

TerRa

Terrorism and Radicalisation



Prevention, De-radicalisation & Citizenship

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On November 26th 2015, the Arq Psychotrauma Expert Group organised a conference with the title '**Prevention, De-radicalisation and Citizenship**'. This conference was based on input from the TERRA project, especially in using the recommendations from the TERRA Toolkit.

The conference was attended by representatives from target groups identified by TERRA as being those who work with youth potentially at risk of radicalising, like teachers, youth workers, law enforcement personnel and policy makers from both local and national level. A new target group, mental health professionals, has also recently been identified and added. This group was well represented at the conference. Also representatives from all partner organisations in the TERRA project, Impact, Association of Aid to Victims of 11th of March, the Quilliam Foundation and University College Roosevelt were present, as well as the TERRA Advisory Board members: Dr. Lorenzo Vidino, Rt Hon Hazel Blears, Mr. Maajid Nawaz and Professor Fathali M. Moghaddam.

The conference had the following objectives:

- Bringing TERRA's target groups together.
- Giving them the opportunity to interact with TERRA's Advisory Board, all of whom are leading experts on radicalisation and terrorism.
- Presenting the TERRA toolkit to them in workshops specifically designed for each target group and led by an expert in the field.
- Providing opportunities for networking and interdisciplinary interaction between the target groups.

The conference began with a welcome from Magda Rooze, Project Leader, and was chaired by Petra Stienen, Dutch Arabist and former human rights diplomat at the Netherlands Embassies in Syria and Egypt, author and independent advisor in the fields of democracy, diversity and diplomacy. Her lively presence coupled with the expertise brought by participants gave us a lively and entertaining day.

Professor Fathali Moghaddam, Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears, Mr. Maajid Nawaz and Dr. Lorenzo Vidino were the speakers in the first part of the conference. Their presentations were respectively titled "Global Trends in Extremism: The Rising Threat to Democracy", "Counter-extremism strategy and the role of national governments in de-radicalisation", "A civil society approach to tackling radicalisation and extremism" and "State of the art evidence on radicalisation and de-radicalisation".

The focus of their speeches underlined the importance of globalisation, the vital role played by professionals such as those from TERRA's target groups in tackling radicalisation and the role of the internet in terms of potential for both radicalisation and counter narrative. The need to create sound integration policy, in particular, focused to second generations, and a

comprehensive approach to tackling radicalisation, including a community approach, was also emphasised.

The second part of the conference was composed of various workshops, specifically designed for the target groups. The purpose of these workshops was threefold. Firstly, participants received an overview of the contents of the TERRA toolkit (available online at www.terratoolkit.eu). This toolkit was specifically developed for these target groups, in order to translate the knowledge on radicalisation from the international literature on the subject into a practical format which can help these professional groups in their daily work. Further, specific information was also given to the participants by the workshop leaders, each specifically selected for their expertise within the field. Lastly, an opportunity was given to the participants to enter into discussion with one another, around the subject of the toolkit and issue of radicalisation within their field of work.

After the workshop, a representative of each group was invited to share the conclusions. During a final, plenary discussion section, participants were invited to share their insights and questions from the day. Following the discussions the participants shared a networking drink and were able to share their insights from the day.

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Association of Aid to Victims 11th of March