



Dienst Justitiële Inrichtingen
Ministerie van Veiligheid en Justitie



How Islamic Religious Services can contribute to preventing and countering Religious Radicalisation in Prisons.

**Criminal Justice Platform
Europe, 14 October 2015**



Prison imams, The Netherlands





Causal Connection between Detention and Radicalisation

A. What factors contribute to the religious radicalisation of Muslim detainees?

B. What is the role of *prison imams* (Islamic spiritual caregivers / Muslim *chaplains*) in this?



Some factors which may contribute to the religious radicalisation of Muslim detainees

- 1. Influence by prison imams who are themselves radical, who consciously or unconsciously spread radical thoughts.**
- 2. A lack of religious supervision of the detainees.**
- 3. Recruitment by other detainees.**
- 4. Religious reading material.**
- 5. Influence of external networks and communities.**



What is the role of prison imams in the prevention of religious radicalism with respect to these risk factors?



In summary...

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNTER AND ADDRESS PRISON RADICALIZATION, September 2015

Recommendation 11 – *Support religious services as a means to countering prison radicalisation.*

Recommendation 5 – *Diversify staff and leadership as a way to help counter prison radicalisation.*

The International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law



About Religious Diversity in European Prisons





About Prison Imams in the Dutch Correctional Institutions

