Prevention of Violent Extremism through Social Inclusion

Social Impact Analysis of

Eurodiaconia members' work

Eurodiaconia | *Connecting faith and social justice through action*

Eurodiaconia is a **dynamic**, Europe wide **community** of organisations founded in the **Christian faith** and working in the tradition of Diaconia, who are committed to a Europe of **solidarity**, **equality** and **justice**. As the **leading network of Diaconia in Europe**, we connect organisations, institutions and churches providing **social and health services and education** on a Christian value base in over 30 European countries.

We bring members together to **share practices**, **impact social policy** and **reflect on Diaconia in Europe today**.

Eurodiaconia

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Executive Summary

The issue of violent extremism is high up on the European political agenda. Eurodiaconia, amongst others, has observed that the focus of many initiatives lies on religious radicalisation and that political radicalisation seems less prominent and therefore shifts public debate. Contributing to the discussion and highlighting this research gap, Eurodiaconia is tackling the Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) from a social inclusion angle and what role diaconal initiatives can play in the process. Thereby, focusing on the question of how (political) radicalisation, that leads to violence of young people, can be prevented in the EU.

This study was conducted between October and December 2018. By taking part in an online survey and interviews, 8 Eurodiaconia member organisations from 6 different countries participated in the research. A total of 9 projects are presented and analysed.

The paper builds on the findings of Eurodiaconia's Urban Partnership Seminar[1] that was held from 17 to 18 May 2018 in Düsseldorf (Germany), the mapping of Eurodiaconia members' work in urban areas[2] & an event in the European Parliament[3], on 'The Role of Social Inclusion in Preventing Radicalisation'.

The status quo of radicalisation prevention work being performed by selected Eurodiaconia member organisations is described and its social impact analysed. Keeping in mind, that measuring positive impacts is a very difficult issue among radicalisation prevention programmes in general, positive impact, nevertheless, can be measured and social inclusion has a positive effect on the Prevention of Violent Extremism.

With 89% the majority of Eurodiaconia members working in the field of PVE think that strengthening social inclusion is the most important objective in their PVE activities. It is crucial to understand that these measures can only be implemented through long-term social investment programmes. Eurodiaconia and its members strongly call upon the European Commission, the Member States and the local representatives to follow this vision and by developing a policy for PVE through social inclusion. Eurodiaconia members urge all actors involved to keep the long-term impact in mind, that these measures could have on the future of (Social) Europe.

New definitions of social security – not just as a social protection system, but also as a feeling of social protection that can be given through belonging to a group – should be further discussed (Eurodiaconia 2017).

Eurodiaconia is willing to work as a partner to the European Commission and not just as a recipient, and to be recognized as a key actor in tackling the propagation of extreme and violent ideologies.

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1   Eurodiaconia (2018): Event report. Urban Partnership Seminar on Youth. Available here: https://www.eurodiaconia.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Event-Report_Urban-Areas-Seminar-on-Youth_2018.pdf

2   Eurodiaconia (2017a): Mapping. Eurodiaconia Members' work on social inclusion in urban areas. Available here: https://www.eurodiaconia.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Mapping-on-Urban-Areas_2017.pdf

3   Eurodiaconia (2017): Report. Eurodiaconia event on the role of Social Inclusion in preventing radicalisation. Available here: https://www.eurodiaconia.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/FINAL_Report.pdf

Introduction

Deadly terrorist attacks throughout Europe in the recent years, the controversial protests around the "yellow vests" in France, the violence shown at the G20 summit in Hamburg in 2017 or several arson attacks on refugee shelters – to mention but a few instances – have contributed to the fact that the issue of violent extremism and radicalisation[4] is high up on the European political agenda, especially concerning young people. Whilst, according to the 2018 Global Terrorism Index, overall deaths from terrorism fall, far-right political terrorism in Western Europe is on the rise. Populist rhetoric and far right extremism continuously threaten social cohesion of communities. "Othering" – whereby an individual or group is cast into the role of the "other" and given the status of "not one of us" – splits communities into "us" and "them" and provokes conflict instead of cohesion.

Eurodiaconia, amongst others, has observed that the focus of many initiatives lies on religious radicalisation and that political radicalisation seems less prominent and therefore shifts public debate. Aiming to contribute to the discussion and highlighting this research gap, Eurodiaconia is looking at the Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) from a social inclusion angle and what role diaconal initiatives can play in the process. Thereby, focusing on the question of how (political) radicalisation, that leads to violence of young people, can be prevented in the EU.

This study was conducted between October and December 2018. By answering an online survey and taking part in (telephone) interviews, 8 Eurodiaconia member organisations from 6 different European countries participated in the research. A total of 9 projects are presented.

Research objectives, audience and use of findings

This report is divided into four parts: First, it aims to give a brief insight into the current theoretical background of radicalisation prevention work. The second part focuses on the online survey results of PVE from a social inclusion perspective and how that approach can be strengthened. Third, the status quo of radicalisation prevention work being performed by selected Eurodiaconia member organisations is described and its social impact analysed. Keeping in mind, that measuring positive impacts is a very difficult issue among radicalisation prevention programmes and in social work in general, positive impact, nevertheless, can be measured and social inclusion has a positive effect on the Prevention of Violent Extremism. Finally, suggestions for further improvement of preventive radicalisation efforts in the form of policy recommendations are formulated.

The paper builds on the findings of Eurodiaconia's Urban Partnership Seminar[5] that was held from 17 to 18 May 2018 in Düsseldorf (Germany). The seminar focused on measures taken by social organisations in urban areas in terms of political radicalisation prevention and social cohesion. Furthermore, this study builds on two activities from December 2017: the mapping of Eurodiaconia members' work in urban

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4   Unless otherwise specified, the term "radicalisation" refers to "radicalisation leading to violence" and is used interchangeably in this report.

5   Eurodiaconia (2018): Event report. Urban Partnership Seminar on Youth. Available here: https://www.eurodiaconia.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Event-Report_Urban-Areas-Seminar-on-Youth_2018.pdf

[areas](#)[6] and an [event in the European Parliament](#)[7], on 'The Role of Social Inclusion in Preventing Radicalisation', hosted by MEP Sabine Verheyen of the European People's Party (EPP).

The paper provides Eurodiaconia members and the European Commission (EC) with good practice examples in the area of radicalisation prevention from a social policy perspective.

Theoretical Background

The following part focuses on the definition(s) of radicalisation and violent extremism, models and methods of radicalisation (prevention work) as well as on trends and challenges of PVE in the EU.

Definition(s) of radicalisation & violent extremism

There is not a commonly accepted definition of radicalisation or extremism as the terms remain controversially discussed and somehow difficult to grasp (United Nations 2015).[8] Various actors use different definitions and the terms are often misused in daily life. It is crucial – also for the understanding of this report – to distinguish between non-violent and violent radicalisation and extremism.

Radicalisation leading to violence
Based on the origins of the Latin word 'radic' (Oxford Dictionary Online), which means 'root', one may adopt positions that, while radical, may not automatically be opposed to democratic norms and values. Understood in this way, radicalisation would not be considered negative per se. The underlying definition for this report is based on the Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence (CPRLV 2018a) that defines radicalisation leading to violence as follows:

> *a process whereby people adopt extremist belief systems—including the willingness to use, encourage or facilitate violence—with the aim of promoting an ideology, political project or cause as a means of social transformation.*

The European Commission (2018) defines radicalisation as:

> *a complex phenomenon of people embracing radical ideology that could lead to the commitment of terrorist acts.*

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6   Eurodiaconia (2017a): Mapping. Eurodiaconia Members' work on social inclusion in urban areas. Available here: https://www.eurodiaconia.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Mapping-on-Urban-Areas_2017.pdf

7   Eurodiaconia (2017): Report. Eurodiaconia event on the role of Social Inclusion in preventing radicalisation. Available here: https://www.eurodiaconia.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/FINAL_Report.pdf

8   United Nations, General Assembly, 'Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism', 70th session, Agenda items 16 and 117, A/70/674, 24 Dec. 2015. Available here: http://www.undp.org/content/dam/norway/undp-ogc/documents/SG%20PVE%20plan%20of%20action.pdf

The Commission uses the adjective 'radical' to define radicalisation. Efforts to define radicalisation often go around in circles, and it is clear to see how difficult it is to put the concept into a nutshell, if it can only be described in terms of its own derivatives.

At the centre of the radicalisation process is often a dynamic that includes individuals cutting ties with their closest social connections (family, friends, colleagues, etc.), and continuing along a path that may eventually lead to violent extremism (CPRLV 2018a). Therefore, the term violent extremism has to be defined, too.

Violent Extremism

The term violent extremism has increasingly become popular in recent years, based on the unresolved quest to come up with a binding definition of terrorism by the United Nations. The concept of violent extremism is wider than terrorism, because it incorporates any form of violence as long as its incentive is thought to be extremist (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe 2017).

The European Institute of Peace (EIP 2018) defines violent extremism as:

> *violent behaviour that originates in an ideology shared at least by a limited group of individuals. Violent extremism embraces the willingness as well as training, preparation and the actual conduct of violent acts against civilians.*

Violent extremists are severely disconnected from society and tend to dehumanize or devalue their victims. The goal must be to prevent that from happening in the first place. However, it should also be the goal to re-integrate disconnected people.

Historically, individuals turned to terrorism when they saw no other possibility to achieve a specific political goal (EIP 2018).

"Violent extremism represents not the resurgence of traditional cultures, but their collapse, as young people unmoored from millennial traditions flail about in search of a social identity that gives personal significance and glory. This is the dark side of globalization. They radicalize to find a firm identity in a flattened world..." (PLOS 2018)
Prof. Scott Atran[9]

Recommendation for further reading:

► Report by Professor Peter R. Neumann - Former Director of The International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation (ICSR) & OSCE Chairperson in Office's Special Representative on Countering Radicalisation and Violent Extremism in 2017: Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalisation that Lead to Terrorism: Ideas, Recommendations, and Good Practices from the OSCE Region.

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9   Prof. Scott Atran addressed the UN Security Council in 2015 on 'The Role of Youth in Countering Violent Extremism and Promoting Peace.' Available here: https://blogs.plos.org/neuroanthropology/2015/04/25/scott-atran-on-youth-violent-extremism-and-promoting-peace/

Models and methods of radicalisation (prevention work)

There is a variety of methods and theories related to the prevention of radicalisation. Only a few of them will be mentioned here as it would be beyond the scope of this report to go into more detail.

In general, the study of the socio-political order of contexts and action, of relations between social structures, political circumstances and biographical exposure in which violence is rooted is essential to comprehend the radicalisation process (United Nations Development Programme 2016).
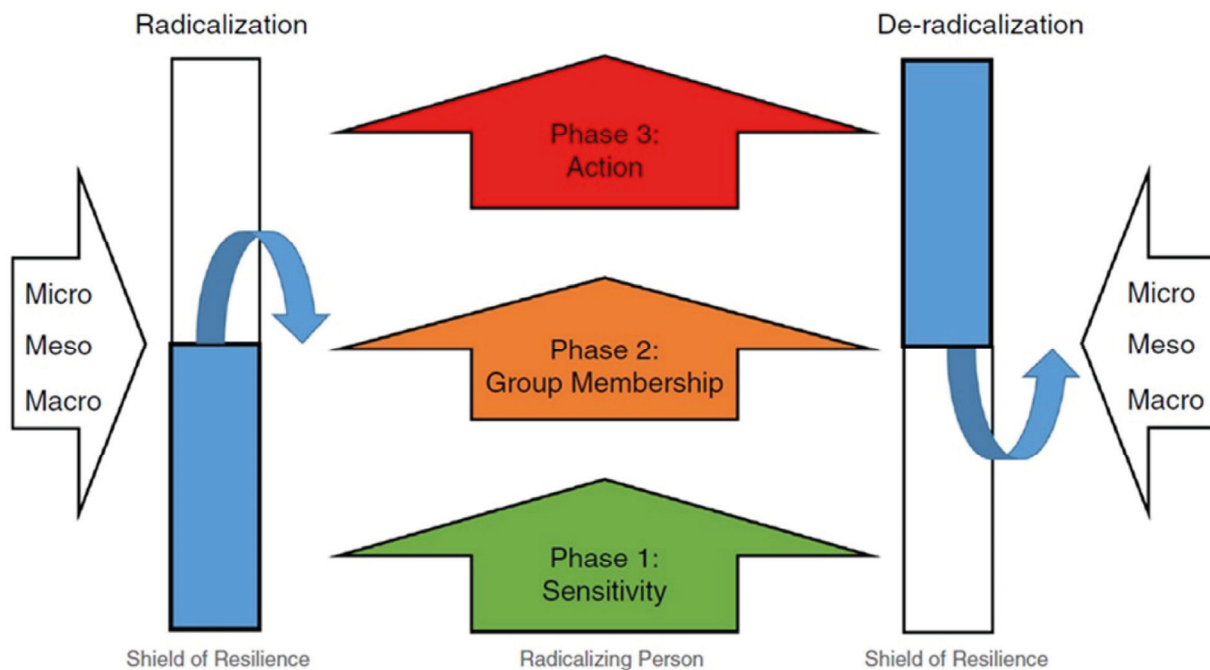
Figure 1: The (de)radicalisation process and its determinants. (Doosje et.al. 2016)

Two characteristics are important for the conceptualisation of radicalisation: the process-oriented nature and nonlinearity (i.a. El-Mafaalani et al. 2016). In this understanding of multiple factors leading to radicalisation the following concepts shall be understood.

De-pluralisation
The process of radicalisation is unique to each individual and encourages a process of 'de-pluralisation' – a concept that describes how an individual becomes gradually narrow minded relative to key political concepts and values (Ostwald & Coquelin 2018). Also, the process of 'de-pluralisation' is connected to a strong affirmation bias which leans towards a confirmation of problems, solutions and future scenarios associated with a certain ideology (EIP 2018).

Relative Deprivation
A key component of theories on radicalisation is the concept of frustration (relative deprivation theory). Ted Robert Gurr (1971 p. 23) refers to relative deprivation as

the tension that develops from a discrepancy between the 'ought' and the 'is' of collective value satisfaction, and this disposes men to violence.

Frustration does not automatically lead to violence. Nonetheless, Gurr states in his theory, if it is sufficiently prolonged and strongly felt, it often does result in agitation and eventually violence (1971).

Active citizenship approach

There is a need for an active citizenship approach to support young people to be involved in social action projects and to let young people participate in decision-making processes to ensure their voices are heard. A paradigm shift from focusing on deficits to focusing on young people's capacity to be agents of change is needed. Learning how to deal with ambiguity, i.e. the ability to endure the fact that attitudes and values do not necessarily have to correspond to one's own ethical ideas and nevertheless can be legitimate, is a central starting point for preventive or pedagogical work (Ostwald & Coquelin 2018). It is important to allow young people in particular to rebel and distance themselves from a society and to critically questioning the status-quo. It used to be the role of youth work to be more critical and youth workers have the chance to equip youngsters with the tools to take their own future into their own hands and change systems in a democratic way (SALTO/British Council 2016).

"To tackle youth radicalisation, you need to build strong relationships to the youngsters, you need to be willing to learn from them, be a 'critical friend' and provide them with opportunities for encounter and dialogue." (Eurodiaconia 2018)
Deborah Erwin[10]

Recommendation for further reading:
► SALTO Cultural Diversity Resource Center/British Council (2016): Young people and extremism: a resource pack for youth workers

Multi-agency approach

Violent extremism is a global phenomenon and needs to be solved on the local level and in cooperation with different actors. The two cities Mechelen[11] (Belgium) and Aarhus[12] (Denmark) are well known for their prevention strategies and a multi-agency co-ordination approach. In Mechelen, for instance, the appreciation for the integration policy is one of the highest in Belgium and the extreme right has less than 8% of the votes (Somers 2017).

Trends and challenges of PVE in the EU

The first paragraph highlights some of the initiatives and work that has been done on the EU level. The second paragraph looks at some of the current trends regarding the potential of violent extremism in the EU. In the third paragraph, challenges in the practice of PVE will be presented.

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10   Deborah Erwin (self-employed youth engagement consultant) at the Eurodiaconia Urban Partnership Seminar on youth in May 2017 in Düsseldorf

11   For more information see: https://www.cidob.org/en/articulos/monografias/resilient_cities/the_mechelen_model_an_inclusive_city

12   For more information see: https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/node/7423_en

- In 2011 the European Commission established the EU-wide Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN), bringing together practitioners working on the prevention of radicalisation (European Commission 2018a).
- The European Commission also set prevention of radicalisation leading to violence as a priority in the EU Internal Security Strategy.
- The European Parliament (2017) established on the 6th July 2017 a new committee on Terrorism (TERR) that finalised its work on the 13th November 2018.
- The European Economic and Social Committee adopted an opinion in 2017 that deals with the prevention of radicalisation leading to violence of young people.
- The High-Level Expert Group on Radicalisation completed its work for the European commission and published their final report in 2018.
- The European Court of Auditors - Special report n°13/2018: Tackling radicalisation that leads to terrorism: the Commission addressed the needs of Member States, but with some shortfalls in coordination and evaluation.

Trends of Violent Extremism in the EU

The High-Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R) indicates in its final report (2018) – on the basis of available threat assessments – the increase of right-wing extremism, promoting anti-democratic, intolerant and disruptive messages that fuel violent extremism and polarisation. Attacks carried out by left-wing violent extremists have been of rising concern, too. Member States are confronted with similar concerns, regardless of the type of radicalisation or the country-specific settings. For instance, 'the **use of the internet and social media by terrorist groups** or violent extremist organisations for propaganda and recruitment purposes, **radicalisation in prisons**, and risks of an increasing **polarisation** and – more broadly – the **undermining of societal peace and shared values**' (HLCEG-R 2018; the emphasis is taken from the original). Far-right political terrorism is on the rise in western Europe as overall deaths from terrorism fall according to the 2018 Global Terrorism Index. The report concludes that the majority of those attacks were carried out by 'lone actors with far-right, white nationalist or anti-Muslim beliefs.' (Global Terrorism Index 2018)

Recommendation for further reading:

► High-Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R) for the European Commission. Final Report 18.05.2018

Challenges in practice of PVE

The following three challenges – amongst others – are currently discussed by scholars in the practical field of preventing violent extremism in Europe. First, the call for more evidence-based evaluation. Second, the danger of stigmatisation of the target group. Third, the conflicted field of securitisation of non-state actors.

1. **Evidence-based evaluation**

   In theory, evaluation research is supposed to provide a systematic evaluation of radicalisation prevention projects and to smoothly separate – at least on paper – useful from inefficient projects, based on evidence (e.g. Hedayah & Edith Cowan University 2017). However, reality is usually more complex than any such idealistic specifications.

2. **Stigmatisation**

   In the field of universal radicalisation prevention, unwelcome side-effects may occur if problems are implied to a target group that probably have not even surfaced there yet. From a conceptual and normative point of view, this calls into question where prevention (of radicalisation) should begin and where it should end (e.g. Kallis/Zeiger/Öztürk).

3. **Securitisation**

   Throughout Europe, a tendency of increasing securitisation among civil-society actors has become evident (e.g. Armborst et.al. 2018). This is due to States transferring domestic security requirements to such departments to whom this task was not originally assigned (International Centre for the Prevention of Crime 2017). However, this statement does not challenge the fact that the prevention of potentially violent radicalisation is a task concerning multiple political departments and professions.

Eurodiaconia Study: PVE through social inclusion

Selected members of Eurodiaconia were asked through an online survey and (telephone) interviews between October and December 2018 on how to best prevent radicalisation of young people in the EU from a social inclusion angle and how diaconal initiatives can counter radicalisation and foster social cohesion. The following paragraphs constitute a summary of their answers. The first part looks into general study results. In the second part, the focus lies explicitly on how the approach of social inclusion in radicalisation prevention could be strengthened and third, the role of (Euro-) diaconia in that process. Most of the study results are considered and presented in the part of project presentations in the next chapter.

General online survey results

Eight members of Eurodiaconia from six different countries participated in the online survey. A total of nine projects are presented (two participants from Helsinki Deaconess Institute with different projects). The following statistics are based on their answers.

Central areas of concern

36% of the projects are focusing their strategies on preventing Politico-Religious Extremism. Other mentions (45%) include nationalism or (self)radicalisation among a minority population (such as young Roma boys in the project of the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation) or other concretisations that were also categorised in the three main categories before and can therefore be understood as further explanation. Diaconia Germany mentions also Right-wing populism and group-focused enmity besides Right-Wing Extremism. The central areas of concern in PVE that build the basis for this report are defined as following:

- **Right-Wing Extremism:** This form of radicalisation is often associated with fascism, racism, supremacism and ultranationalism. 'This form of radicalisation is characterized by the violent defence of a racial, ethnic or pseudo-national identity, and is also associated with radical hostility towards state authorities, minorities, immigrants and/or left-wing political groups' (Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence 2018b).

- **Left-Wing Extremism:** This type of radicalisation puts emphasis mainly on anti-capitalist demands and calls for the transformation of political systems (Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence 2018b).

- **Politico-Religious Extremism:** Every religion may brood this form of radicalisation. Defined by the Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence (2018b) as a 'form of radicalization associated with a political interpretation of religion and the defence, by violent means, of a religious identity perceived to be under attack (via international conflicts, foreign policy, social debates, etc.).'
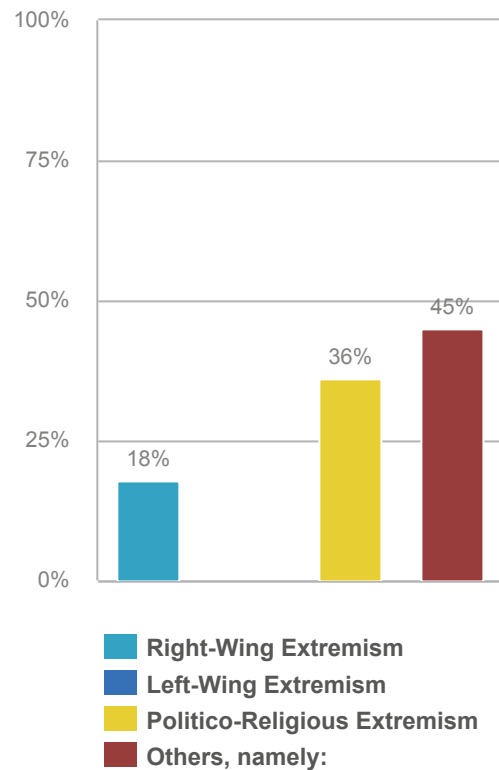
Figure 2: Central areas of concern (Eurodiaconia Study 2018)

Prevention type

Among three main types of prevention, the majority of projects matches the type of universal prevention (4) and selective prevention (4), followed by (3) indicated prevention. It was possible for Eurodiaconia members to select more than one type of prevention that best represents their approach. The three main types of prevention that also build the base of understanding for this report are defined as following:

- **Universal prevention:** Targeting entire populations or communities not specifically at risk, e.g. pupils/students.
- **Selective prevention:** Targeting potential or supposed at-risk groups or their immediate environment
- **Indicated prevention:** Targeting people who have already exhibited problematic behaviour and/or have displayed a problematic attitude and/or who's immediate environment has displayed a problematic attitude.
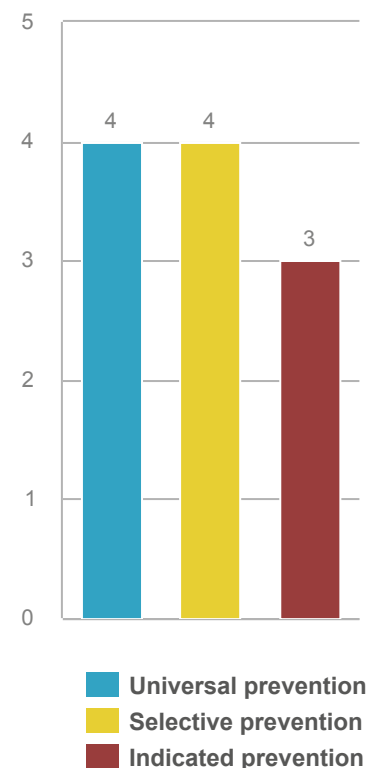
Figure 3: Type of prevention (Eurodiaconia Study 2018)

Target groups

Members of Eurodiaconia in their work of PVE mostly target the general public (6), followed by the immediate environment of at-risk individuals (4) and professions in connection with at-risk individuals (3). Others include, for instance, youth without work or education (Helsinki Deaconess Institute) or not targeting a youth group as such, but looking broadly at the issues (Free Churches Group). In answering this question, Eurodiaconia members were allowed to tick several boxes.

Persons already known to the police due to relevant offences committed
Persons who have displayed a relevant problematic attitude
Families/partners of at-risk individuals
Immediate environment of at-risk individuals
Professions in connection with at-risk individuals   **General public**
Others, namely:
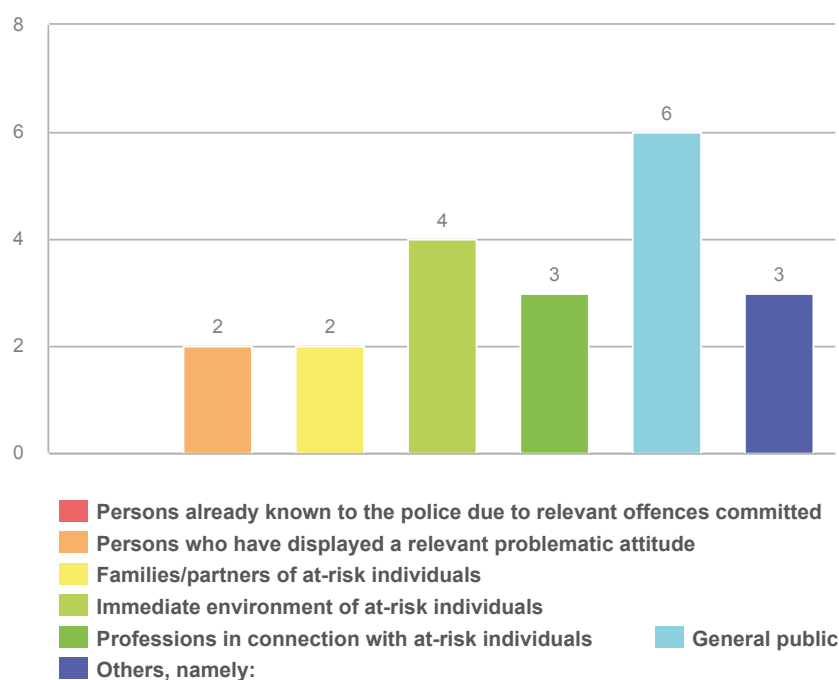
Figure 4: Target groups (Eurodiaconia Study 2018)

Forms of contact

Among the forms of contact, it is not surprising to see that face-to-face contact is at the forefront. Other mentions include, e.g. focus groups with members of parliament and professionals who are seeking to tackle social inclusion (Free Churches Group), contacting the target group at malls or coffee houses (Helsinki Deaconess Institute), an art exhibition (Diaconia Germany) or through an outreach approach in the case of the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation in Serbia.

Face-to-face   **Via phone**
Dialogically online (e. g. via social media, chat rooms)
Online, but not dialogically (e. g. via information websites)
Static media (e.g. flyers, DVDs, etc.)   **Others, namely:**
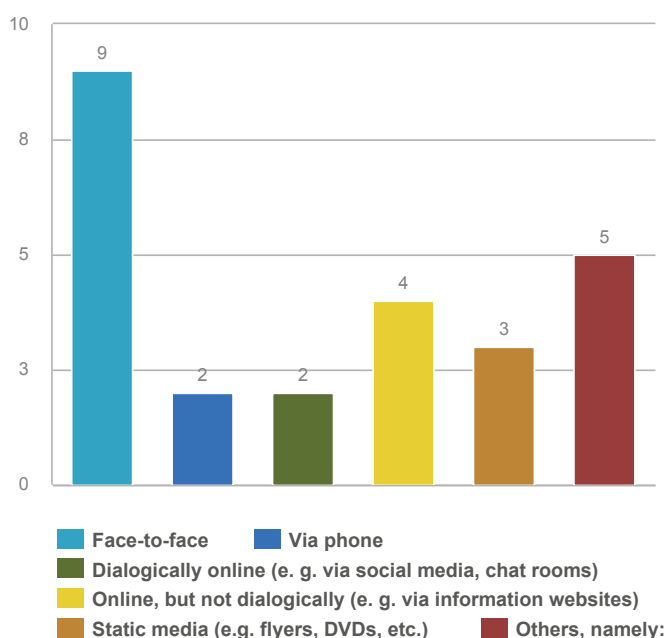
Figure 5: Forms of contacting target groups (Eurodiaconia Study 2018)

Objectives in the project
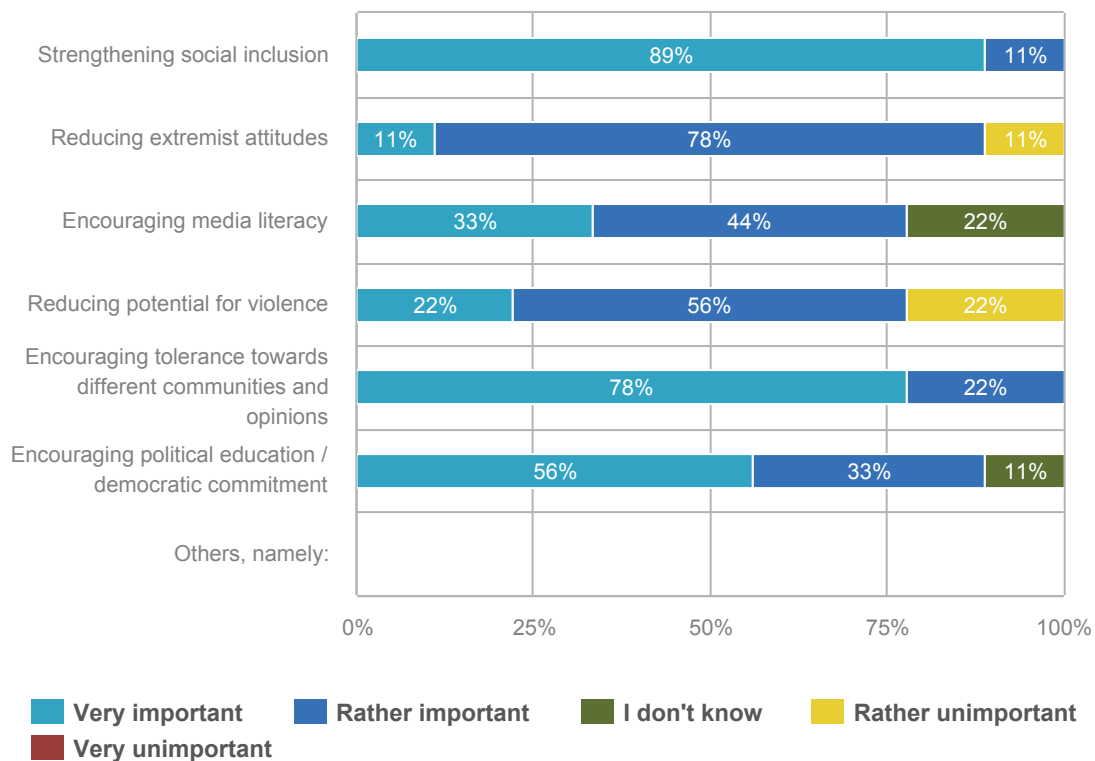
Figure 6: How important Eurodiaconia members consider the following objectives for their programme (Eurodiaconia Study 2018)

When asked about the importance of the following objectives the majority of Eurodiaconia members (89%) working in the field of PVE answered that strengthening social inclusion is a very important objective in their projects. Followed by encouraging tolerance towards different communities and opinions with 78%. Reducing [the] potential for violence, appeared as rather 'unimportant' objectives in the projects from the Church of Sweden and Diaconia Germany.

Challenges

Four members of Eurodiaconia see the potential of stigmatisation of the target group as the most significant challenge in the context of radicalisation prevention work. The Stockholm City Mission sees the conflicted field of securitisation as the biggest challenge in practice. Diaconia Germany mentioned the demand for more evidence-based evaluation. What members of Eurodiaconia also highlight are, for instance, the challenges concerning media literacy and the responsible use of social media (Eurodiaconia 2018).
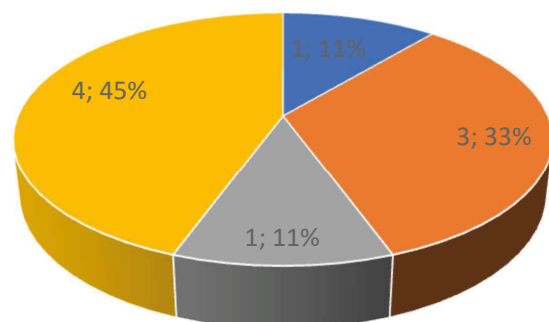
Figure 7: What Eurodiaconia members consider to be the most significant challenge in the context of radicalisation (Eurodiaconia Study 2018) →

For more information on practical challenges in the context of PVE please see page 9 of this report. The specific answers of the most significant challenge(s) of each member organisation will be presented in more detail in the project's presentation part.

Assumptions of (radicalisation) prevention work
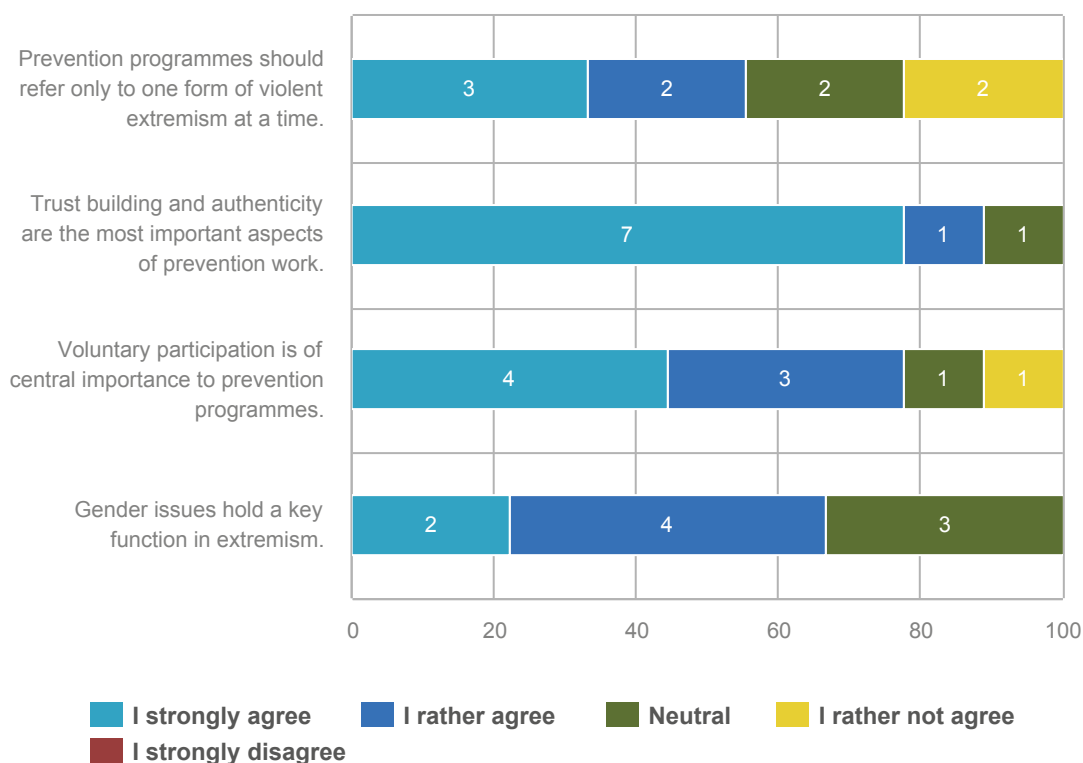
Figure 8: What the Eurodiaconia organisations participating in the study think from a theoretical point of view about the following theses (Eurodiaconia Study 2018)

The majority of Eurodiaconia members (7) strongly agrees that trust building and authenticity are the most important aspects of (radicalisation) prevention work, from a theoretical perspective.

Most disagreement is seen in regard to the assumption that prevention programmes should refer only to one form of violent extremism. This is actually a good sign, because one can/should argue that efficiently designed policies or programmes do not address forms of potentially violent extremism separately, but always tackle two or more aspects of the phenomenon at once (Uhlmann & Weilnböck 2017).

Recommendation for further reading:
► Council of Europe & European Commission (2018): <ins>YOUTH WORK AGAINST VIOLENT RADICALI-SATION</ins>. Theory, concepts and primary prevention in practice.

Evaluation

Most projects of Eurodiaconia members taking part in this study either self-evaluate (55%) their projects or it is done externally (27%). The project of the Free Churches Group and the one from the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation are not (yet) evaluated. Building on a process evaluation, two externally evaluated projects are from Sweden. They have already access to evaluation results, which show that their projects are both partly target-oriented. Besides them, Diaconia Germany is going to be externally evaluated too, with their project 'Shaping diversity - Resisting exclusion'.

■ No   ■ Self-evaluation   ■ External evaluation
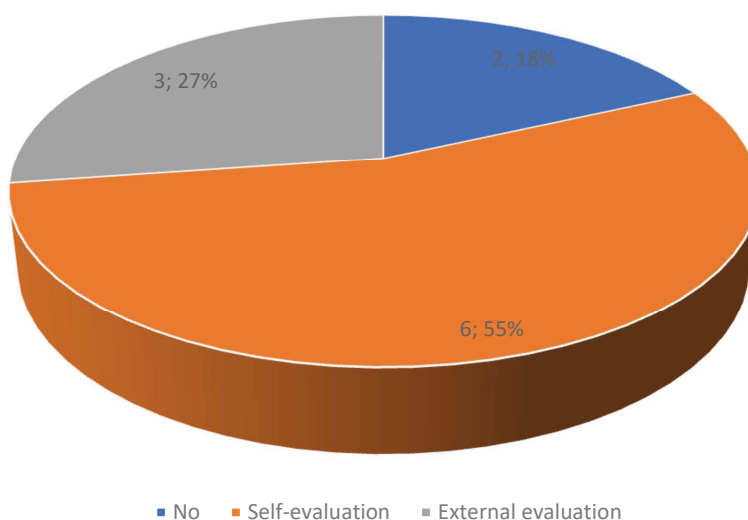
Figure 9: Does an evaluation / scientific monitoring take place in Eurodiaconia members PVE projects? (Eurodiaconia Study 2018)

How the approach of PVE through social inclusion can be strengthened

The Stockholm City Mission witnesses a rather one-sided view and agenda that is put forward and brought to the attention of members of the public and policy makers in regards to radicalisation prevention: the focus tends to be on crack-downs and zero tolerance. Therefore, PVE through social inclusion can be strengthened by good results, i.e. showing that social inclusion measures work and that they are cost-effective.

Diaconia Düsseldorf emphasises the intercultural opening of the organisation as a prerequisite. Employees should be trained in discrimination issues and self-reflection and work in a diversity-sensitive and intersectional manner. In this way, children and young people can be supported and encouraged in an appreciative and methodically sound manner. Furthermore, through social inclusion efforts children and young people are strengthened in their identity. Integration in peer groups and in the neighbourhood/ social environment is encouraged. Group offers should be open to all children and young people regardless their origin, gender, etc.

For the Church of Sweden, the approach of preventing violent extremism through social inclusion can be strengthened through Knowledge, Attitude and Praxis (KAP). The work of the Church of Sweden, for instance, is based on the principle that all people are created in God's image with equal values and rights. It is also the reason why the Church of Sweden wants to be a democratic church and contributes to an inclusive and democratic society. When principles around equality and human rights are shifted, democracy is undermined and human dignity is threatened by extreme and anti-democratic groups. Therefore, the Church of Sweden works for every human being to live a worthy life combining faith, responsibility and democracy.

"We must put people first in all policies, ensuring that our markets, our policies and our democracies work for people and not for institutions. This may mean giving away power, changing our practices of participation and redesigning systems but it will be worth it." (Eurodiaconia 2018a)

Heather Roy – Secretary General, Eurodiaconia

A remark heard more than once is that the important thing is not to address any particular topic, but to create an atmosphere of trust in which participants (in many cases youth) feel comfortable discussing issues and topics of concern to them, without judgment and with respect for one another. Hence, strengthening social cohesion and inclusion is an important step avoiding to segregate certain groups of the population, which otherwise could lead to a breeding ground for radicalism. Building trustful relationships is key in the foundation of building up resilience, empowerment, trust and ambiguity.

Education plays a crucial role in the prevention work of radicalisation leading to violence by strengthening resilience against radicalisation and recruitment. The factor education is important for several members of Eurodiaconia, for instance the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation. Connecting children with each other, teaching them to work and to play together and to show them that differences are ok – and acceptable –, is one of the ways to prevent any kind of radicalisation. Social/youth workers, teachers or trainers are important actors in fostering social inclusion, promoting common democratic values and managing controversial issues.

Further efforts are needed to improve their skills and confidence, raise their awareness and by facilitating access to existing EU practices and exchange (HLCEG-R 2018).

The Helsinki Deaconess Institute highlights the importance of dialogue & attitude: being different is an advantage. For example, in their group activities local Finns and immigrant youth spend time together, share experiences and grow a common understanding which can help to destroy barriers of different national (pre-) perceptions.

For Living Hope NGO in Ukraine, the approach of PVE through social inclusion can be strengthened by maximising income and welfare rights, by focusing on whole neighbourhoods, by creating effective participation possibilities and by strengthening networks aiming for the same goals.

Figure 10: Word Cloud of answers from Eurodiaconia's Study 2018 on PVE through social inclusion.

Diaconia Germany actively advocates for social inclusion and participation of disadvantaged groups. They are convinced that strengthening social cohesion and democracy can prevent radicalisation leading to violence. The self-efficacy and empowerment of disadvantaged groups must be strengthened.

Role of (Euro)diaconia

The Stockholm City Mission emphasises the Role of Eurodiaconia in PVE by highlighting good examples, connecting the dots and helping to identify funding to do more research.

Diaconia Düsseldorf formulates a vision that Diaconia and Eurodiaconia are perceived as important actors in the areas of anti-discrimination, prevention and empowerment in society both, locally and nationally. In addition, they should develop country- and Europe-wide concepts.

For the Church of Sweden Eurodiaconia is essential. It is their organisations network to advocate, network and learn from an institution on the European level. Eurodiaconia could be the hub for PVE issues in Brussels.

From Living Hope NGOs point of view Eurodiaconia has the possibility to raise awareness amongst the Eurodiaconia members, on the EU level and in the members states about violent extremism and promote approaches to tackle and prevent these issues. Also, (in line with the Helsinki Deaconess Institute or the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation) Eurodiaconia should bring organizations together in study visits and workshops to share best practice, develop a common strategy, give training on how to prevent radicalisation and further discuss these topics.

Empowerment is the aim and it is considered to be highly impactful if Eurodiaconia can provide member organizations with further opportunities to present best practices on the EU level. Eurodiaconia members acknowledged the role of the network as a bridge between the EU and the Member States, to translate European policies to the local and implementing level.

Social Impact Analysis of Eurodiaconia members work in PVE

Outcomes and impacts in the context of social work are generally rather complex, and often do not lend themselves to being 'measured.' Thus, the term 'Social Impact Analysis' in regard to Eurodiaconia members work in PVE seems more appropriate and in line with the Social Impact Navigator of Phineo (Phineo gAG 2016). To provide a systematic depiction of the logical relationships between their projects' resources, activities and results, a logical model[13] is included in the following analysis. The logical model (theory of change) assists in determining the issues that the Social Impact Analysis should address, what questions should be asked, and what indicators should be used to best answer these questions (Phineo gAG 2016).

Recommendation for further reading:
► Phineo gAG (2016). Social Impact Navigator: The practical guide for organizations targeting better results.
► IMPACT Europe (2016). Toolkit Manual: Innovative Methods and Procedures to Assess Counter-violent-radicalisation Techniques in Europe.

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13   Based on Phineo gAG (2016) Social Impact Navigator:
   Input: Resources/Investment in the project.
   Output: products/services which result from a project & the use of these by the target group.
   Outcome: project results at the target-group level.
   Impact: desired changes at the societal level.

Church of Sweden: Saint Michael and the Dragon

Self-Description of the project

The project 'Saint Michael and the Dragon' represents a collective, local attempt in Borlänge and Mora (SE) – closely located to the Scandinavian hub for Neo-Nazi groups – to PVE and combat marginalisation. The basic idea is to simultaneously work with 2 youth groups for a semester to create safe-space opportunities for youngsters while focusing on trust, tolerance and democracy building. One group is recruited from one of the local schools. The other group is the youth ice-hockey team, where it's part of their mandatory player education. The project aims to develop a targeted and preventive model for long term investment in communities, to promote dialogue on the risks and factors relating to radicalisation and exclusion, and to keep youth at the centre of their work. When the groups are working together, they usually meet in the parish community house, where they play a 'value game' or listen to a true story (e.g. WW2) and then reflect with the supervisors to transfer the story into the present. In February 2017 the group made a 'time travel' to 1932 in cooperation with Bridging Ages International.

General information

- **Start date/end date:** 01.10.2017/ongoing
- **Type of prevention:** Universal prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** Right-wing Extremism
- **Target group(s):** Youngsters in school and sport clubs (not necessarily in contact with at-risk individuals) & professions in connection with at-risk individuals (social workers, teachers, etc.)
- **Cooperation:** Municipality, hockey club, 2 schools, regional sport network

Contact details

Petter Karlsson

Diocese chaplain & contact person towards the National Coordinator to safeguard democracy against violent extremism in Sweden.

Church of Sweden

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"To increase resilience and to address democratic issues a project is not enough, even if we use that structure. Our ambition in this two towns is to implement the activities in their regular line of work."

Petter Karlsson

Logical Model

Input
- 3 pedagogues from the parish, 1 school teacher, 3 hockey coaches
- Parish community house
- € 15.000 per annum

Output
- Programme 'the free choice' for 2h/week in school(s) for 1 semester
- Hockey players meet project leaders for 2h before training 2x/month
- The two groups come together approximately once a month
- 80 participants

Outcome
- Youngsters experience safe space opportunities where they can try their thoughts without being diminished, ridiculed or humiliated.
- By bringing different youth-groups together and empowering them the Church of Sweden is offering alternatives to young people who might find themselves susceptible to radicalisation or extreme movements.

Impact
- Reduce the potential of youngsters becoming attracted to extremist views in Borlänge and Mora. Communication is key.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:
- 🟢 The high-level involvement and interest (e.g. from the major of the municipality, General Manager hockey club and church).
- 🟢 Collaboration included from the beginning with different project partners (municipality, hockey club, 2 schools, regional sport network).

One neutral aspect considered as " running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:
- 🟡 The contact with the participants seems to come very natural for the group leaders.

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:
- 🔴 (Im-)Balance of priorities for teachers and coaches. The trap of saying: "This is very good", but not taking responsibility. It remains difficult to implement such projects in the regular line of work.

Challenges

The following challenges were identified by the Diocese of Västerås as the most significant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

- Lack of target group participation
- **Fear of religious organizations**
- Conflicted field of securitisation
- Stigmatisation of the target group
- Demand for more evidence-based evaluation

In every local community there is the need to build trust with the different authorities. Issues regarding radicalisation can then be solved in a multifaceted approach. There is an honest and clear contact with the police and social services in the town of Mora. The diocese of Västerås also works actively with these institutions on a national level. They mention, however, that effective collaboration on the national level does not mean directly positive impact on the local level.

Conclusions: Social Impact Analysis

The number of participants increased from formerly 25 to almost 80 youngsters. One reason is the increase of pupils to 30 and the decision from the hockey club to participate with another youth team (14 and 15 years old) and include two more trainers, because the earlier you start with such a project the more impact it will have. All stakeholders invest in the project with their working hours. However, the main funding comes from the national board of the Church of Sweden. There are plans to increase the funding for the next term, e.g. through sponsors of the hockey club. Most youngsters and trainers see the project positively and changes in behaviour has been seen, for instance, when taking up responsibility in the local communities or standing up for each other. Trust has been strengthened between the youngsters and the project leaders, because there is a safe-space to discuss their problems. The project leaders identified a lack of impact on the parent's side, which they are thinking about to put more focus on this year.

Figure 11: This year, the group finished their program with a trip to Stockholm. They were allowed to use the players bus from the pro—hockey team.

Diaconia Düsseldorf: Respect Coaches

Self-Description of the project

Accepting different opinions, taking a stand, learning to argue – the prevention programme 'Respect Coaches' aims to help schools promoting tolerance and understanding of democracy and to contain hatred and violence against people of other faiths. The programme is funded by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in Germany. The Youth Migration Services (*Jugendmigrationsdienste*, JMD) implement the programme locally with schools and other organisations. The Diaconia Düsseldorf Youth Migration Service – amongst many others – takes part in the programme. The empowering of young people to become democratically educated citizens plays an important role. Since everyday life of young people takes place mainly in schools, schools are a central place where effective prevention work begins. The Respect Coaches programme is open to pupils from general and vocational schools. A local prevention strategy can only be successful in cooperation: In addition to the Youth Migration Services and schools, the programme's implementation partners also include those responsible for radicalisation prevention and political education for children and young people, as well as public youth welfare organisations. The state democracy centres are also involved. The project partners will jointly develop concepts on how primary-preventive expertise and approaches can be used and tested at schools.

General information

- **Start date/end date:** 15.06.2018)//not known
- **Type of prevention:** Universal prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** Politico-Religious Extremism; hostility to democracy; affinity for violence
- **Target group(s):** Pupils of the Gemeinschaftshauptschule Benrath

Contact details

Tim Krause
Coordination
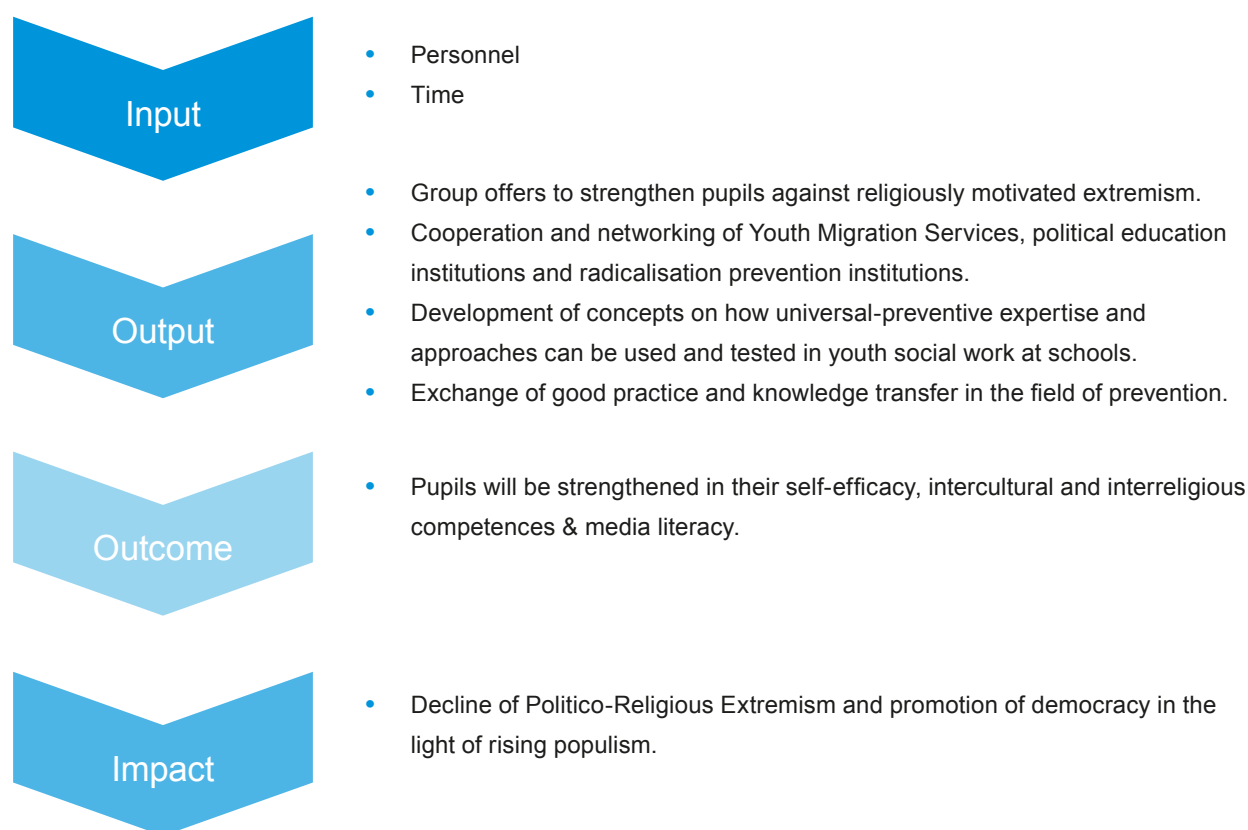Youth Migration Service Düsseldorf
E-Mail: tim.krause@diakonie-duesseldorf.de
Project Website: www.jmd-respekt-coaches.de

Figure 12: The programme is implemented in 16 federal states at 168 locations (Servicebüro Jugendmigrationsdienste 2018) →

Logical Model

Input
- Personnel
- Time

Output
- Group offers to strengthen pupils against religiously motivated extremism.
- Cooperation and networking of Youth Migration Services, political education institutions and radicalisation prevention institutions.
- Development of concepts on how universal-preventive expertise and approaches can be used and tested in youth social work at schools.
- Exchange of good practice and knowledge transfer in the field of prevention.

Outcome
- Pupils will be strengthened in their self-efficacy, intercultural and interreligious competences & media literacy.

Impact
- Decline of Politico-Religious Extremism and promotion of democracy in the light of rising populism.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:
- Good cooperation with the school actors (school management, teachers, school social work) and youth leisure facilities (e.g. joint lunch to promote social skills).
- Creative group offers: rooms and material on site (e.g. instruments, use of the gym).

One neutral aspect considered as "running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:
- The cooperation with school stakeholders (school management, teachers, school social workers).

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:
- Within the framework of the project, the quantity of needs cannot be covered.

Challenges

The following challenge(s) were identified by the Youth Migration Service Düsseldorf as the most signifi-cant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

- Not enough universal prevention.

Within the framework of a project, the quantity of needs cannot be covered. The project in Düsseldorf has been in existence for less than a year and there have already been numerous enquiries from schools that could not be met. Universal prevention should be available at every school with regular funding.

Diaconia Germany: Shaping diversity - Resisting exclusion

Self-Description of the project

The pilot project 'Shaping diversity - Resisting exclusion' - as part of the federal programme 'Live Democracy!' - combines specific prevention and combating of right-wing extremist/populist positions with activities to promote democracy and participation for the formation of an open, diverse and inclusive society. The project follows three approaches:

- The traveling exhibition "Kunst trotz(t) Ausgrenzung" seeks public discussion of social exclusion phenomena.
- Employees and managers of Diaconia and the church are strengthened in dealing with hostility to humanity, exclusion and right-wing populism and qualified as multipliers.
- Strengthening of networks through national and EU-wide events for actors working for social cohesion. In order to support local civil society groups in their engagement, a "democracy kit" will be tested as a flexible and easy-to-use facilitation instrument for on-site discussions and networking events.

General information

- **Start date/end date:** 1.10.2017/31.12.2019
- **Type of prevention:** Selective prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** Right-Wing Extremism; Right-wing populism and group-focused enmity
- **Target group(s):** Immediate environment of at-risk individuals; professions in connection with at-risk individuals; general public
- **Cooperation:** Federal Academy for Church and Diaconia (bakd); Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation; National Working Group on Church and Right-wing Extremism (BAGKR); Eurodiaconia; local cooperation partners for the art exhibition
- **Project Website:** www.diakonie.de/journal/modellprojekt-vielfalt-gestalten-ausgrenzung-widerstehen/

Contact details

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Logical Model

Input
- Personnel: 2 project manager (100%), 1 administration (100%), 1 secretary (100%)
- Time
- Money

Output
- Traveling exhibition "Kunst trotz(t) Ausgrenzung", including art catalogue
- Internal training courses
- Networking events
- Democracy Kit (planned)
- Trainings for multipliers, webinars, in-house seminars for managers
- Pedagogic handout (planned)

Outcome
- Employees and managers of Diaconia and the church are strengthened in dealing with exclusion and right-wing populism and qualified as multipliers.
- Awareness is raised in general public on these issues.

Impact
- Promoting democracy and civic engagement in a diverse society is stressed as an important focus of Diaconia in Germany to PVE and combat Right-wing Populism.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:
- 🟢 Extensive interest in the travelling exhibition "Kunst trotz(t) Ausgrenzung".
- 🟢 High demand and need for further education and training.

One neutral aspect considered as "running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:
- 🟡 The cooperation within the team.

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:
- 🔴 The tight project timeframe with an overly ambitious action plan.

Challenges

The following challenges were identified by Diaconia Germany as the most significant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

- Demand for more evidence-based evaluation

It is difficult to press complex processes and developments into ready-made evaluation raster.

Conclusions: Social Impact Analysis

Diaconia Germany continues to develop the topic of promoting democracy and civic engagement in a diverse society in a sustainable way and as a cornerstone of its work. Impact has been seen on several levels, for instance, through the exhibition work, where approximately 50 artists place themselves in very different ways (socially and culturally). They invite a wide audience to gain new perspectives on a society of diversity to help them find their own position in the political debate. Two exhibitions took place last year and six more are to follow in 2019 with accompanying programmes. For instance, between 18 August and 31 October, 8,500 visitors took the opportunity to get an impression of the exhibition in Braunschweig (Diakonie Deutschland 2018). Based on internal evaluation and, for example, entries from guest books on the exhibition, it can be concluded that the offer is very well perceived. The same is true for the inhouse seminars which has received a high demand. Diaconia Germany is creating new spaces for dialogue through this project and in the same time sensitizes itself within the organisation for these issues. Strengthening civil society is having its first positive effects. At each exhibition site, local organisations will join together to form cooperation alliances to create an accompanying programme (e.g. workshops, concerts, discussions).

Figure 13: Artwork "Einwanderung" by Sybille Loew Picture: Daniel Penschuck (FEINDESIGN)

Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation (Serbia): Outreach work with street children

Self-Description of the project

Over the last few years, in Serbia the phenomenon of children's (self-)radicalisation in street situations has been seen as a manifestation of social deviation. Biased media coverage about street children often fuels a negative self-perception as well as prejudice in society. However, these kids are part of the society. The Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation (EHO) provides services through street work activities in Novi Sad. The main project goal is the empowerment of children in street situations (involved in some kind of work on the street) through psychological and legal support. For instance, obtaining personal documents like birth certificates in order to decrease legally invisible persons as well as enrolling in the school system. Outreach workers (young volunteers) provide these services directly on "hot spots" in Novi Sad.

Furthermore, EHO provides them with basic food or clothes supplies. The overall goal of the project is to reduce social marginalization, negative reactions, extremist attitudes toward children in street situations through various community activities, where begging is perceived as a part of the culture and traditions of a nation.

General information
- **Start date/end date:** 1.1.2018/31.12.2018
- **Type of prevention:** Universal prevention & indicated prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** (Self) radicalisation of children in street situations. Also, among minority population such as young Roma boys.
- **Target group(s):** Families/partners of at-risk individuals; immediate environment of at-risk individuals; professions in connection with at-risk individuals; general public
- **Cooperation:** Municipality of Novi Sad, Novi Sad Police, City Centre of Social Work

Contact details
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Project coordinator
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"Every awakening of activism in street and community situations leads to the prevention of extremism, and leads to an environment where these children are seen as active citizens of society, and not just as "beggars" and "delinquents".
Tijana Vidovic

Logical Model

Input
- Personnel
- Time
- Money

Output
- Outreach counselling: providing basic psychological and socio-legal support.
- Emergency aid: providing food and clothes.
- Education
- Publication: Photo-book, where street children were given cameras to portrait themselves.

Outcome
- Street children have been empowered by support from outreach workers.
- Local government recognized our effort to empower those who are involved in work on the streets of Novi Sad.

Impact
- Reducing social marginalization, negative reactions, extremist attitudes toward children in street situations, where begging is perceived as a part of the culture and tradition of a nation.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:
- The strong aspect of social inclusion of minority groups through street work.
- The engagement and empowerment of role models among beneficiaries.

One neutral aspect considered as "running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:
- To get in contact and start social activities with children in street situations.

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:
- The inactivity and passivity to take action in order to protect their (target group) own rights or to change something for the better. The lack of knowledge regarding the risk of being exposed on the streets, and the risk of being a potential victim of abuse and neglect.

Challenges

The following challenges were identified by the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation as the most significant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

- Stigmatisation of the target group

They have been trying to avoid stigmatisation which is transparent in the project component, where EHO is supporting children in their learning. They support 1st graders at one elementary school during extended school stay. Despite some of the project goals (the prevention of children in street situations or to lower the school dropout rate of Roma children), this support is offered and available to each student with or without Roma origin. The component of social inclusion is considered to be more important.

Free Churches Group (UK): Commission on the Church and Social Cohesion

Self-Description of the project

Social cohesion has been near the top of the political agenda for well over a decade now, from the Cantle report into the riots of 2001 in Bradford, Burnley and Oldham, through the 2012 Government Migration Advisory Committee report into social cohesion and integration, to the Casey review into opportunity and integration published in December 2016. Much of the discussion in these reports (and beyond) has been about the role of "religion" and "religious" groups in local communities. With this in mind, the Free Churches Group recently commissioned an eighteen-month research project looking at the relationship between the Church and social cohesion in England. The project will be conducted by Theos, the UK's leading think tank on religion and society issues. The research will be framed around a series of case studies, taken from across the country and selected on the basis of existing concerns surrounding social tensions. These studies will provide a body of original research into the challenges that churches face when responding to social cohesion concerns in their local areas.

General information
- **Start date/end date:** 10.2018/10.2020
- **Type of prevention:** Universal prevention & indicative prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** Looking at cohesion in broadest sense which includes extreme elements of society
- **Target group(s):** General public. Not targeting a youth group as such, but looking broadly at the issues
- **Cooperation:** Free Churches provide advisers for the Commission; Theos carrying out the research; Anglicans and Catholics as observers
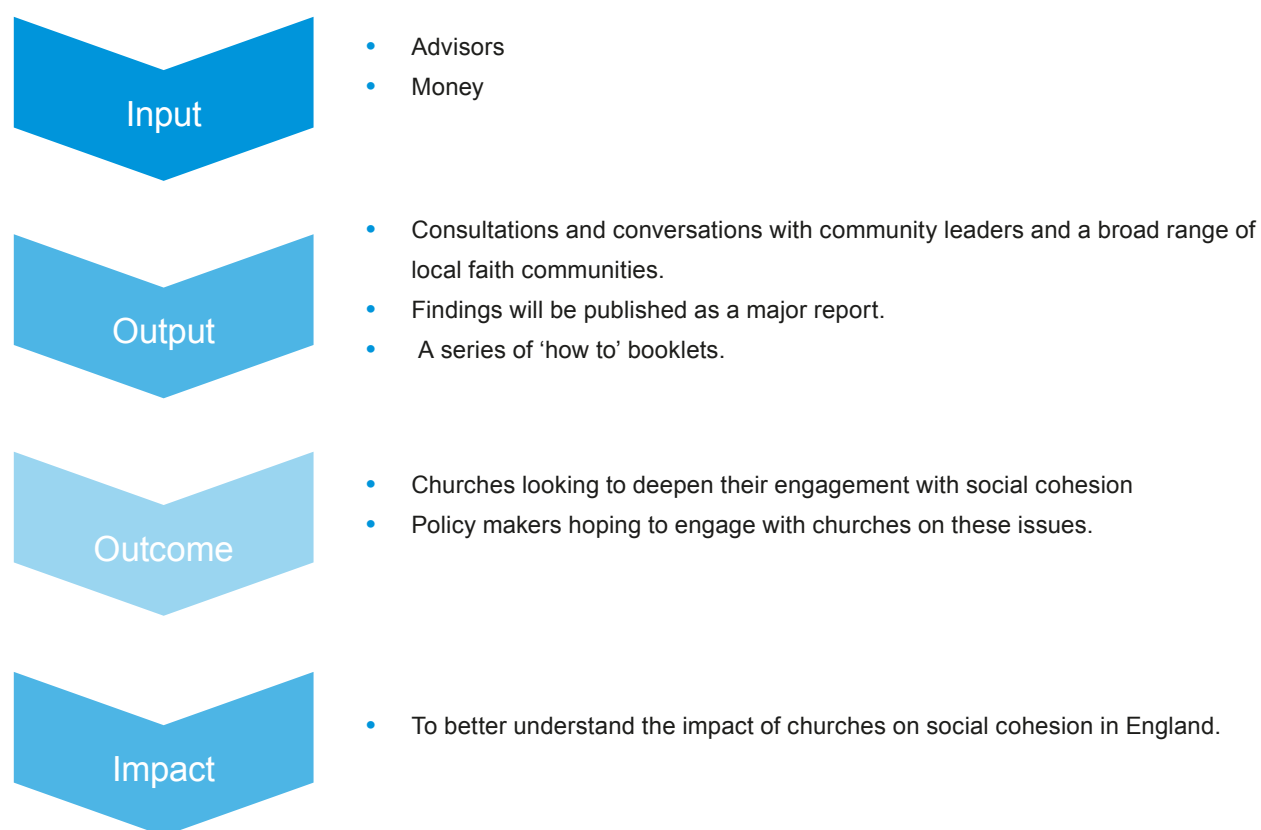
Contact details
Paul Rochester
General Secretary
Free Churches Group
E-Mail: p.rochester@me.com

For any questions about this project and its aims you can contact:
Madeleine Ward at Theos (madeleine.ward@theosthinktank.co.uk).

Logical Model

Input	• Advisors • Money
Output	• Consultations and conversations with community leaders and a broad range of local faith communities. • Findings will be published as a major report. • A series of 'how to' booklets.
Outcome	• Churches looking to deepen their engagement with social cohesion • Policy makers hoping to engage with churches on these issues.
Impact	• To better understand the impact of churches on social cohesion in England.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:
- 🟢 The 18-months' timeframe to conduct the research.
- 🟢 The high quality of cooperation partners.

One neutral aspect considered as "running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:
- 🟡 Too early to say.

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:
- 🔴 Challenging to select the 20 case study areas.

Challenges

The following challenges were identified by the Free Churches Group as the most significant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

• Religion and perceived injustice

For their project it is too early to say and radicalisation is only one aspect of the project as they are looking at the range of issues that may affect social cohesion. How the challenge of religion and perceived injustice will be tackled, has to be seen.

Conclusion: Social Impact Analysis

Too soon to say for this project.

In general:

The findings will be published as a major report on challenges and opportunities for the Church`s response to social cohesion today, as well as a series of "how to" booklets aimed at churches looking to deepen their engagement with social cohesion and policy makers hoping to engage with churches on these issues. Over the course of these investigations, they will discover what has already been done by churches in response to social cohesion concerns, and evaluate the impact of these initiatives through consultation and conversation with community leaders and a broad range of local faith communities.

The project will aim to consider the following central research questions:

1. What are churches already doing on the local level to support social cohesion?
2. How is this activity connected with, embedded in and legitimised by churches ongoing gospel mission?
3. What are the factors emerging from this activity that can be seen to move communities towards social cohesion?
4. What are the factors emerging from the research process that that can be seen to move communities away from social cohesion?
5. What is important for churches looking to engage in these issues?
6. What is important for statutory bodies and community groups who wish to work with and draw on the resources and leadership of the churches in England to foster social cohesion?

Helsinki Deaconess Institute: The project Trail of Involvement for Immigrant Youth

Self-Description of the project

The project 'Trail of Involvement for Immigrant Youth' is established in three cities in Finland: Helsinki, Kuopio and Turku. The project is aimed at 12 to 29-year-olds with migrant backgrounds who are not in employment, education or training. This target group includes newly arrived immigrants, second gener-ation immigrants and unaccompanied migrants. The project activities support the social involvement of migrant youth in Finnish society and guides them towards employment, education and other relevant trainings through individual coaching and group activities. The individual and group coaching consist of different issues such as familiarising with Finnish society in terms of work and study life, housing, public services and availability of language courses. In addition, the project set up a joint platform of the public sector and NGOs to reach young immigrants who are at high risk of social exclusion to better guide them to the services they need. The project is co-financed by the ESF.

General information

- **Start date/end date:** 1.5.2016/30.4.2019
- **Type of prevention:** Selective prevention & indicated prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** Politico-Religious Extremism
- **Target group(s):** 12 to 29-year-olds with migrant backgrounds who are not in employment, education or training; persons considered at-risk; immediate environment of at-risk individuals; general public
- **Cooperation:** Nuorten muslimien foorumi; Finnish Security Intelligence Service (in city of Kuopio); Radinet Project; Criminal Sanctions Agency
- **Project-Website:** www.hdl.fi/blog/2018/01/09/osallisuuden-polku-maahanmuuttajanuorelle/

Contact details

Katri Angeria
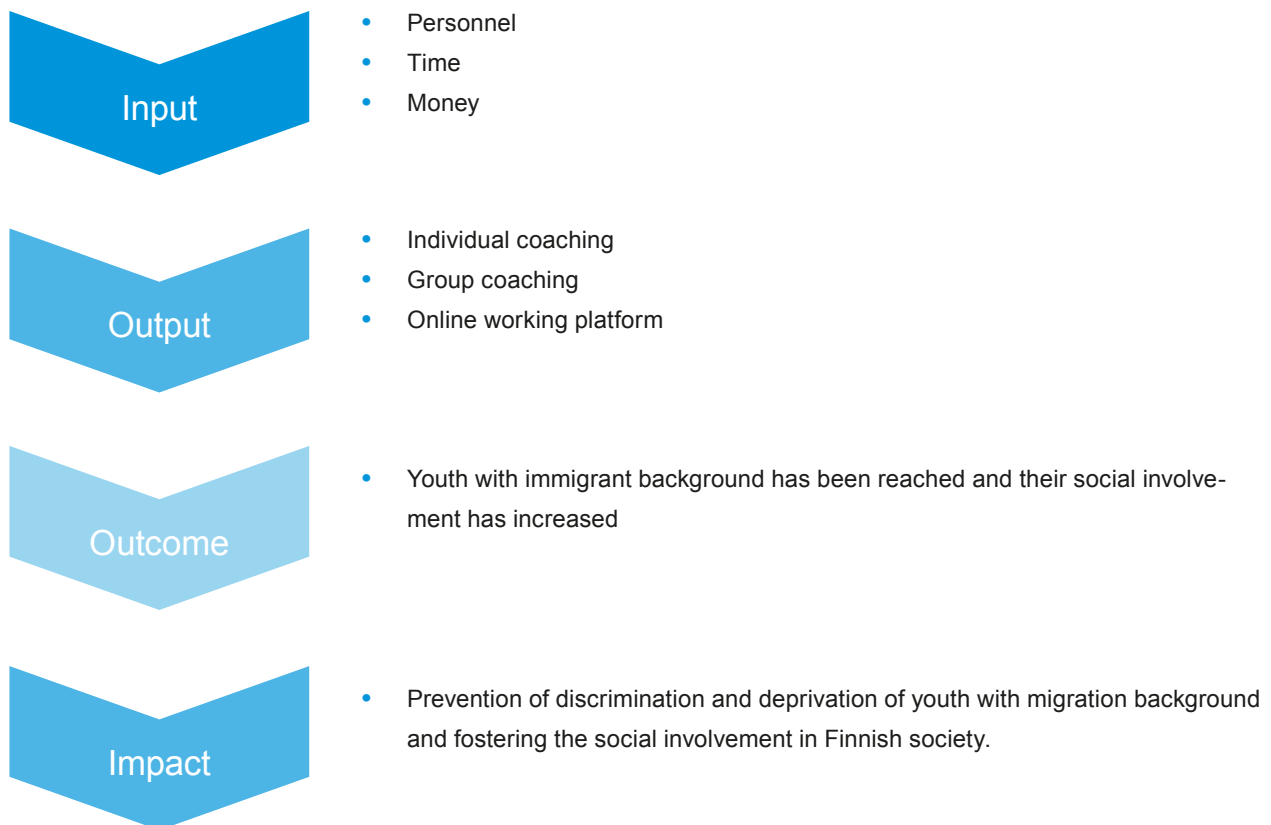*Project Manager / Account Manager*
Helsinki Deaconess Institute
E-Mail: katri.angeria@hdl.fi

"We are working to connect youth to the services they need and also meeting them as non-public officer in the role of 'guardians', making sure that they get the services they have the right to."
Katri Angeria

Logical Model

Input
- Personnel
- Time
- Money

Output
- Individual coaching
- Group coaching
- Online working platform

Outcome
- Youth with immigrant background has been reached and their social involvement has increased

Impact
- Prevention of discrimination and deprivation of youth with migration background and fostering the social involvement in Finnish society.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:
- 🟢 Support of inclusion to the working, educational and cultural life.
- 🟢 Creating safe spaces for dialogue at the grassroots level and the building of relationships.

One neutral aspect considered as "running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:
- 🟡 Approaching the youth unconditionally in equality and in accordance with humanitarian values.

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:
- 🔴 The need for more dialogue on many other levels. It remains difficult to effectively safekeep immigrant youth from radical or racist ideology.

Challenges

The following challenges were identified by the Helsinki Deaconess Institute as the most significant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

• Stigmatisation of the target group

The Helsinki Deaconess Institute believes stigmatisation to be the most significant challenge in radicalisation. Everyone should be treated equally and should be heard and seen without stigmatisation. Prevention of radicalisation should begin when there are clear signs of radicalisation and not due to the possibility of threat. The beginning of prevention should be timeliness and it should be well thought and planned in order to avoid stigmatisation.

Conclusions: Social Impact Analysis

In consequence of the project around 600 youngsters with immigrant background have been reached and their social involvement has increased significantly. 60 % of the targeted youth have been successfully attached to education, work or preparatory employment activities through the help of holistically developed methods and activities. The project has produced a new working platform which is helpful to reach the target group, who are in a very challenging stage of integration. A service manual has been produced. The public services in City of Helsinki, City of Turku and City of Kuopio have been reinforced. Moreover, the ability of the immigrant organizations and communities, to strengthen the integration of the migrant youth to Finnish society, has increased. As a short-term impact of the project 1) the experience of the social involvement of the youth has strengthened and the ability to express themselves has increased, 2) Migrant youth has been attached to education and employment paths and the costs of their social benefits have decreased, 3) The target group's ability to enter the welfare services they need and their ability to gain from the services has enhanced. As a long-term impact, the model developed in the project has been integrated into the service platform of the project cities and the model has been taken into use in other areas nationwide. The service model has for its part decreased inequality in the society and has created high speed trails to education and employment. Also, the capitalizing of the employees with immigrant background in immigrant work has offered the targeted groups one path to employment. Their quality of life has improved and equality between social classes has increased and thus, the potential of social peace has been increased. The final evaluation results will be available in April or May 2019.

Helsinki Deaconess Institute: Undocumented people

Self-Description of the project

In the "Undocumented People" project by the Helsinki Deaconess Institute undocumented people are assisted in a day-centre where they can get support and advice on dealing with their affairs. They can, for instance, prepare food at the centre, take a shower or do their laundry. Furthermore, community workers do outreach work and try to locate undocumented people in need in malls, coffee houses or mosques. Dozens of people have received assistance regarding income support or in organising their voluntary return. The lack of legal status and residence permit often pushes migrants to the margins of society. The chances to find work or accommodation in Finland are inadequate, and undocumented migrants are prone to be treated poorly or become exploited. In turn, their desperation can be a push-factor for radicalisation leading to violence. The Helsinki Deaconess Institute is running the project together with the Finnish Immigration Service.

- **Start date/end date:** 1.2.2018/31.12.2020
- **Type of prevention:** Selective prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** Politico-Religious Extremism
- **Target group(s):** Undocumented people; families/partners of at-risk individuals; immediate environment of at-risk individuals
- **Cooperation:** Helsinki Municipal Immigration Unit; Immigration Office; Bluegross; Special Deacon of Church in Helsinki
- **Project-Website:** www.hdl.fi/en/support-and-action/immigrants/undocumented-people/
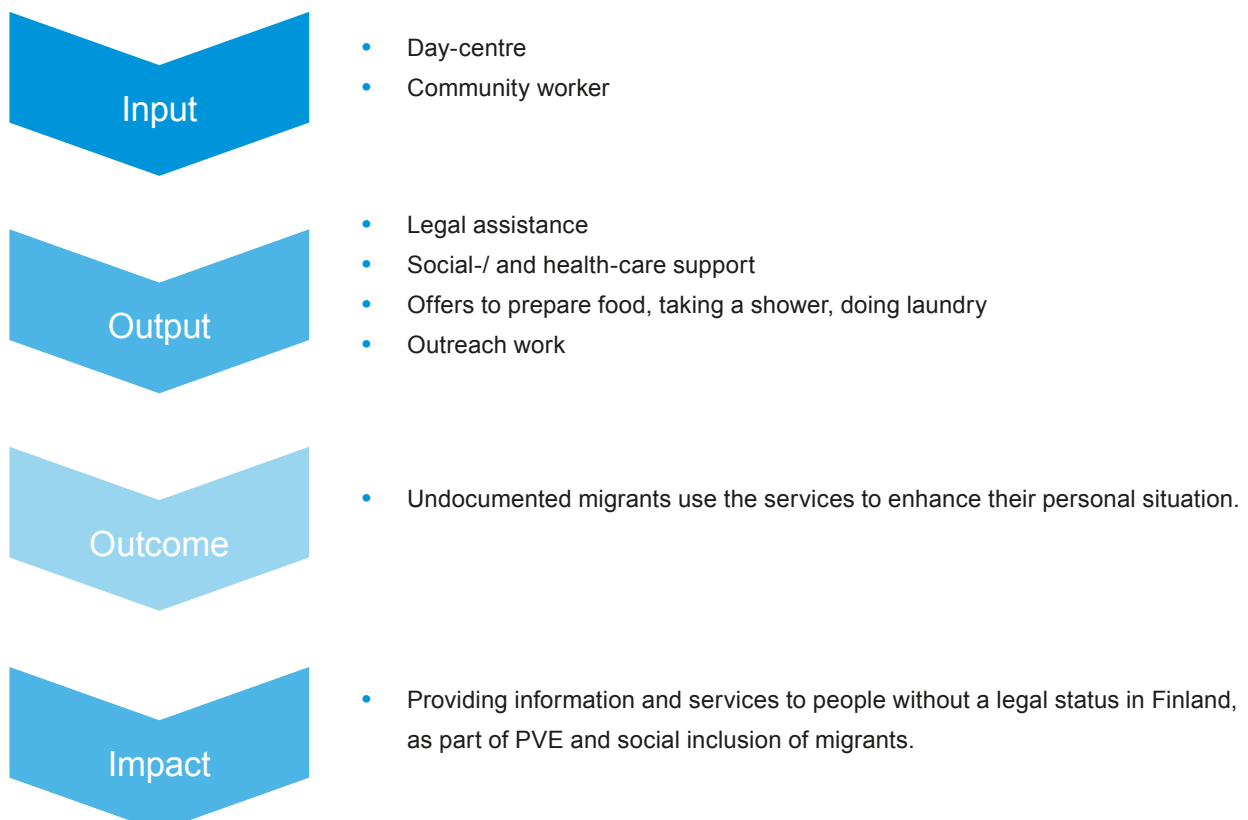
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"These people are stressed and hopeless… The only way to help is to listen and try to build trust." (Yle 2017)

Suldaan Said Ahmed (Community worker, Helsinki Deaconess Institute)

Logical Model

Input
- Day-centre
- Community worker

Output
- Legal assistance
- Social-/ and health-care support
- Offers to prepare food, taking a shower, doing laundry
- Outreach work

Outcome
- Undocumented migrants use the services to enhance their personal situation.

Impact
- Providing information and services to people without a legal status in Finland, as part of PVE and social inclusion of migrants.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:

- 🟢 The participation of undocumented people in the day-centre daily life. It is important to involve them and other clients, as they run this place.
- 🟢 The offering of help to people that frequently get overlooked.

One neutral aspect considered as "running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:

- 🟡 The location of the day-centre is important and helps to provide the service.

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:

- 🔴 The work is difficult and challenging for the social workers. There needs to be support and help for the staff.

Challenges

The following challenges were identified by the Helsinki Deaconess Institute as the most significant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

- Stigmatisation of the target group

The Helsinki Deaconess Institute believes stigmatisation to be the most significant challenge in radicalisation. A contributing factor seems to be that people, who are in desperate situations, tend to uncritically believe the information they get from the internet, social media or from friends.

Living Hope NGO (Ukraine): Early prevention in a day-care centre for excluded children and youth

Self-Description of the project

'Living Hope' is a Ukrainian NGO working with and for excluded children, youngsters and families in a disadvantaged area in Odessa (Region). They established several day-care centres and aim to open up possibilities for young people in socially challenged life circumstances and support them in their personal development. One of their focuses lies on the early prevention of negative habits and health problems such as HIV as well as the prevention of violent extremism. In their efforts on fighting violent radicalisation through a holistic approach, they are looking at the children but also at the family, the school, the religious setting and the peers. Since the war in the Donbass region started in 2013 and the annexation of Crimea through Russia, youngsters increasingly have engaged themselves in radical ideas/movements. Possible drivers of radicalisation in Ukraine include corruption, political, socio-economic, cultural (e.g. when the war with Russia started, some young people stopped speaking Russian and started speaking only Ukrainian) and media factors. The low level (10%) of young people interested in politics is very problematic (Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung 2017).

General information

- **Start date/end date:** Opening of the three day-care centres (2001 – 2009 – 2013)
- **Type of prevention:** Selective prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** Politico-Religious Extremism & nationalism
- **Target group(s):** Persons who have displayed a relevant problematic attitude or who are being considered accordingly at-risk

Contact details

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Logical Model

Input
- 3 day-care centres

Output
- Education: Teaching skills for communication, problem solving, conflict resolution and peace making
- Cultural trips and youth exchanges
- Offering voluntary work

Outcome
- Youngster experience safe space opportunities where they can learn to take responsibility and widen their horizon.

Impact
- To create an inclusive, stable environment for disadvantaged children and youth to PVE & foster social inclusion in Ukraine.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:

- Early prevention of violent extremism by providing a stable, sustainable environment for children and young people facing poverty and exclusion.
- The organization of educational youth excursions – combining practical work, faith and historical/political education.

One neutral aspect considered as "running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:

🟡 Sending and hosting youngsters as volunteers for a long-term voluntary service is a part that runs well but is waiting for development.

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:

🔴 Only little influence on the extremist views parents transfer to their kids. Also, media literacy (use and misuse of social media) especially for teenagers is to be improved.

Challenges

The following challenges were identified by 'Living Hope' as the most significant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

- PVE is underestimated by the relevant authorities and there is a lack of coordination and networking.

More needs to be done to raise awareness about the importance of prevention work at the local and national level. 'Living Hope' calls for more context-sensitive approaches (Global challenges - for instance in Ukraine – need local answers).

Conclusions: Social Impact Analysis

The 'Living Hope' day-care-centres create an inclusive and stable environment for disadvantaged children and youth, where they teach skills for communication, problem solving, conflict resolution and peace making. They tackle radicalisation tendencies, for instance, through educational and cultural trips, when youngsters from different communities/countries come together and spend time with each other. For instance, at a work and pray camp with 10 young Ukrainians in Poland: Besides the practical work in a local social project, they had bible studies on relevant topics and visited the Jewish museum in Warsaw and Auschwitz-Birkenau followed by group and personal reflection. As an important source of inclusion, 'Living Hope' promotes and supports education and integration in paid and voluntary work. A voluntary service abroad is a great possibility to widen the horizon of young people and to prevent extremism, intolerance and radicalisation.

Stockholm City Mission: Källan

Self-Description of the project

The centre of 'Källan' is a collaboration between representatives of different cultures and faiths, working for greater integration in Stockholm. It all started in 2008 as a collaboration between the Stockholm City Mission, the Swedish Church and the Stockholm Catholic dioceses. Since 2016, Källan is also located in Flemingsberg. The vision is to create meetings between people from different cultures and different faiths. Last year, about 8,000 visits were counted. Members of staff speak different languages and have an in-depth knowledge of both religious- and cultural customs. At the two centres religion is not seen as an obstacle, but rather as an asset for integration. The work at Källan does not explicitly aim to prevent radicalisation, but is rather of the view that integration, social inclusion and interreligious/intercultural dialogue will, in itself, prevent extremism. Källan provides information about rights and obligations in Swedish society, for example counselling and supporting individuals through life crises, experiences of discrimination or racism. Legal advice and support for encounters with authorities and other organizations is also part of their portfolio.

General information

- **Start date/end date:** 2008/ongoing
- **Type of prevention:** Universal prevention
- **Central area(s) of concern:** Politico-Religious Extremism
- **Target group(s):** General public (not necessarily in contact with at-risk individuals)
- **Cooperation:** Swedish Church; Nacka parish; Catholic Diocese of Stockholm; Islamic association of Nacka
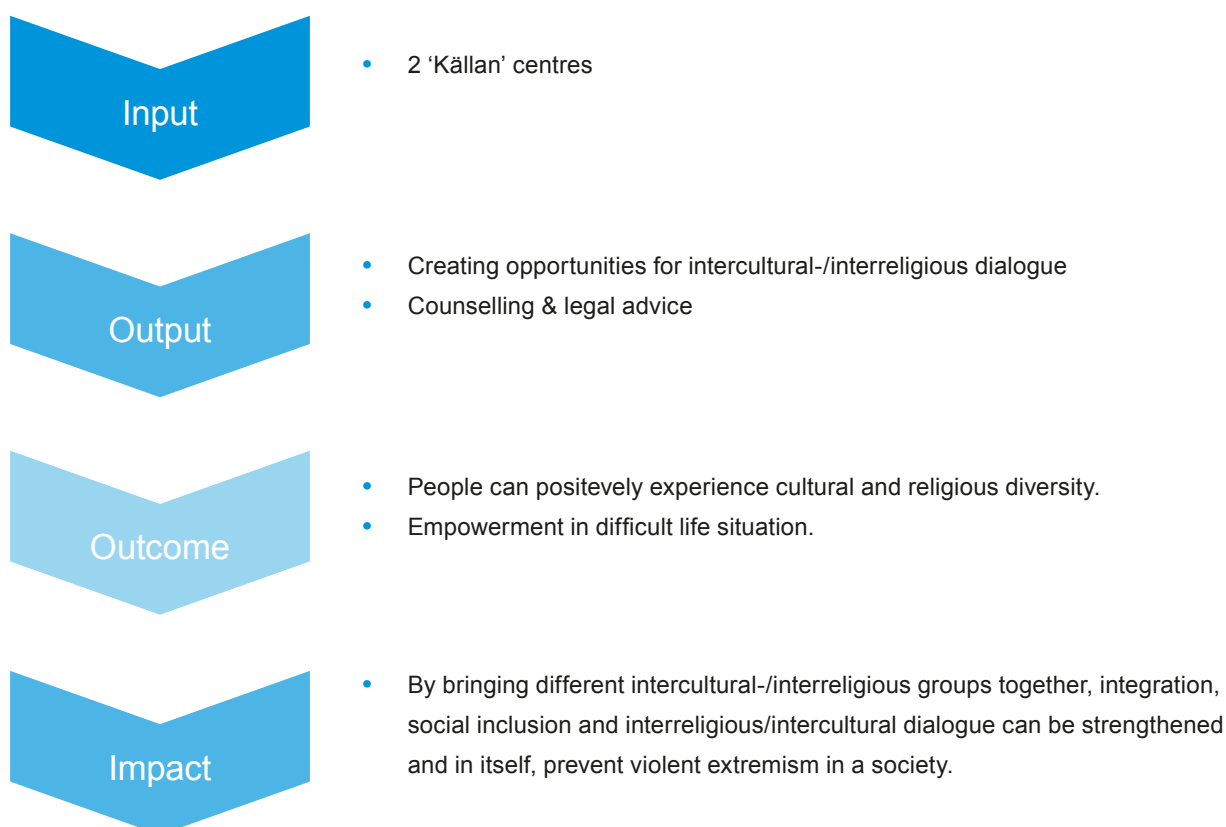- **More information:** www.stadsmissionen.se/fa-stod/kallan-rad-och-stodcenter

Contact details

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Logical Model

Input
- 2 'Källan' centres

Output
- Creating opportunities for intercultural-/interreligious dialogue
- Counselling & legal advice

Outcome
- People can positevely experience cultural and religious diversity.
- Empowerment in difficult life situation.

Impact
- By bringing different intercultural-/interreligious groups together, integration, social inclusion and interreligious/intercultural dialogue can be strengthened and in itself, prevent violent extremism in a society.

Learning Cycle

What can be learned from this project and what they want to improve in the future.

Two positive aspects considered as particularly successful:

- Working partnerships between four different organisations (Stockholm City Mission, Swedish Church, Catholic Diocese, Muslim Association) that has proven lasting and fruitful.
- Feedback from service users about how supportive the environment at 'Källan' is and how that has enabled them and their children to participate more in their local community. As a result, this has led to greater social inclusion.

One neutral aspect considered as "running relatively smoothly"/unproblematic:

- Providing food aid and the organisation of summer camps.

One negative aspect considered to be dysfunctional:

- Collaborations between different actors require a lot of resources and commitment. There is also always a risk that these collaborations are carried by passionate individuals, rather than the institutions/ organisations themselves. This is not an example of bad practice, but an important lesson.

Challenges

The following challenges were identified by the Stockholm City Mission as the most significant challenge(s) in the context of radicalisation prevention work:

- Conflicted field of securitisation

There tends to be a rather one-sided view and agenda that is put forward and brought to the attention of members of the public and policy makers in regard to PVE. The focus tends to be on crack-downs and zero tolerance. By highlighting results of PVE through social inclusion and showing that such measures work - and that they are cost-effective – PVE through social inclusion can be strengthened and play a stronger preventive role in contrast to "hard" security measures.

Policy Recommendations

The following policy recommendations are based on the policy development workshop that was part in [Eurodiaconia's Urban Partnership Seminar](#)[14], held from 17 to 18 May 2018 in Düsseldorf (Germany) and/or from answers given in the process of this study via the online survey or telephone interviews. Furthermore, the recommendations also build upon the Opinion of the European Committee of the Regions (COR 2016) – [Combatting radicalisation and violent extremism: prevention mechanisms at local and regional level](#).

1. On a European level, Eurodiaconia members feel that the EU is lacking a clear vision where the European Union wants to go regarding the vital balance in radicalisation prevention: social justice vs. security. Eurodiaconia members urge to see social inclusion and equal opportunities as a key to a successful security debate.

2. Eurodiaconia members call for sustainable, long-term funding to PVE. Based on Eurodiaconia members' knowledge, short-term projects are not appropriate to create and retain knowledge and to generate real impact in communities.

3. Eurodiaconia calls on the European Commission to provide the financial means enabling NGOs an local authorities to identify and connect people and networks capable to provide PVE measures.

4. To tackle rising radicalisation, the most significant objective should be to strengthen the genuine social and cultural integration, based on a constructive discourse between different actors and on education.

5. Furthermore, poverty must not become a security issue. There needs to be a holistic approach to tackle extremism before it evolves at all through smart social inclusion actions and structural modifications.

6. Eurodiaconia members stress the importance to increase transnational exchange of good practices in Europe in order to learn from different experiences and contexts. However, there is also the necessity to make bad practices transparent, as we learn most from mistakes, which also includes Christian organisations. Honesty and trust need to be at the centre of the debate regarding all policies and actors involved in the field.

7. Hence, political commitment at all levels of governance is a key tool in PVE as well as cooperation with all the societal forces who can be of assistance.

8. Members of Eurodiaconia also see a clear need to provide specialised training for social workers to recognise disturbing changes in behaviour and act accordingly in supporting young people who are vulnerable to violent extremism.

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14   Eurodiaconia 2018: Event report. Urban Partnership Seminar on Youth. Available here: https://www.eurodiaconia.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Event-Report_Urban-Areas-Seminar-on-Youth_2018.pdf

9. Not every activity has to be labelled as radicalisation prevention work. Eurodiaconia member organisations have been active for decades in PVE through social inclusion without explicitly labelling it as radicalisation prevention work.

10. Violent extremism can lead to stereotyping of religions, which in turn is used by the other side, including neo-Nazi and neo-fascist movements, to justify radicalisation. Often enough this results in increased hate speech and hate crimes motivated by racism, xenophobia or other forms of intolerance. Eurodiaconia and its members are willing to play a bigger role in PVE through social inclusion – as acknowledged partner in the fight for social security – and call for more interreligious/intercultural approaches and engagement in that regard. Nonetheless, de-securitisation of prevention work is needed.

11. Eurodiaconia in line with the EESC and countless other organisations (e.g. SDG Watch) urges the Member States and the Commission to enforce compliance with the Sustainable Development Goals and their respective targets, in particular Goals 1, 4, 8, 11 and 16 (United Nations 2018)[15]. Accomplishing these goals could eliminate the main causes of radicalisation and extremism worldwide.

12. Eurodiaconia also highlights the urgency of preventing the presence of deprived non-diverse neighbourhoods dominated by one ethnic-cultural community. Assistance should be given by the European Commission to the Member States and local level in promoting social cohesion and inclusion as a tool in the prevention of violent radicalisation.

13. Eurodiaconia backs the Committee of the Regions recommendation which also considers CSOs and local stakeholders to play a crucial role in developing projects to prevent and combat violent radicalisation that are tailored to their community or organisation and stress[…] the need for a participation and consultation-based approach involving multiple partners and sectors, as violent radicalisation is a multidisciplinary problem that requires multidisciplinary solutions; therefore [the Committee] encourages close cooperation between civil society stakeholders at all policy levels and closer cooperation between the parties working on the ground, such as associations and NGOs.' (COR 2016)

14. Eurodiaconia urges the European Commission to support Member States in conducting information campaigns to raise awareness amongst EU citizens on the issue of radicalisation leading to violence and to encourage them to think critically.

15. Finally, it is crucial to understand that these measures can only be implemented through long-term social investment programmes. Eurodiaconia and its members strongly call upon the European Commission, the Member States and the local representatives to follow this vision and by developing a strong policy for PVE through social inclusion. Eurodiaconia urges all actors involved to keep the long-term impact in mind, that these measures could have on the future of (Social) Europe.

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15   Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

      Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

      Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

      Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

      Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

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