

Radicalisation Awareness Network



Webinar Deutsche Präventionstag

Supporting Families In Dealing With Radicalisation

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Content

- Why is there a need for family support?
- Family support in the context of RAN
- Different phases of the radicalisation process
- Examples of family support interventions:
 - Helplines
 - Support groups
 - Counselling
- Key lessons learnt

Need for family support

- Families can have a positive influence on radicalising relatives.
- Providing individual families with knowledge, support and tools for dealing with radicalized relatives can help:
 - stop the process of radicalisation
 - prevent potentially harmful activities e.g. travel to Syria/Iraq;
 - stop becoming (more) violent (whether or not after exit);
 - convince them to return and after returning find themselves in a (well prepared) family network,
 - build trust and work closely with the authorities;
 - deradicalise or participate in an exit programme;
 - stop inspiring /radicalizing brothers, sisters or other relatives;
 - prevent crimes (i.e. terrorist attacks).

1. To facilitate the **exchange among practitioners** themselves on the one hand and between them and **other stakeholders** on the other hand.
2. To deliver **support to both the EU and its Member States** (in certain circumstances, also to third countries).
3. Finally, to **disseminate the learning** gathered on the basis of the RAN activities to several audiences.



“Radicalisation is a process”

- It is important to draw a line between ideas, even if extreme, and violent actions resulting from extreme ideas
- It is important to distinguish between ideologically driven violence resulting from a radicalisation process and other types of violence from e.g. gangs and hooliganism

- Involving and training first line practitioners is key
- Prevention is key
- Multi-agency approach is key: involve NGOs, communities at risk, victims, formers
- Tailor-made interventions, adapted to local circumstances, are key



Nearly 100 practices from different MSs.

Objectives:

- Draw inspiration from;
- Find examples to adapt to their local/specific context;
- Look for counterparts to exchange prevention experiences;
- Evolving tool

RAN Collection
Preventing Radicalisation
to Terrorism
and Violent Extremism

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Approaches and Practices

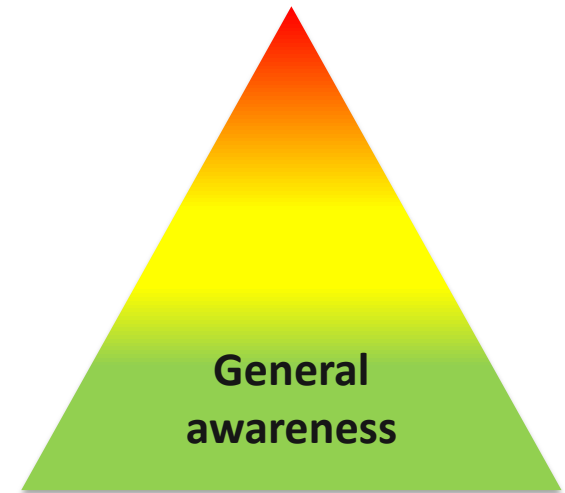
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QUESTIONS

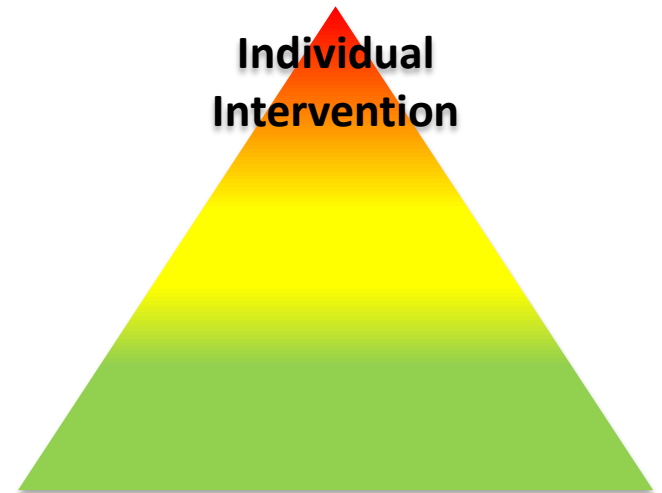
- Long term investment
- Addressing challenges between different cultural backgrounds
- General awareness raising
- Involving schools and civil society organisations
- Building trust with families and communities



- Signalling and risk assessment
- Role of family and peers
- Voluntary cooperation
- Holistic and tailor- made approach
- First contact with families and peers
- Culture, honor, shame , fear, uncertainty



- Different situations: left for Syria or Iraq to fight with IS, recruiting others, attacking refugees, in prison
- How to interact with family members in this situation
- Risk of recruitment of other family members or peers
- Safety
- Information on e.g. legal consequences
- Involvement in disengagement/
Deradicalisation programmes



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QUESTIONS

- DE, AT, FR, NL, SE, DK, BE
- Distinction objective helpline and hotline
- Organisational form can differ
- Transparency and connection to authorities
- Anonymous and confidential contact, preferably free of charge.
- Skills of staff (e.g. psychologists, social workers etc.), good communication/people, ability to speak in other languages.
- Helpline staff need to be equipped to deal with different kind of family dynamics and problems
- Multi-agency cooperation framework to discuss cases and refer to and to establish good links with other organisations that can provide additional support/advice.
- Consider 24/7 handling arrangements for the helpline.



- Bottom-up or civil society approach
- Support to those in the same situation
- Recognition and sharing of experiences (not blaming)
- Important to build connections to authorities/provide help and guidance around legal matters, communication etc.
- Safe space – confidentiality – note taking – interpretation
- Examples:
 - Sabr, The Hague
 - Mothersschools, Women Without Borders
 - Survivors for Peace, Tim Perry Jonathan Ball Foundation for Peace





- Personal, one-on-one approach
- Intensive form of support on practical, emotional, psychological level
- individually or collectively
- Systematically, situationally and problem- and solution oriented
- Examples:
 - Hayat , ZDK
 - Family Support Centre, Netherlands

Key lessons learnt

- Have a clear (preferably national) strategy in place how to deal with families
- A multi-agency approach is crucial. There is no limit to the amount of actors involved however there should be a case manager or limited point of contact with families.
- Multi-agency actors involved should know the security/intelligence restrictions, accept them and act within their limits. The same applies for privacy limits
- Transparency is essential for trust-building
- The language used when framing services or engagement with families should be selected carefully

Key lessons learnt

- In the stage of the initial contact it is very important that a form of risk assessment takes place which is repeated throughout the process
- Lower the threshold for families to pro-actively ask for help
- Build on existing support structures
- Waiting too long with a response and engagement might be harmful
- Clear rules and boundaries for conduct should be set from the beginning
- Engagement does not have a clear time frame. It should be assessed when support can be winded down.

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QUESTIONS