
TAIEX

Workshop on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the MENA Region

organised in co-operation with

Lebanese authorities

17-18 January 2018

Venue:

Grand Sérail
Presidency of the Council of Ministers
Riad El Soloh Street

Beirut, Lebanon

Beneficiaries:

Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco

Organised and funded by the
Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument
of the European Commission



Aim of the Workshop:

This first-ever regional workshop on preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) aims at bringing together experts and practitioners from national and local authorities from Middle East and North Africa countries and EU Member States to share and discuss experiences and best practice in tackling this common challenge.

The panel sessions and working groups that have been organised will address the two main topics of **radicalisation in prisons** and **online radicalisation**. The peer-to-peer approach aims at enabling fruitful presentations and discussions from an operational point of view on how these two issues are being dealt with and how to improve and adapt future actions.

Other key stakeholders active in this field will also participate, namely civil society, international organisations and the EU institutions will provide valuable insight and contribute to the sharing of experience from several angles.

This regional, multi-agency and inclusive set-up intends to provide a knowledge sharing platform through which lessons and synergies can be drawn. This is designed to facilitate further targeted actions in each of the beneficiary countries on P/CVE issues and enhance the overall cooperation amongst the EU and the MENA region.

Speakers and participants:

- **Invited beneficiary countries:**

Lebanon

- **Mrs. Rubina Abu Zeinab**, National P/CVE Coordinator
- **Mr. Muhammad Abu Shaqra**, Policy Advisor, National Coordination Unit for Preventing Violent Extremism, Office of the President of the Council of Ministers
- **Ms. Maysam Nweiry**, Director General of the Ministry of Justice and Member of the inter-ministerial working group for preventing violent extremism
- **Judge Mr. Raja Abi Nader**, Head of Prison's Department, Ministry of Justice

Jordan

- **Ms. Ghuzayyah Hijazi**, The Royal Hashemite Court, HRH Prince Ghazi bin Mohammad's Office
- **Mr. Ryan Sadi**, The Royal Hashemite Court, Chief Technical Advisor to the CVE Unit, HRH Prince Ghazi bin Mohammad's Office
- **Mr. Wasfi Tawil**, Acting Head of the CVE Unit, Ministry of Culture

Egypt

- **Mr. Amr Elhamamy**, Legal Adviser on UN and Counter Terrorism, Cabinet of the Foreign Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **Mr. Ahmed Elbuckley**, Deputy Director, Counter Terrorism Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **Mr. Osama Elshabka**, Al Azhar Observatory for Countering Radicalization
- **Mr. Ahmed Abdelrahim**, Third Secretary, Counter Terrorism Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Lybia

- **Mr. Farug Shanina**, Counter Terrorism Centre
- **Ms. Hala Almkharm**, Head of European Union Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **Mr. Ibrahim Shelfit**, Intelligence Service

Tunisia

- **Mr. Lotfi Lamloum**, Lieutenant Colonel, Ministry of Interior
- **Mr. Abdellatif Ayadi**, Deputy Director for Counter Terrorism, Ministry of Interior
- **Mr. Romdhane Ayari**, Directeur of Borj Erroumi prison, General

Directorate for Prison and Re-education, Ministry of Justice

- **Judge Mr. Sami Ben Saidane**, Judge of Instruction, Judicial Centre, Ministry of Justice

Algeria

- **Ambassador Mr. El Haoues Riache**, Counselor, Office of the Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Morocco

- **Mr. Mohamed Belekbir**, Director, Centre for Research and Studies about Values, Rabita Mohammedia of Ulemas
- **Mr. Yassine Soudi**, Qualified Researcher, Unity Against Dangerous Behaviors, Rabita Mohammedia of Ulemas
- **Mr. Mohamed Mazaoui**, Coordinator, DGAPR for Security
- **Mr. Mohamed Chqaili**, Coordinator, DGAPR for Security

Mali

- **Mr. Baboye Diagouraga**, Brigade d'investigations Spéciales

• **EU Member States:**

France

- **Ms. Johanna David**, Head of the Terrorism and Radicalization Unit, Central Bureau of Penitentiary Intelligence, Directorate of Prisons Administration, Ministry of Justice
- **Mr. Scott Atran**, Director of Research, SHS Department, Centre national de la recherche Scientifique

The Netherlands

- **Mr. John van der Zande**, Regional CT & P/CVE Coordinator on Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon, Netherlands Embassy to Jordan

Spain

- **Mr. Fernando Santos**, National P/CVE expert, Policy Strategy and Framework, Intelligence Centre for Counter Terrorism and Organise Crime, Ministry of Interior
- **Mr. Carlos Fernández**, Deputy Governor of Alicante prison, General Secretariat of Penitentiary Institutions, Ministry of Interior

Italy

- **Mr. Ezio GAETAN**, Head of P/CVE and International Cooperation Division, Department of Public Security, Ministry of Interior

Denmark

- **Mr. Adam Ravnkilde**, Regional Coordination for Counter Terrorism Cooperation, Embassy of Denmark to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- **Ms. Khadije Nasser**, Senior Regional Manager, Strong Cities Network

Germany

- **Dr. Mr. Gunnar Weimann**, Research Fellow at the Institute of Security and Global Affairs at Leiden University

- **Civil society and private sector organisations**

Quantum Communications:

- Mr. Eli Khoury, Chairman
- Ms. Jasmine El Jamal, Senior consultant

Carnegie Middle East Centre:

- Dr. Dalia Ghanem-Yazbek, Resident Scholar

World Vision Lebanon - Youth RESOLVE Consortium

- Mr. Samer Weber, Country Lead

- **Other international organisations:**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC):

- Mr. Ali Younes, Regional Advisor, Terrorism Prevention Branch, Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
- Mr. Joseph Khattar, National Counter-Terrorism Project Officer

- **EU institutions**

European Union Delegation to Lebanon

- Ambassador Ms. Christina Lassen, Head of the EU Delegation
- Mr. Jérôme Ribault-Gaillard, Counter-Terrorism Expert
- Ms. Elena Ascitti, Program Manager for Education, Protection and Community Development, EU Delegation to Lebanon

European Council

- Mr. Gilles de Kerchove, EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator

European External Action Service (EEAS)

- Ms. Cécile Abeloos, Counter-Terrorism Division (SECPOL.2)

European Commission

DG NEAR

- Mr. Lawrence Meredith, Director Neighbourhood East
- Ms. Lora Ujkaj, Policy Officer, Centre of Thematic Expertise for Security and Civil Protection
- Mr. Roberto Segundo Navarro, Project Manager, Justice and Home Affairs, TAIEX

DG HOME

- Mr. Jorge Bento Silva, Deputy Head of Unit for Counter Terrorism and Radicalisation

Europol

- Mr. Stéphane Duguin, Head of the EU Internet Referral Unit, European Counter Terrorism Centre

Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) Centre of Excellence

- Ms. Marije Meines, Senior Expert, RAN Centre of Excellence, Head of RAN delegation

RAN Practitioners:

- Ms. Jessika Soors, Local CVE Coordinator of the City of Vilvoorde, Belgium and chair of the RAN LOCAL working group
- Mr. Alexander Ritzmann, Senior Policy Advisor at the European Foundation for Democracy (EFD) in Brussels, Belgium and Senior Research Fellow at the Brandenburg Institute for Society and Security (BIGS) in Potsdam, Germany and chair of the RAN Communications and Narratives Working group
- Mr. Finn Grav, Senior expert at Directorate of Correctional Services of Norway (KDI) and chair of the RAN Prison and Probation working group

Day 1: Wednesday 17 January 2018

Chair: Ms. Lora UJKAJ

Venue: Grand Sérail

08:30	<p>Welcome coffee - Registration of participants. Please be reminded to sign the attendance list</p>
GROUP PICTURE	
09:00	<p>Welcome address: - Ambassador Ms. Christina Lassen, Head of the EU Delegation to Lebanon - Mrs. Rubina Abu Zeinab, National PVE Coordinator of Lebanon</p>
09:15	<p>Presentation on TAIEX: Speaker: Mr. Lawrence Meredith, Director Neighbourhood East, DG NEAR, European Commission Q&A</p>
09:30	<p>The EU counter-terrorism strategy: external dimension and engaging with third countries. Speaker: Mr. Gilles de Kerchove, EU Counter Terrorism Coordinator, European Council Q&A</p>
09:45	<p>Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the EU: Policy framework and tools Speaker: Mr. Jorge Bento Silva, Deputy Head of Unit for Counter Terrorism, DG HOME, European Commission Q&A</p>
10:00	<p>Session 1 - Radicalisation and violent extremism: how to explain the Lebanese resilience?</p> <p>The objective of this session is to give an overview of the drivers of violent extremism in Lebanon and present the current trends and major challenges for governmental authorities, civil society, NGOs, the EU and International organisations in other contexts.</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Ali Younes, Regional Advisor, Terrorism Prevention Branch, Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa, UNODC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lebanese National PVE Strategy Speaker: Ms. Rubina Abu Zeinab <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Eli Khoury, Chairman of Quantum Communications. - Mr. Joseph Khattar, National Counter Terrorism Project Officer, UNODC - Mr. Baboye Diagouraga, Brigade d'investigations Spéciales, Mali <p>Experts from (tbd): Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p>
11:00	<p>Coffee break</p>
11:15	<p>Session 2 – National P/CVE strategies and the importance of a local multi-agency response: how to coordinate national level policies with local level actors</p>

	<p>During their presentations, the panellists will be expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experts at national level will give three key principles to be factored into the national approach/national strategy. - Experts at local level will then offer three key principles in relation to the multi-stakeholder response. <p><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Muhammad Abu Shaqra, Policy Advisor, National Coordination Unit for Preventing Violent Extremism, Office of the President of the Council of Ministers The moderator will seek from the panellists to provide specific challenges and possible ways to overcome them.</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Ezio GAETANO, Italian Ministry of Interior - Ms. Dalia Ghanem-Yazbek, Carnegie Middle East Centre - Ms. Jessika Soors, Local CVE Coordinator of the City of Vilvoorde, Belgium and Chair of the RAN LOCAL Working Group - Ms. Khadije Nasser, Senior Regional Manager, Strong Cities Network - Mr. Fernando Santos, Spanish Ministry of Interior - Lebanon: Ms. Rita Karam, Head of the Child Protection Committee, Ministry of Social Affairs <p>Experts from (tbd): Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p>
12:15	Q&A
12:45	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:45	<p>Session 3 – Radicalisation in prisons: regional challenges on disengagement – Best practices and experience sharing</p> <p>The objective of this session is to discuss ongoing programs and actions that seek to disengage violent extremists while in prison including their respective effectiveness, efficiency and associated risks.</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Carlos Fernández, Spanish Ministry of Interior Case-study: the Lebanese experience Speaker: Ms. Maysam Nweiry, Director General of the Ministry of Justice, Lebanon</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Judge Mr. Raja Abi Nader, Head of Prison's Department, Ministry of Justice - Ms. Johanna David, Head of the Terrorism and Radicalization Unit, Bureau Central du Renseignement Pénitentiaire, Direction de l'administration pénitentiaire, Minister of Justice, France - Experts from NGOs and civil society organisations (Carnegie) - Ms. Renée Sabagh, project manager UNODC, Lebanon <p>Experts from (tbd): Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p>
14:45	Q&A
WORKING GROUP SESSIONS – Exchange of views	
14:45	<p>Working Group 1 – The international community's insight on radicalisation in prisons: a focus on the recruitment process, risk assessment tools and special treatment of terrorist offenders</p> <p><u>Driving questions:</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How do you prevent extremist prisoners from grooming others? - How to deal with extremist prisoners? - Does 'de-radicalisation' work? What type of intervention can prove effective? - Are there examples of best practice which have worked well? Similarly, are there certain actions which have proved counter-productive or exacerbated the problem? <p>Moderator: Mr. Finn Grav, Senior expert at Directorate of Correctional Services of Norway (KDI) and chair of the RAN Prison and Probation working group</p> <p>Participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Carlos Fernández, Deputy Governor of Alicante prison, General Secretariat of Penitentiary Institutions of Spain - Ms. Johanna David, Head of the Terrorism and Radicalization Unit, Bureau Central du Renseignement Pénitentiaire, Direction de l'administration pénitentiaire, Minister of Justice, France <p>Experts from (tbd): Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Working Group 2 – Rehabilitation and Reintegration: a focus on returnee children below the age of criminalisation response</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Cécile Abeloos, Counter-Terrorism Division, EEAS</p> <p>This working group aims to discuss the challenges (from practitioner's perspectives) of child returnees either born or travelled to conflict territories. These children are to be considered at high risk of trauma exposure, vulnerable to indoctrination, having witnessed and/or participated to violent situations.</p> <p>Driving questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How these children's experience (exposed to violence, indoctrination) should guide practitioners' rehabilitation and reintegration efforts? - What are their needs (exposure to trauma, indoctrination, school/vocational training, socialisation...)? What are the risks they may entail? - What role for the family, the community and NGOs support in helping those children? <p>Participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Marije Meines, Senior Expert from the EU RAN Centre of Excellence - Mr. Scott Atran, Centre national de la recherche Scientifique, France <p>Experts from (tbd): Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p>
16:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
17:00	<p>Conclusions from Working groups 1 and 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Finn Grav - Ms. Cécile Abeloos
17:30	<p>Wrap up of Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mrs. Rubina Abu Zeinab (tbc)

Day 2: Thursday 18 January 2018

Chair: Mr. Roberto SEGUNDO

Venue: Grand Sérail

08:30	<i>Welcome coffee - Registration of participants. Please be reminded to sign the attendance list</i>
09:00	<p>Session 4 – How the Internet is facilitating radicalisation and recruitment by terrorist organizations: counter-narrative approach and educational response</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Jérôme RIBAUT-GAILLARD, Counter Terrorism/Security expert, EU Delegation to Lebanon</p> <p>The moderator will guide the presentations and discussions and explain the EU's efforts in the field of this session topic and its engagement with the internet industry and efforts to both reduce accessibility to terrorist content online and empower civil society partners to increase the volume of effective, alternative narratives online.</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Ayman Mhanna, Executive Director of SK Eyes Media - Mr. Jorge Bento Silva, Deputy Head of Unit for Counter Terrorism, DG HOME, European Commission. - Mr. Ali Younes, UNODC - Mr. Gunnar Weimann - Lebanon: Ms. Rita Karam <p>Experts from (tbd): Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p>
10:15	Q&A
10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00	<p>Session 5 – Tackling violent extremism through education and vocational training</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Ms. Elena Asciutti, Program Manager for Education, Protection and Community Development, EU Delegation to Lebanon</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. John van der Zande, Netherlands Embassy to Jordan - Ms. Tamam Mroue, Director of "Mouvement Social" Association - Mr. Scott Atran, Centre national de la recherche Scientifique, France <p>Experts from (tbd): Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p>
12:00	Q&A
12:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
WORKING GROUP SESSIONS – Exchange of views	
13:30	<p>Working Group 3 – What role for the civil society in PVE?</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Samer Weber, Youth RESOLVE Consortium</p> <p><u>Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. John van der Zande, Regional CT & P/CVE Coordinator on Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon, Netherlands Embassy to Jordan

	<p>- Civil society organisations</p> <p>Experts from <i>(tbd)</i>: Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Working Group 4 - Sharing experiences on how to face radicalisation and recruitment on the Internet: success stories and ways of improvement</p> <p><u>Driving questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the best approach to take when engaging with the internet industry? - What different approaches can be taken to addressing terrorists' use of the internet and how can we better protect online users? - Who are the key players to involve in tackling this issue and what role can they play? <p><u>Moderator:</u> Ms. Jasmine El Jamal, Senior consultant, Quantum Communications</p> <p><u>Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Alexander Ritzmann, Chair of the RAN Communications and Narratives Working Group - Mr. Stéphane Duguin, European Counter Terrorism Centre Europol - Mr. Scott Atran, Centre national de la recherche Scientifique, France - Mr. Joseph Khattar, UNODC Lebanon <p>Experts from <i>(tbd)</i>: Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Libya</p>
15:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:15	<p>Conclusions from Working groups 1 and 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Samer Weber - Ms. Jasmine El Jamal
15:45	Q&A
16:15	<p>Operational conclusions</p> <p>Chairs of Working Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4</p>
17:00	<p>Wrap up of the workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concluding remarks <p>Speakers: Mr. Jorge Bento Silva and Mrs. Rubina Abu Zeinab</p>

More information on TAIEX:

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