Update 55

November 2018

This is an update on the activities of the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN). You receive this e-mail, along with more than 4 900 other people, because you have participated in a RAN activity, or because you have registered your interest in the network. If you do not want to receive such e-mails, please let us know. Feel free to distribute this RAN Update to colleagues and invite them to subscribe*.*

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Call for Working Group Leaders RAN YOUNG

Who we're looking for?

The RAN YOUNG Working Group is looking for two co-chairs. This Working Group is made up of young people (between the ages of 18 and 25) who wish to actively contribute to the prevention of radicalisation. Professionals, close to the age of the target audience, experts on youth involvement in PVE and who can act as role models for the young participants, are invited to register their interest to co-chair. Candidates should have experience with youth empowerment programmes and/or have set up their own local P/CVE initiative. We would refer to them as experienced youth influencers/leaders.

Working closely with the RAN CoE, the Working Group leaders will be involved in the development of the RAN YOUNG Empowerment Academy. In 2019, the Working Group leaders will steer four sessions of the Academy and guide the young participants in between sessions to set up their own initiatives. The Working Group leaders should demonstrate qualities that will enable them to function as role models for young people.

Work within RAN is steered by Working Group leaders in close collaboration with the RAN CoE, the Steering Committee (for more details, see Section 8) and the European Commission.

RAN Working Group co-chair profile
Steer, animate and organise the work of a Working Group by:
- contributing to the preparation and reporting on a work plan for the Working Group,

- mapping and selecting members and participants, and encouraging them to contribute to the Working Group,
- developing ex ante papers to inform discussions within the Working Group,
- identifying best practices, and steering the peer review of those within the Working Group to contribute to the RAN Collection, and
- formulating policy recommendations.

Contribute to the activities of the CoE, by:
- being a member of the RAN Steering Committee and, as such, contributing to other activities of the CoE (such as proposals and organisation of cross-cutting events, development of tailor-made services for Member States, development and provision of training services, selection of topics of issue papers and policy recommendations, mapping exercise of possible relationships with international organisations or representing RAN at international conferences).
- formulating knowledge gaps that could be addressed through research.

Lead a group of practitioners, by:
- having substantial practitioner expertise and experience – either being a practitioner yourself or representing a practitioners' organisation,
- possessing a track record on the topic/sector of your Working Group, such as coordination of the local multi-agency cooperation to prevent radicalisation,
- being able to include and bridge opposing views of fellow practitioners.

Be a RAN ambassador, by:
- (re)presenting RAN and the Working Group,
- promoting the need for preventing radicalisation,
- encouraging multi-actor cooperation, and collaborating with other Working Groups,
- understanding the different circumstances and cultures across the EU.

Please note the following:
- The working language is English.
- In addition to the four meetings of the Working Group and the four meetings of the Steering Committee, Working Group chairs participate in a limited number of other events.
- Both a senior and a junior staff member of the CoE will support the Working Group and its leadership.
- A monthly allowance of €400 is offered for leading a Working Group, and is to be equally shared between the two co-chairs.
- RAN travels and hotel accommodations of Working Group chairs are arranged and covered by the CoE.

Selection procedure
Please study the above tasks and description of the RAN YOUNG Working Group and our plans and decide whether you and your organisation fit the focus of one of these. If this is the case (if you match the profile above, and if your organisation is committed to delivering on this contribution), we invite you to register your interest and to clarify your capability to chair a Working Group. Fill in the template below and submit it to applications@radareurope.nl, no

later than Wednesday 28 November 2018. For more information, please contact Pomme Woltman (p.woltman@radaradvies.nl).

The RAN CoE will present candidate co-chairs to the Commission, which will select and appoint them. Finally, appraisal of the appointments by the RAN Steering Committee[1] meeting is foreseen. In the selection procedure, we will strive for a balanced representation of all EU regions and a balance between male and female chairs.

Template to register your interest

More information about RAN and RAN YOUNG:

The Radicalisation Awareness Network – a practitioners' network
The Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) connects frontline practitioners around Europe working daily with those vulnerable to radicalisation, as well as those who have already been radicalised. As teachers, social workers, community police officers etc., they are engaged in preventing and countering radicalisation and violent extremism in all its forms, or in reintegrating violent extremists. Since it was founded in 2011, RAN has attracted over 3,500 frontline professionals from all EU Member States.

RAN gathers frontline practitioners to address local challenges or specific issues related to violent extremism, and to exchange with experts on new insights into tackling radicalisation. In Working Groups (WGs), they engage with peers from around Europe, forming new, long-lasting relationships, drawing on inspiration from one another and from peer-reviewed best practices.

Each RAN Working Group is chaired by two professionals close to the target audience of that particular Working Group. They join the CoE and the European Commission to form the RAN Steering Committee. Chaired by the Commission, the Steering Committee guides the network and its CoE and meets four times a year

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[1] The Steering Committee (SC) shall be made up of the Commission (chair), representatives of the RAN CoE (including the managing Director, as well as the different account managers for the different Working Groups and the Quality Manager), the active Working Group leaders, and other members appointed by the Commission. Its role and main tasks are to steer the work of the RAN CoE and, in particular, to:
a)   Provide strategic orientations, set priorities for the work of the RAN (Centre) and steer discussions in relation to a number of activities of the RAN (Centre), including inter alia the annual activity plans, major events (e.g. High-Level Conference), the deployment of RAN expertise; focus of research-related activities and proposals for working relationships with other/international bodies and networks and third countries;
b)   Validate peer evaluations and the inclusion of new practices into the RAN Collection;
c)   Provide its opinion on working arrangements, such as the new Charter and new Rules of Procedure, as well as proposals for amendments where appropriate;
d)   Ensure the proper functioning of RAN in accordance with its Charter and Rules of Procedure and the delivery of work and activities in accordance with the annual activity plans.
e)   Approve designation of RAN Working group leaders (appointed at a later stage by the Commission).

Any proposals for actions submitted by Working Group leaders, if they are costs-related, should be validated by DG HOME. The RAN Rules of Procedure contain provisions on the composition, chairing, and meetings of the Steering Committee, as well as on decision-making and voting arrangements.

RAN YOUNG 2018 - 2019

2018

In 2018, RAN YOUNG contributed to the RAN practitioners network by providing unique perspectives of young people on the topic of holding difficult conversations. What are difficult topics for young people? How do they think frontline practitioners should discuss these topics? Participants formulated recommendations for teachers, youth workers and mental health workers. Also, RAN YOUNG contributed to the practitioners' network by reviewing a selected group of practices which are included in the RAN Collection and proposed improvements. These two activities specifically fulfilled the aim of RAN YOUNG to contribute in a valuable way to the RAN network of practitioners by adding their fresh perspective and insights.

RAN YOUNG did not only exchange with practitioners, but also with policymakers. After a joint meeting with RAN C&N about involving young people in developing counter and alternative narratives targeted at young people, a Policy & Practice event followed on the same topic. Policymakers, practitioners and young people from different EU countries came together to discuss how authorities can support and enhance the creation of effective counter- and alternative narratives and how young people can get involved.

Another aim of RAN YOUNG in 2018 was to connect with other youth initiatives focusing on P/CVE. In 2018, RAN YOUNG cooperated with YouthCAN (ISD), Extremely Together and #YouthWagingPeace at a meeting on youth empowerment. This was the starting point of the RAN YOUNG Academy that will be launched in 2019. RAN YOUNG will officially function as a full-fledged Working Group in 2019.

2019 – The RAN YOUNG Empowerment Academy

The RAN YOUNG Empowerment Academy is a programme for young people with a focus on **capacity building**. The Academy is set to provide young participants with everything they need to learn to create their own local P/CVE initiative. The group will consist of young people between the ages of 18 and 25 who would like to **actively participate in P/CVE.** In the Academy, they will work on their personal development, become educated on the topic P/CVE (knowledge development), develop skills and competences needed to become a youth influencer. They will also gain the skills and competencies needed to set up their local sustainable P/CVE initiative (professional development). In cooperation with the two Working Group leaders, the CoE will develop a programme that will focus on capacity building of in these categories.

The aim: Each participating couple or group of youngsters will set up their own local PVE initiative. Success will be ensured by dedicating enough time to guide the young couples and the selection process of youngsters and Working Group leaders. **The guidance will be a joint effort of the RAN YOUNG Working Group leaders, the RAN CoE and local mentors**. This will be organised in a structured manner.

Target audience: A pre-selected group will participate in all four sessions. The participants are young people between the ages of 18 and 25 who apply to the Academy in couples or small groups. They should have a promising idea for setting up a local initiative in their local areas and be committed to participating in the Academy for the full year of 2019. This means they will commit to: setting up a local PVE initiative, attending four sessions, writing reflection and progress reports, staying in contact with their local mentor, the CoE and the Working Group leaders in between the Academy sessions. They may be students, young activists, people with a personal relation to radicalisation and young frontline practitioners.

'Optimising Triple P: Police – Prison – Probation' (20-21 September)
At their joint meeting in October 2018, the RAN Working Groups on Police and Law Enforcement (RAN POL) and on Prison and Probation (RAN P&P) focussed on the challenges and opportunities for police, prison and probation (Triple P) collaboration regarding this specific group of suspects and offenders. Practitioners discussed information-sharing strategies and how risk assessment tools can contribute to the rehabilitation process. They observed that information sharing lies at the heart of the collaboration and coordination of Triple P and noted that the legislative framework — which forms the cornerstone of these three services — can both help and hinder information sharing. All three sectors perform risk assessments, but while prison and probation services are likely to use similar tools, those preferred by the police (and intelligence services) often differ. This dissimilarity is not necessarily problematic, if the various tools are known and interpreted in the same way. Concerning rehabilitation, the three sectors have a common goal but a different emphasis. More stakeholders outside the criminal justice sector need to be involved.

Revisiting the Notion of Prisons as Breeding Grounds for Radicalisation (25-26 October)
On 25 and 26 October, RAN P&P met in Budapest for its annual plenary meeting which was devoted to the subject of revisiting the notion of prisons as breeding grounds for radicalisation. The meeting gathered 27 participants from 18 different Member States. Participants are all working in, or in close contact with, their MS prison and/or probation service on the target group of radicalised and terrorist suspects and offenders. Participants discussed in various forms the different issues that are related to prisons as potential breeding grounds; religion and ideology, as well as causes of radicalisation in a prison context (such as structural conditions and charismatic leadership, management of offenders in prison) and on probation. The input gathered during these discussions formed the basis for discussing the RAN P&P Practitioner Working Paper, Third Edition. This paper was presented in draft form for all participants to provide feedback. New elements to be included in Third Edition include, for example, returnees, involvement of families and social networks and the role of religion. The final version is expected to be shared with the RAN P&P network and through RAN Update and social media channels in December 2018.

Policy and Practice RAN EXIT and P&P 'The Challenge of resocialisation' (6 November)
On 6 November, our fifth Policy & Practice event took place in Vienna on 'The challenge of resocialisation: dealing with radicalised individuals during and after imprisonment'. The event focused on the role of exit work for (violent) extremists in prisons and society. High expectations, complexities in multi-agency cooperation and a relatively small target group are frequently mentioned challenges in the field of exit work. During this event, policymakers and practitioners examined how national authorities and practitioners can strengthen each other's efforts in enabling, facilitating and delivering exit work during and after imprisonment.

Keywords of the day were multi-agency cooperation, time and trustful relationships. During several break-out sessions, participants discussed their thoughts on important topics, such as goals and deliverables of exit programmes, providers of exit work, the deradicalisation and disengagement process during and after imprisonment and ways to maintain progress. An ex post paper with outcomes of the meetings will follow in due time.

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RAN LOCAL– Tabletop Exercise: multi-agency cooperation (7-8 November)

RAN LOCAL came together in Dublin to practice multi-agency cooperation by using a tabletop exercise. Multi-agency work can be defined as 'working in collaboration across organisations to enhance services in order to meet complex needs'. The value of multi-agency work, in response to the threat of violent extremism, has been widely debated among policy, law enforcement, security, prison, probation and education stakeholders. At this Academy meeting, local coordinators from EU cities focussed on the added value of cooperating with partners at different levels. Specific cases were simulated in order to learn how to address them. Where to start when dealing with a radicalised person? Which partners at the local, regional and maybe even national level need to involved? Multi-agency work was practiced and the need to cooperate with different partners was key. Different tabletop scenarios were tested to determine whether this is a useful way to implement a multi-agency strategy. The ex post paper will outline the different scenarios and focus on the practical dos and don'ts of multi-agency work.

RAN EXIT and Health and Social Care 'A multi-problem target group: the influence of mental health disorders and substance abuse on EXIT work' (7-8 November)

What should be done when a person is radicalised? And what happens if that person is also struggling to cope with mental health problems and/or substance abuse? These were the two main questions tabled at a joint meeting of the Health & Social Care and Exit Working Groups in Vienna on 7 November.

Experts examined the similarities between substance abuse and radicalisation in terms of risk factors. They also discussed how this spectrum can influence and/or spur radicalisation. A closer look at manipulative groups suggested there are examples of recruiting among the mental and addict-vulnerable group. It was also stressed that, despite the "double trouble" the target groups face in terms of coping, it is important to continue looking for windows of opportunity.

Steering Committee (14 November)

At its final meeting for 2018, the Steering Committee welcomed RAN YOUNG Ambassador Hannah Abdule and appointed Torben Adams as the new co-chair of RAN P&P, replacing Ángel Vicente López Muriel.

In addition to the regular activities, such as discussing recent policy developments, the Steering Committee discussed the topic of youth involvement. European Commission DG EAC — Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture presented its initiatives to involve youth in P/CVE and RAN YOUNG reflected on their 2017-2018 activities and looked ahead at the RAN YOUNG Empowerment Academy to be held in 2019. During this event, RAN YOUNG will train and empower a maximum of 30 young people from the EU and provide them with the needed skills to set up their own local P/CVE initiative, both offline and online.

Finally, the Steering Committee discussed the activities and deliverables of the draft Annual Activity Plan 2019.

Coming up

RAN Policy & Practice POL and P&P 'Optimising Triple P (Police – Prison – Probation)' (22 November)

On 22 November, RAN will organise the last Policy & Practice Event of 2018 in Paris. The topic is on the cooperation between prison, probation and police in dealing with violent extremist or terrorist offenders. The question about how police, prison and probation services can collaborate with regard to P/CVE oriented re-socialisation is of growing importance. One of the

main challenges for fruitful cooperation between police, prison and probation is the legislative framework on which cooperation is based. In addition to a well-functioning legislative framework, the exchange of information (and the homogeneous understanding of shared data) between police, prison and probation requires a structural framework within which stakeholders can work together based on reciprocal trust and a mutual understanding of each other's tasks, roles and responsibilities. Last but not least, police, prison and probation cannot work together effectively without proper collaboration with adjacent entities such as prosecution, municipalities and civil society organisations. At the meeting in Paris, these different subjects will be discussed, while building on the findings of the joint event of POL – P&P on Triple P cooperation that took place in September 2018.

RAN C&N 'Communications to drive offline interventions' (22-23 November)

RAN C&N is meeting in Amsterdam on 22 and 23 November. At our last meeting of 2018, we will look more specifically into the call-to-action: how can online communication result in concrete offline action and interventions? During the meeting, we will join expertise and experiences and discuss why counter- and alternative narratives should not only be online. We will also consider what is involved in a good call-to-action and how to monitor its effects. Participants at this meeting will share experiences and examples of projects where the call-to-action worked and examples of what did not work. Together, we will attempt to formulate key success factors of an effective call-to-action. The outcomes of this meeting will be shared in the ex post paper with pragmatic tips and tricks.

Find our RAN C&N model to support effective counter and alternative narrative campaigning [here](#).

RAN YOUNG 'Review of RAN Collection practices' (22-23 November)

RAN YOUNG participants will review RAN Collection practices with a clear focus on young people. In subgroups, RAN YOUNG will extract strengths and weaknesses of the practices and provide final advice to the practitioners on how to best work with young people. The owners of the practices reviewed have been invited to the meeting in order to elaborate on their work and receive the RAN YOUNG advice. This meeting focuses both on the need to evaluate practices to prevent/counter radicalisation and on providing practice owners with a 'youth perspective'. Practices will be reviewed by young people from all over Europe. Is one practice transferrable to another context? Do young people feel the practice is addressed to them? The ex post paper about this meeting will capture both general and specific ideas from RAN YOUNG on how to best work with young people.

RAN YF&C 'The role of gender in extremism and P/CVE' (29-30 November)

In 2015, RAN produced an issue paper on the role of gender in extremism. This paper is mostly limited to the role of woman in Islamic extremist groups. RAN Youth, Families and Communities (RAN YF&C) is now building on this knowledge and digging deeper into the topic, especially into the influence of masculinity. The 29-30 November meeting will first discuss the role of gender and masculinity within extremist groups and the radicalisation process. It will then attempt to discuss how this will affect P/CVE work and can be utilised for a more effective approach. The meeting will also discuss the influence of gender on professionals working in P/CVE.

Latest Publications

RAN Policy and Practice Engaging with communities in P/CVE, Berlin 28 September 2018

RAN Radicalisation Awareness Network

The involvement and the support of communities are fundamental to the success of campaigns and programmes aimed at preventing/countering violent extremism (P/CVE). However, prevention and deradicalisation can only succeed with the approval and support of the local administration and at policy level, since they are the major funders and agenda setters with regards to this issue. This paper discusses how these actors can best collaborate.

RAN LOCAL How to get sustainable political support for your local P/CVE strategy, Berlin 27 September 2018
RAN LOCAL held a one-day meeting in Berlin on 27 November to discuss how to gain political support for local P/CVE. Local coordinators from different European cities, politicians and experts on politics came together to discuss this topic and develop tangible tips and tricks on how to ensure political support. Our paper presents the outcomes of this meeting.

RAN editorial Board

The recent USAID-sponsored report by Youthpower.org 'Two Sides of the Same Coin?' offers an examination of the cognitive and psychosocial pathways leading to EMPOWERMENT and RADICALISATION, and explores the merits of a process akin to what has been called "re-radicalization (2016, 2017). According to the report, radicalisation can be seen as a destructive form of empowerment when it leads to violence. When taken alone, then, and decoupled from violence, radicalisation is little more than a process of empowerment hyper-focused on specific ideological or social convictions. There is a need for empowerment programmes informed by a deep understanding of what makes radicalisation so total, so quick, and so potent a path for creating transformative personal and social change. Hence the importance of creating empowering 'places of resilience' where the desire for agency and radicalness is nourished, not frustrated.

In 'Transforming schools into labs for democracy A companion to preventing violent radicalisation through education' (in press, RAN), Nordbruch and Sieckelinck provide an overview of the landscape where education and radicalisation meet. They formulate recommendations to envision schools as 'labs for democracy' that would provide sustainable responses to radicalisation. Key concept is the democratic school ethos, the 'oxygen' the school requires before it can serve as a laboratory for democracy. A democratic school ethos relates to values and principles guiding daily institutional life and relations between students, teachers and their respective institution. Without a democratic school ethos, any further elements deemed important to tackle extremism will remain ineffective. It also includes improving institutional structures to strengthen teachers and schools as facilitators who will build and strengthen democratic values amongst students and empower them as active citizens. Tackling polarisation and preventing extremism through education is an ongoing process in open societies. While it is true that many policies are formulated in the aftermath of horrible events of political or religious violence, prevention does not respond to breaking news. Instead, it aims at achieving long-term and sustainable change.

RAN Calendar

November 2018	December 2018

POL and P&P (Policy & Practice event)
'Optimising Triple P (Police – Prison – Probation)'
Date and location: 22 November
Paris, France

RAN C&N
'Communications to drive offline interventions'
Date and location: 22-23 November
Amsterdam, Netherlands

RAN YOUNG
'Review of RAN Collection practices'
Date and location: 22-23 November
Riga, Latvia

RAN YF&C
'Working with men in prevention and disengagement from violent extremism'
Date and location: 29-30 November
Manchester, UK

RAN H&SC
'Methods for evidence-based approaches to prevention activities and countering violent extremism within the social and health domain'
Date and location: 6-7 December
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

RAN RVT
'Preventing revictimisation'
Date and location: 10-11 December
Manchester, UK

The full calendar for 2018 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