

European Conference on Preventing Polarization & Violent Radicalization: Strengthening Resilience, Fostering Innovation, Consolidating Lessons & Pioneering New Frontiers

April 26th- April 29th – Online

PRIMARY LANGUAGE: English

DAY 1: Simultaneous Interpretations into French, Spanish, German, and Italian

DAY 4: Simultaneous Interpretations into French, Spanish, German

LEAD ORGANIZERS: **6 ISF-P European Commission funded projects**

- Rhizome against Polarization (**RaP**)
- Cooperative Harmonized Action Model to Stop Polarization in our Nations (**Champions**)
- Strengthening European Youngsters Resilience through Serious Games (**YoungRes**)
- Integrated Exit Program for Prison and Probation (**WayOut**)
- Building Resilience to Reduce Polarisation and Growing Extremism (**Bridge**)
- A Radical Model for Resilience for Young Minds (**ARMOUR**)

PARTNERS: In addition to the 'Lead Organizers' responsible for technical and administrative preparation of the conference, more than 30 Universities, Institutions, Organisations and Agencies are so far partners of the conference



These projects were funded by the European Union's Internal Security Fund — Police



Time (CET)	Opening Session	Description	Speaker
15:00 – 15:10	Welcome & Introduction to the 2021 European Conference on Preventing Polarisation & Violent Radicalisation	Welcome to the 2021 European Conference on Preventing Polarisation & Violent Radicalisation - #EUPrevent. Bringing together the forefront of the field, with policy makers, practitioners and academics and exploring key areas in addressing, preventing and countering violent extremism, EUPrevent will focus on practical tools, lessons learnt, understanding key dynamics and strengthening good practices.	Moderator: Inmaculada Marrero (FUNDEA)
15:10 – 15:30	Preventing and Countering Violent Radicalisation in Europe – Vision & Policy Priorities from the European Commission		Sylvia Bottarin (DG Migration & HOME Affairs)

European Panel 1

Time (CET)	Opening Session	Speaker
15:30 – 16:10	Understanding the Challenges in Europe Today: The Scope and Dynamics of Radicalisation and Extremism in Europe	Moussa al-Hassan Diaw (Derad EU, Austria) Prof. Dr. Beate Küpper (Hochschule Niederrhein) Florian Huber (SYNYO) (Moderator)

European Panel 2

Time (CET)	Opening Session	Speaker
16:40-17:20	Meeting the Challenges of Extremism in Europe Today: Lessons of the Last Decade, Opportunities to Intervene & The Road Ahead	Luca Gervasoni (Novact) Kai Brand Jacobsen (PATRIR) Moderator: TBA
17:20 – 17:40	Practitioners & Policy Makers Discussion and Input	
17:40 – 18:00	Consolidation of Discussions & Highlighting Key Lessons: Day 1	



10:00 – 12:00 Parallel Sessions

No.	WORKSHOPS	Abstract	Organizer	Speaker/moderator
1	Engaging Youth I: Combining game-based learning and prevention work on social cohesion and equality	<p>The need for new formats of prevention work against radicalization preceded the Covid-19 pandemic. The use of digital approaches in engaging with young people on issues of identity, discrimination, group hatred, violence and the role of social media has been a central tool.</p> <p>This workshop presents the “Call of Prev” project, which links game-based learning with cross-phenomenon prevention work (Right-wing extremism and Islamic extremism). In addition to an overview of current youth-relevant options offered by the far-right and Islamist movements we want to provide practitioners with practical examples of cross-phenomenon work with a special focus on gender-based approaches of prevention work.</p>	CULTURES	<p>Sylvia Weiß (Cultures Interactive); Christian Kirschner (Cultures Interactive) Marie Jäger (Cultures Interactive)</p>
2	Education I: Tools for building individual resilience against polarization and (violent) extremism	<p>How can we prevent radicalisation among young people? One of the key elements of the process is resilience. Educating young people to develop skills that make them more resilient is one of the most important ways to prevent radicalisation and violent extremism. This workshop presents the different psycho-educational tools that can help first-line practitioners working with youth in this task developed during the ARMOUR project. These social and psychological interventions are very practical and focus on the early stages of polarisation and radicalisation.</p>	ARMOUR	<p>Carola Onderdelinden (University of Groningen) Moderator: Javier Ruipérez (FUNDEA)</p>
3	City-Based Approaches I: Strengthening Coordinated Response & Prevention – Lessons from City-Based Multi-Stakeholder Approaches in Europe	<p>Cities are at the forefront of experiencing the challenges of extremism and hate. Across Europe there have been several significant efforts to pioneer working within cities, developing ‘safe cities’ and city-based approaches to challenging radicalisation and hate. This session will focus on lessons from four major platforms on how cities can engage to address extremism, and the importance of collaboration across sectors – including local governments, law enforcement agencies, civil society, and more. This session will be particularly relevant for agencies and organisations working to address extremism in cities/urban areas, working on strengthening collaboration and joined-up approaches, and city-based strategies.</p> <p>Representatives from EFUS, Nordic Safe Cities, the CHAMPIONS Project and EU Cities Against Radicalisation will share their experiences, highlight good practices, challenges and lessons learned, and formulate recommendations on how to improve coordination, city-based approaches, and prevention to meet the challenge of extremism, radicalisation and hate in Europe’s cities.</p>	PATRIR	<p>Jeppe Alberts (Nordic Safe Cities) (CHAMPIONS); TBA (EFUS) TBA (EU Cities Against Radicalisation) Moderator: PATRIR</p>



No.	WORKSHOPS	Abstract	Organizer	Speaker/moderator
4	Gender: A Systematic Examination of Gender and Extremism in Europe Today	<p>This session brings together several of Europe’s leading experts to provide a systematic examination of gender and extremism in Europe today, lessons learned, and key issues governments, the European Union, and projects targeting extremism need to understand and address.</p> <p>The panel will review the links between extremism and gender, how men and women are targeted and recruited differently by extremist movements, the roles women and men play in extremism in Europe, and the role of misogyny and targeting women and LGBTQI+ communities in extremist and hate-narratives. Special attention will be given to lessons learned and recommendations for how gender and extremism can better be addressed by governments, civil society organisations and the European Union.</p>	PATRIR	TBA (OSCE) Moderator: Kai Brand Jacobsen (PATRIR)
5	Tech: Innovations Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation through ICT – Lessons, Insights, Challenges & The Road Ahead	<p>This panel presents online tools to address hate and extremism online, which have been developed during EU funded projects, and aims to start a conversation about the responsibilities and opportunities of technology in responding to these issues. From plug-ins to identify fake news to online gaming, how can tech take on extremism and hate?</p> <p>This session will present the latest innovations across the field, practical tech tools and platforms, and explore new frontiers in how AI and technology can be used to take on hate and foster inclusion in our communities. The Do One Brave Thing, Game Changer and other projects will share their experiences and provide recommendations and suggestions for the way forward.</p>	PATRIR	Emil Şteţco (Zetta Cloud) George Bara (Zetta Cloud) Francesco Perconti (TechSoup) Moderator: PATRIR

12:00 – 13:00

EU Policy & Practitioners Forum


Identifying & Consolidating Key Lessons & Recommendations for Improving Policy and Practice at National and European Levels

In this informal session, we will facilitate a space to bring together participants from across the different sessions to consolidate key insights from the day, bring forward their own expertise, exchange and explore opportunities for further work and future collaborations.


16.00 – 18.00

Special Session: State of Extremism and Populism Today I: TBA



No.	WORKSHOPS	Abstract	Organizer	Speaker/moderator
6	<p>Engaging Youth II: Youth at the Front Lines of Challenging Radicalisation, Hate and Extremism and Building Inclusive Communities</p> <p>Simultaneous interpretation </p>	<p>Youth are at the forefront of standing up to hate. In this workshop youth from across Europe come together to share their hands-on experiences working in standing up to extremism, countering hate, and challenging radicalisation in their communities. From online campaigns to youth mobilisation and reaching out across divides, youth workers and leaders from Poland, Hungary, Romania, Austria, Italy, Spain and elsewhere in the EU speak to the key issues confronting youth in their countries, how youth are targeted and themselves engage with extremism and hate, and what can be done to challenge it.</p> <p>The session will also focus on recommendations for organisations working with youth and be organised as a lessons sharing and learning forum for youth and organisations working with youth from across Europe.</p>	<p>Do One Brave Thing, RaP</p>	<p>TBA CSD TBA BRAVE TBA OSCE, Elena Kundrat (Südwind), Elisabeth Nagy (Südwind) Moderator: PATRIR</p>
7	<p>Getting Better at Getting Better: Evaluation, Learning Lessons and Improving Policy and Practice in the EU</p>	<p>From 2001 to today a vast amount of work has taken place across Europe targeting extremism, radicalisation and hate. From the European Commission to national governments, hundreds of millions of Euros have been spent across the EU. The breadth of projects implemented – their strategies and approaches, how they’ve been done, measures that have worked and measures that have failed – is vast.</p> <p>This session addresses both the need to improve practical evaluation and learning in the CVE/PVE field and how we can do it. Bringing together top experts in evaluation from RAN and projects IMPACT Europe and INDEED, the session will address how to do monitoring and evaluation of PVE/CVE projects; creating sectoral, city and national evaluation frameworks; innovations in sharing experiences and how to utilise the results of evaluation and learning to improve policy and practice. The session will take a practical approach – identifying key challenges, innovations and practical solutions – and how to improve policy, practice and impact in CVE/PVE work improving learning and getting better at getting better.</p>	<p>Impact Europe, European Commission, INDEED</p>	<p>TBA (RANDEurope), TBA (RAN) Moderator: PATRIR</p>



No.	WORKSHOPS	Abstract	Organizer	Speaker/moderator
8	<p>City-Based Approaches II: Assessing, Preventing and Mitigating Polarisation</p> <p>Simultaneous interpretation </p>	<p>In the framework of this workshop municipalities and experts will present innovative methods and tools to assess and diagnose polarisation and provide examples of tailor-made activities to mitigate or prevent polarisation at the local level. The workshop gives concrete recommendations on conducting an in-depth analysis to understand and monitor the phenomena and dynamics of polarisation through a local polarisation audit.</p> <p>Furthermore, cities will introduce concrete strategies to prevent or mitigate polarisation through activities that foster social cohesion and citizen participation. By relying on a multi-stakeholder approach, the activities presented are designed to have a long-term and sustainable impact and thus enhance communities' resilience to polarisation and radicalisation phenomena.</p> <p>Participants can learn about and exchange experiences on methods, tools and resources used to diagnose and monitor polarisation (local polarisation audit), methods, resources and partnerships to mobilise for the elaboration and implementation of activities seeking to prevent or mitigate polarisation at the local level, integrated municipal strategies and multi-stakeholder approaches to tackle polarisation.</p>	EFUS	<p>Departmental Council of Val d'Oise (FR), City of Rotterdam (NL), City of Stuttgart (D), City of Leuven (B), Patricia Andrews Fearon (University of Cambridge)</p> <p>Moderator: Julia Rettig (EFUS) Eszter Karacsony (EFUS)</p>
9	<p>Firstlinepractitioners.com: How can we ensure sustainability, availability and accessibility – The multilingual www.firstlinepractitioners.com platform</p>	<p>The multilingual www.firstlinepractitioners.com platform has been developed in the H2020-projects TAKEDOWN and MINDb4ACT and is currently extended in the ISFP-projects CHAMPIONS and ARMOUR. First-LinePractitioners.com provides information and services to practitioners in a structured, multilingual and accessible format.</p> <p>During this session, the platform will be presented and the participants will be invited to test several functionalities and features along with a set of pre-defined or own use cases. Furthermore, the session will also collect inputs for future developments, improvements and customization, and it will address the pathway towards sustainability.</p>	SYNYO	<p>Florian Huber (SYNYO)</p> <p>Moderator: Melina Breitegger (SYNYO)</p>



No.	WORKSHOPS	Abstract	Organizer	Speaker/moderator
10	<p>Good Practice in Deradicalization Interventions and in Policy Making: With a Focus on Inter-Agency Cooperation and Confidentiality</p>	<p>On four different European sites, the EXIT Europe project has begun building local exit programmes. In doing so, we put to the test the principles of good practice both in exit/rehabilitation work and in policy-making/programme design. Drawing on the RAN Derad Declaration, the programme confirmed the established principles as trust-building, relationship work, voluntary consent/ intrinsic motivation.</p> <p>The principles of triangular work and open process, focusing on narrative-biographical communication and emotional intelligence were also evident. It proved most important to provide a “safe space” with uncompromised confidentiality and the protection of personal data for the client – which only good practice in policy making can provide (as well as mustering an unpolitical, all-partisan support and providing a cross-extremisms approach which is non-stigmatising and non-polarising).</p> <p>Most remarkably, in EXIT Europe, international NGOs successfully cooperated with a member state’s security agency. The Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior and its civil-society partners began exploring what may achieve “best practice” in multi-agency cooperation in civil-society based exit programmes, while in other countries significant controversies are currently emerging.</p>	EXIT	<p>Victoria Steinek (Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior – Federal Agency for State Protection and Counter Terrorism)</p> <p>Harald Weilnböck (Cultures Interactive)</p>
11	<p>Education II: Building Community Resilience Through Educational Approaches</p>	<p>The socialization of young people usually takes place in the family, among peers and at school. Specifically, teachers have one of the most relevant roles in the formation of young people. They will influence the development of different skills that will be fundamental for the future of young people. Among these skills, some have been found to be protective factors in the face of radicalization. This workshop will show different tools to teach these skills in the educational environment.</p>	ARMOUR	<p>Cristina Ivan (MVNIA) Valentin Nicula (MVNIA)</p> <p>Moderator: Javier Ruipérez (FUNDEA)</p>



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Special Session: State of Extremism and Populism Today I: TBA

10.00-12.00

No.	Panel	Speaker
1	Highlights: Consolidated Lessons Learned & Recommendations for Future Projects & Policy from 6 European ISFP Projects	Representatives consortia ISFP-RAD
2	Charting the Road Ahead: Key Lessons from the 2021 European Conference and Key Priorities as we go Forward	TBA

