

## Deradicalisation or disengagement? That is the question



Against the background of the recent attacks in Europe and elsewhere, knowledge production in the area of radicalisation has intensified in the last 20 years. This movement was enhanced by the setting up of dedicated institutes or centers for studying terrorism or radicalisation (see for instance International Centre for Counter Terrorism – The Hague or International Institute for Counter-Terrorism – Herzlyia etc.). Based on the literature and best practices developed across the globe, different national and transnational bodies have advanced some guidelines on how to prevent or fight terrorism. Moreover, some guidelines addressed the issue of how to use prisons and probation services to support deradicalisation and disengagement from the terrorist actions.

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## Conferences you shouldn't miss!

### [2nd International Criminal Justice Summer Course, Barcelona](#)

The Criminal Justice Platform Europe (CJPE) is organising the second edition of the International Criminal Justice Summer Course in Barcelona from the 3rd until the 6th of July 2018 in the Centre for Legal Studies and Specialised Training, Barcelona. Registration is now open! An early bird fee is available until the 15th of April.

### [7th SPECTO conference, Timisoara](#)



On the 13th and 14th of September 2018, CEP and the West University of Timisoara organise the 7th edition of International Conference Multidisciplinary Perspectives in the Quasi-Coercive Treatment of Offenders (SPECTO). The conference will be held in Timisoara, Romania.

### **Reframing Sexual Abuse: Practical Directions, Riga**

The conference 'Reframing Sexual Abuse: Practical Directions' will be held on the 22nd and 23rd of November 2018. The conference will be facilitated by the CEP and spearheaded by the Latvian Probation Service and the Latvian Prison Administration. It is aimed at practitioners, mainly probation staff.

## **The impact of terrorist attacks on the Flemish Probation Service**



### **What impact did the terrorist attacks have on your organisation?**

"One of our core tasks is victim support. Due to the large amount of victims after the terrorist attacks, including a lot of foreign nationalities, it was an intensive process trying to contact and find all victims. Our victim support units organised meetings with the Victim Identification Services and forensic scientists. They helped organising claims for civil damage and restitution of belongings and they organised collective information sessions.

Another important impact was caused by the number of political initiatives in response to the terrorist attacks all over Europe. For example, the extension of the definition of terrorist crimes in the penal code. More people were arrested for terrorist crimes, which led to a rise of terrorist crimes in the case files of our probation services."

[Read the entire interview here >>](#)

## **Dealing with the issue of radicalisation - the German case in Lower Saxony**

Radicalisation, especially terrorism and violent extremism, have become increasingly important for the probation and prison service in recent years. Around 1.000 German jihadists have traveled to the IS militia, to Syria or Iraq to participate in combat operations or to support them in other ways. About one third came back to Germany, more than 150 died. There is a lot of discussion at a technical and political level about how to handle radicalised people or returnees in prison and probation or how others can be protected from becoming radicalised. For Germany, dealing with this topic is anything but easy.



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## Resocialisation of extremist offenders: Long-term approaches of the Violence Prevention Network



Hate crimes perpetrated by juveniles and adults motivated by ideological, racial or religious intolerance are not an odd occurrence. In 2016, security services estimated staggering numbers of extremists prepared to use violence as a means across different phenomena: 12100 violent right-wing extremists and 434 violent Islamist extremist. The total of Salafi scene members is estimated to be around 11000.

*An article by Ariane Wolf. She is responsible for International Affairs and Transnational Cooperations for the German NGO Violence Prevention Network (VPN). Starting in 2001, VPN was one of the first organisations in Europe that offers programmes dealing with deradicalisation and exit work, intervention and prevention both within and outside the prison context.*

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## The French deradicalisation programme

"We set up a programme after the terrorist attacks on Charlie Hebdo and a kosher supermarket in France in January 2015. The programme is for offenders that are convicted of terrorist crimes or offenders of common crimes and haven't been connected to any radicalised activity in the past, but form a high risk of becoming radicalised. They have to follow these programmes during their detention and probation period."



[Read the interview here >>](#)

## Treatment of Violent Extremist Offenders in Sweden: the Entré programme



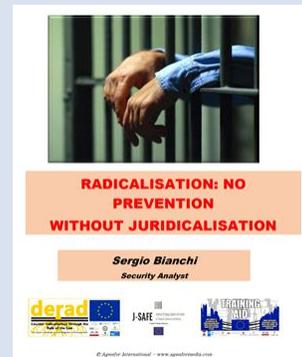
Violent extremist offenders (VEOs) is a group of offenders that constitutes a special challenge for correctional services. The demands for security, whilst in prison, ask for special arrangements, but safety and security whilst in probation after release also call for effective interventions to reduce the risk of new crimes motivated by radicalised views and activities. This article is a presentation of a new Swedish effort to include systematic treatment for the transition of VEOs from prison to community.

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## New McCarthyism or rule of the law: the dilemma of radicalisation

The policies and practices aimed at preventing radical phenomena are profoundly changing the landscape of the EU Justice, impacting on the overall governance of security, but also on the roles of police forces, intelligence agencies and judiciary within prison and probation. Since 2005, practices that traditionally belong in the field of social policies are now under the umbrella of security and antiterrorism due to their ideological and religious components. The ancient borderlines between separate jurisdictions and powers, keys, doors and guardians, which guaranteed a fair system of checks and balances, tend to fall in the new model of 'prevention policing', which seems to have freed itself from all the complexes that historically linked this concept to totalitarian regimes and ideological repression.

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