wing Extremism

Violent Right-Wing Extremism has changed significantly in the past decade. In a highly globalised, online world, extremist ideas are easily spread, and individuals are connected online to a global network. At the same time, perpetrators of violent acts are often portrayed as lone actors.

Exit or rehabilitation programmes focused on radicalised individuals arose in the mid-1990s. Current approaches are still largely based on these early efforts. Therefore, looking at recent developments in VRWE poses several relevant lessons learned, recommendations and gaps for rehabilitation work.

Meetings and papers

- Brochure: [VRWE in focus](#), May 2020
- REHAB: [The Diversification of VRWE as Challenges for Rehabilitation](#), 16-17 September 2020

Practices

Exit Sweden (Sweden): Exit Sweden provides hands-on individually targeted support to those who want to leave white power/neo-Nazi environments behind. Exit Sweden offers personal meetings, provides a contact person (if needed available 24/7) and assists in contacts with governmental agencies. Exit Sweden cooperates with housing corporations, the police, social services, other legal entities and family and friends of those who want out. Exit Sweden also offers counselling to parents, siblings, partners, and others close to its clients.

Exit Germany (Germany): Exit Germany is an initiative assisting individuals, who want to leave the extreme right-wing movement and start a new life. Being the first to start such an endeavour in Germany, Exit Germany constitutes one of the most experienced and successful programmes in deradicalisation and exit-assistance in the world.

Lessons learned and recommendations

Key lessons learned when looking at the current state of play in VRWE are:

- Gender-based differences need to be considered. There is a need for women-specific approaches of rehabilitation work.
- More alliance-building is needed. Not only between state actors/institutions and CSOs/NGOs, but also with for example social media companies to keep up with a post-digital world.
- Trust building is a key pillar but also a main challenge. More transparency between practitioners in different stages of the exit/rehabilitation process is needed.
- In a changing field, there is a need for evaluation of exit/rehabilitation programmes.

What needs to be further explored?

- The increasing age of the target group. This challenge is two-fold:
 - Firstly, there are adults who have grown up within VRWE scenes. This poses new challenges in motivating and rehabilitating individuals.
 - Secondly, there are individuals who turn to VRWE at an older age. This is a whole new target group for rehabilitation work.
- The increasing number of individuals from a middle-class background. The focus on rehabilitation and reintegration so far has been on youths and young adults. A key challenge for this new target group is what rehabilitation can offer them concretely.
- Although not per se connected to VRWE there seems a correlation with the incel movement which also poses a new target group.

Violent Islamist Extremism

For the phenomenon of Violent Islamist Extremism (VIE), the main lessons learned, and gaps are related to the role of religion in exit programmes, and the role of religious counselling in prison and probation settings.

Meetings and papers

- Conclusion paper of WG meeting, [The role of religion in exit programmes and religious counselling in prison and probation settings](#), Madrid, 10-11 October 2017.
- [Rehabilitation manual](#), 2020

Practices

The following practices are mostly focussed on all extremist ideologies, including a significant number of VIE cases: **TER Team (the Netherlands)**: The nationally operating Team TER (Terrorists, Extremists and Radicals) helps the Dutch Probation Service prevent (further) radicalisation of Dutch probationers. It aims chiefly to disengage radicalised Muslims (mainly home-grown jihadi) and right- and left-wing extremists from radical movements using a tailor-made probation approach, and to influence their behaviour. Push and pull factors are used to promote behavioural change and stimulate the process of reintegration into society. The main tasks are risk management and supervision, carried out in close cooperation with partners (judicial, prison, police, and municipal authorities). The team is also supported by psychological and theological experts.

PAIRS (France): The goal of the centres for handling radicalised individuals is to work towards disengagement from violent radicalisation and prevent the risk of progressing to violence while encouraging social reintegration and instilling civic values. The programme was aimed at people under judicial control, before or after trials. Individuals can be assigned to the programme by a judge or be voluntary participants. The programme implies a multidisciplinary approach and several professions such as psychologists, career counsellors, social workers, and Islamic studies experts.

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Inclusion of formers who were on a similar religiously inspired extremist path can help build trust with target group.
- Coordination between Exit and/or prison officers and the mosque and family is important for reintegration.
- Knowledge of religion by staff working in prison, probation and community setting can help to prevent biases.

What needs to be further explored?

The role of prison imams in rehabilitation processes remains unclear. Current roles vary from signalling, providing information on religion to prison staff, actively working on rehabilitation to 'just' religious counselling under confessional secret. Part of these roles contain incompatible elements.

Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters

From 2016 onward, when Daesh started to lose ground in Syria and Iraq, the questions of what to do with potentially returning foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) arose around Europe. Apart from prosecution and safeguarding society the most relevant questions for RAN Rehabilitation are related to rehabilitating and reintegrating returning FTFs.

Meetings and papers

- Paper: [Foreign fighter returnees & the reintegration challenge](#), November 2016
- P&P Core group meeting focus on returnees, Vienna, 21-22 January 2017 (no paper published)
- Manual: [Responses to returnees: Foreign terrorist fighters and their families](#), July 2017
- Study Visit: [Returned Women and Children – Studying an Ongoing Experience on the Ground](#), Pristina, 10-11 December 2019
- RAN Digital Study visit: [Returnee coordinators in Germany, visit to Hesse and Berlin](#), 23-24 June 2020

Practices

Coordination for returning FTFs and families from Syria and Iraq, Germany

The returnee coordination serves as an information interface between actors on federal, state, and local level, including security authorities (e.g., police, intelligence services), public bodies (e.g., youth welfare offices, state education authorities), local communities (e.g., schools), civil society organisations and psychological institutions. It is not in direct contact with returning persons and families. The fundamental aim is to facilitate a multidisciplinary and holistic case processing.

Several practices that are not specifically focused on returning FTFs, but do work with them:

Social Net Conferencing, Austria

The Austrian social net conference is interesting experiment and example of the family and social network's involvement in the preparations for the release of a terrorist offender.

Back on Track, Denmark

This programme is designed for inmates and remand prisoners charged with or convicted of terrorism and/or inmates vulnerable to radicalisation. The aim is to help the inmates — through the intervention of mentors — to improve their capacity to tackle everyday situations, problems and conflicts

Team Terrorists, Extremists and Radicals, the Netherlands

The nationally operating Team TER (Terrorists, Extremists and Radicals) helps the Dutch Probation Service prevent (further) radicalisation of Dutch probationers. It aims chiefly to disengage radicalised Muslims (mainly home-grown jihadi) and right- and left-wing extremists from radical movements using a tailor-made probation approach, and to influence their behaviour.

The Unity Initiative, United Kingdom

The Unity Initiative (TUI) is a specialist interventions consultancy in the United Kingdom. They have special programmes to (ideologically) rehabilitate terrorist offenders and returnees from Daesh.

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Invest in the resocialisation of convicted returnees while they are still in detention to decrease the risk of recidivism to violent extremism.
- Review religious support services in prison and probation, as many returnees wish to live religiously. This should be harnessed in a positive way for rehabilitation.
- Consider dialogue, mentoring and other techniques for returnees who still have strong ideological beliefs.
- Inform local authorities and involve them in preparing for the return of FTFs to a local setting.
- Considering that the families and direct social network of returnees will also be strongly affected by events, also invest in support for them.
- Families should be included when possible (only if there is a chance they will have a positive influence). Family members should feel included and not left out, as they can provide social support to the returnee and positively influence reintegration.
- Deradicalisation of returnees is crucial for long-term reintegration into society. Find ways to best communicate the benefits of reintegration to returnees.
- The assistance of former returnees can be useful for the reintegration process, as they might share common culture or language, and could more easily build a relationship of trust.
- There is a risk of returnees (also children) being targeted by media or other actors as possible terrorists (also in schools). Create a sense of confidentiality without downplaying the complexity of the situation.
 - For example: to avoid stigmatisation and media attention during the reintegration phase, the only people who should be informed about the status of a returnee are those in leadership positions (i.e., in schools, employers).
- The presence of refugees from Syria and Iraq in EU MSs, many of whom fled due to atrocities committed by Daesh supporters, constitutes a challenge for rehabilitation of former Daesh affiliates. One possible way of addressing this issue is to design restorative justice processes tailored to such a situation.
- Prepare for long-term, localised, and stable mental health support of child and adult returnees, who will likely be affected by PTSD and accompanying symptoms as well as by complex trauma.

What needs to be further explored?

- Reintegration is not high on all the governments' priority list, leading to limited funding and uncertain financial prospects.

Formers

Formers are formerly radicalised individuals who have rehabilitated. They can be involved in prevention and Exit/rehabilitation work. Involving a former can be risky and is thus very sensitive. Therefore, the lessons learned, and recommendations also includes a few things that should *not* be done in involving formers.

Meetings and papers

- EXIT & C&N: [Dos and don'ts of involving formers in PVE/CVE work](#), Bordeaux, 27 June 2017

Practices

Exit Sweden works with formers as Exit workers. Before they are allowed to do so they first must follow an education as social worker.

Exit Germany assists cases with couples of which one has a therapeutic background, and the other is a former. They introduce a different perspective and there is no hierarchy among them.

Lessons learned and recommendations

The lessons learned and recommendations on involving formers in P/CVE work can be summarised in the following do's and don'ts:

Do's:

- Before considering formers for your P/CVE, make sure to carry out a screening or risk assessment. You can use other formers to do this.
 - Assess whether the individual is ready (apart from their own motivation). If possible, guide the individual in their preparations.
- When you decide to involve a former, take the following into account:
 - Involve formers in everyday/ordinary life, do not give them a different treatment from other colleagues.
 - Give formers the opportunity to become role models (if they want to).
 - Use the inside knowledge of formers. For example, to better understand the target group, help other experts to understand them, and create cognitive openings by eliciting doubt.
 - Use the full capacity of formers, not just their relation to extremism.
- Before you involve a former *publicly*, consider the following:
 - Be transparent concerning the role of formers. What is their contribution to your work? How are risks like relapse accounted for?
 - Stand behind formers if there is a negative societal reaction.
 - Consider the positive and negative consequences of publicly exposing oneself as a former.

Don'ts:

- Don't make the fact of being a former a career path or new identity in itself.
- Do not allow formers who may be attention-seeking or self-important to disrupt the CVE/PVE goals.
- Don't allow the former's personal experience to dominate work with the target group.

Main theme 4: Criminal justice context

While rehabilitation work includes deradicalisation and exit approaches, which do not have to be linked to criminality, the criminal justice context remains one of rehabilitation work's most relevant and complex areas. Before the Rehabilitation Working Group was founded in 2020, much of the work in this field was covered by the former Prison & Probation Working Group (P&P). As of 2020, the criminal justice context is firmly embedded within the scope of the Rehabilitation Working Group, through the inclusion of probation workers into the WG's constituency.

Sub theme: Rehabilitation in Prison

Ideally, processes supporting rehabilitation begin as soon as an individual first arrives in prison. To assess the possibilities of rehabilitation and related work in this context, several meetings on working with incarcerated offenders were held. Rehabilitation of offenders in general is one of the core activities of the prison system. The main question is how appropriate these efforts are for terrorist offenders and where extra or alternative approaches are needed.

Meetings and papers

- P&P WG Meeting: [Exit programmes and interventions in prison and probation](#), Berlin, 14-15 June 2016
- Policy & Practice Event: [Dealing with radicalised individuals during and after imprisonment](#), Vienna, 6 November 2018 ([Video](#))
- P&P Study Visit: [Juvenile and young violent extremist offenders in prison](#), Wiesbaden & Frankfurt, 7-8 June 2018
- [Multiagency cooperation around radicalised offenders](#), Stockholm, 24-25 February 2016
- Conclusion paper of WG meeting, [The role of religion in exit programmes and religious counselling in prison and probation settings](#), Madrid, 10-11 October 2017.
- P&P Working Paper: [Approaches to countering radicalisation and dealing with violent extremist and terrorist offenders in prisons and probation, 3rd Edition](#), 2018

Practices

[Basic training for correctional officers, Directorate of Correctional Services & University College of Norwegian Correctional Service \(KRUS\), Norway](#): Basic awareness-raising on matters related to radicalisation and violent extremism in the prison context, supplemented by knowledge dissemination on specific extremist phenomena (e.g., Islamist extremism).

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Prison staff and administrations and all professional groups working in this context can be strong partners for rehabilitation work, provided there is sufficient will on all sides and enough funding to deal with this topic in this intense environment.
- Continuous staff trainings and awareness raising measures, ideally implemented from the beginning of the training of future prison officers, are necessary to create a stigmatisation-free, healthy prison environment capable of supporting a positive change in thinking and behaviour of prisoners.
- Juvenile offenders require specific attention from social workers and rehabilitation practitioners and do often show great potential for change if included in rehabilitation programmes quickly. Classic rehabilitation measures, such as functional (re)integration measures regarding education or employment are still very viable tools in these cases.
- All actors working on rehabilitation in the prison context – whether they are working for non-governmental organisations, for security agencies, for the prison itself – need to see themselves as part of a greater cooperative structure, each with their own distinct role to play, but in a collaborative spirit.
- Transition management, that is the planning and preparation for release and immediate post-release actions, is one of the most crucial issues related to rehabilitation work in prison. Even if exemplary rehabilitation efforts were carried out during imprisonment, rehabilitation can easily fail immediately upon release, if contact to trusted counsellors or rehabilitation workers, secure housing and prospects at social integration cannot be accessed.
- To achieve the previous point, it can be helpful to leverage the positive social support structure of the offender in question (e.g., family, friends, teachers) as part of a systemic approach. Firstly, however, a detailed analysis of these structures needs to be carried out by practitioners to understand whether these actors can be part of the solution or are rather part of the problem.
- While the role of ideological beliefs (including those related to a specific religion) on radicalisation as well as deradicalisation, disengagement and rehabilitation is still disputed, practitioners need to be able to critically engage with the core beliefs of the individuals they work with. For religious individuals, the availability of religious support in addition to rehabilitation work may be a positive supportive element.
- Instead of relying on security-oriented risk assessments, rehabilitation work in prison especially needs to be based on a thorough analysis of the individuals social and functional circumstances, their capabilities, needs and grievances. This can only be achieved through a thorough assessment process carried out by all relevant professionals and in cooperation with the respective prisoner.

What needs to be further explored?

The connection between classic rehabilitation work (often aimed at social and functional integration combined with disengagement and deradicalisation) and mental health work remains opaque to many practitioners. While it should not be assumed that mental health struggles are the root cause behind radicalisation, some radicalised individuals may nonetheless experience such struggles, especially when arriving in a stressful environment such as prison. Therefore, the collaboration and joint measure planning of mental health professionals and rehabilitation professionals needs to be improved in the coming years.

Probation

Exit workers and probation officers often work with the same target group (i.e., terrorists and violent extremist offenders). A joint event of the P&P and EXIT working groups in 2019 was devoted to building bridges between the two. Earlier, a P&P event organised together with the Confederation of European Probation in 2017 also provided some relevant insights.

Specific topics

Meetings and papers

- [P&P and Confederation of European Probation](#), Dublin, 22-23 May 2017

- P&P & EXIT: [Building Bridges](#), Prague, 05-06 June 2019

Practices

None

Lessons learned and recommendations

Probation work and radicalisation

- Supervision and monitoring of offenders or persons suspected of being radicalised must be carried out very closely.
- Probation officers working with these offenders need to be specialised and/or trained.
- When matching a client with an officer, gender tends not to be considered, whereas ideology is in some cases, depending on the probation officer's skills.
- Transition management is crucial, especially during the initial period after release.

Probation work and FTFs

- It is important to focus on issues around resettlement, leaving aside the ideology. The role of probation is identified as support for reintegration work and social control work, alongside that of the police.
- Rehabilitation efforts by probation service aiming to de-radicalise, has proven unsuccessful in dealing with domestic terrorists, and was not therefore expected to be successful for religiously inspired returnees.

Cooperation between probation offers and exit workers

- Learn about each other's working process, for example by going on an 'internship' at your counterpart.
- Be transparent, both to each other as well as towards the client. If it is clear everyone is working towards the same goal, this will help the client in accepting support from both sides.
 - There should also be transparency about the role and accountability between probation officers and exit workers, to avoid a back and forth 'blame game' if something goes wrong.
- To increase continuity of the rehabilitation process, exit workers can be involved even before probation when a client is still in prison.

What needs to be further explored?

The EXIT – P&P joint meeting was a first exploration into how probation officers and exit workers can potentially collaborate. At the meeting, it was concluded that they still work separately too often. The RAN Rehabilitation working group, founded in 2020, has now merged the Probation and Exit constituencies. This way, cooperation can be stimulated further.

Main theme 5: Learning from adjacent fields

This (final) section will focus on lessons learned of rehabilitation processes from three adjacent fields. Research and practical experiences from Exit work with gangs and cults. Aspects of restorative justice will be analysed to identify what can be learned from them for the area of violent extremism and P/CVE.

Sub theme: Gangs

Oftentimes, it is assumed there is a connection between the in-group dynamics as well as “radicalisation” and recruitment between violent gangs and violent extremist groups. This subtheme therefore analyses which aspects of disengagement from gangs and extremist groups are similar and if knowledge-sharing is noteworthy.

Meetings and papers

- EXIT WG Meeting: [Adjacent fields: Gangs](#), Prague, 11-12 September 2018

Practices

None

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Generally, more similarities than differences can be identified when comparing exit work for gangs and violent extremist groups. This reinforces the conclusion that more attention needs to be paid to classic practical work and research conducted in this adjacent field. At the same time, gang-related measures should not be used as a blueprint, but rather as an inspiration that needs to be adapted to fit the respective specific work context.
- Push factors from within the group or gang may be more relevant to motivate individuals to leave gang contexts than pull factors from society. This is similar for many religious cults. At the same time, the barrier to leave remains high even if many push factors exist. A clear identification of the needs that supported a person's engagement in a gang or an extremist group and an assessment of which offers can be made within a pluralistic society to respond to these needs may help overcome this barrier.
- Proven methods such as motivational interviewing can yield positive effects both for gang members and for extremists.

What needs to be further explored?

Generally, while the fact that work on gangs could be a very useful source for exit and rehabilitation work related to violent extremism, many specialised P/CVE programmes still do not take these previous and ongoing experiences (and research) into account. Further work to build networks, alliances, and exchange between these related fields is necessary.

Sub theme: Cults

Some of the first exit programmes in Europe were based on experiences of work on leaving cults. Since then, new insights in the field of leaving cults have been observed which hold positive potential for rehabilitation work, therefore this subtheme analyses new opportunities for cross-fertilisation.

Meetings and papers

- EXIT WG Meeting (in cooperation with ICSA): [Lessons from adjacent fields: Cults](#), Bordeaux, 27-28 June 2017.

Lessons learned and recommendations

- “Relapsing” into cults or extremist activity is often caused by feelings of guilt and responsibility due to the deep internalisation of the former social environment’s moral orientations.
- While externally motivating factors may be relevant to persuade individuals to make their first steps towards leaving totalitarian environments, intrinsic motivation is necessary for a long-term sustainable exit and rehabilitation process and needs to be created and fostered eventually.
- Second generation members require specific intervention measures and face specific challenges since they may have never experienced life in regular society and cannot readjust.

Practices

None

What needs to be further explored?

Like the field of gangs, much can still be learned from previous and ongoing experiences related to cults. However, cross-fertilisation is low at this point. Additional efforts to network and exchange experiences are urgently needed.

Sub theme: Restorative justice

Restorative justice can hold positive potential not only for victims of violent extremism, but also for (former) extremists themselves on their path towards rehabilitation. Key learnings related to this are outlined below.

Meetings and papers

- EXIT & RVT Joint WG Meeting (in cooperation with EFRJ): [The role of restorative justice in preventing and responding to violent extremism](#), Dublin, 03-04 December 2019.
- Paper: [The potential of restorative justice in cases of violent extremism and terrorism](#), 2021

Lessons learned and recommendations

- Restorative justice holds immense positive potential both for victims and perpetrators of violence, but only if all affected parties share ownership over the process and are co-creators.
- The rise of right-wing populism and authoritarian belief systems may hinder the successful implementation of restorative justice approaches in the P/CVE and rehabilitation context and the creation of a restorative culture.
- Especially in regional or national contexts with high levels of tension (e.g., due to former civil wars, ethnic tensions, insurgencies) state-led restorative justice measures may not be accepted by the affected parties due to their lack of credible neutrality. Civil society-led organisations should take the lead.

Practices

European Forum for Restorative Justice: The EFRJ promotes the application of restorative justice measures in criminal matters while considering the related areas, such as family, school and community mediation. It supports other actors with trainings and development support.

What needs to be further explored?

Restorative justice can provide additional value even in punitive justice settings, e.g., by restoring relationships and peace in communities in the scope of former extremists’ reintegration.