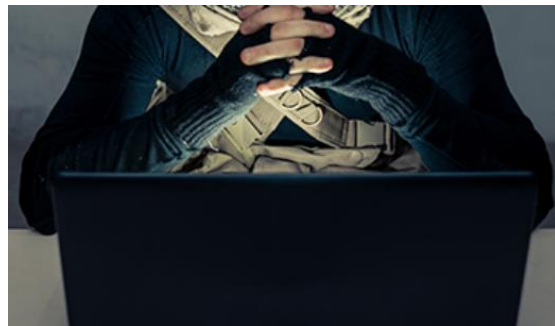


HELP online course on RADICALISATION PREVENTION

Background and aim

In recent years, the European Programme on Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP; www.coe.int/HELP) of the Council of Europe has widened its scope developing courses as a response to societal challenges, including the surge in extremist violence that Europe faces. Radicalism towards terrorism has materialised in the last three years, with terrorist acts in several places in Europe (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Spain, UK). Indeed, countering terrorism and radicalisation – among CoE priorities - is urgent on EU soil. One of the major threats highlighted in the April 2017 annual report by the Secretary General “Populism - How strong are Europe’s checks and balances?” is the surge in extremist violence that Europe faces, showing the damaging effects of hate speech, incitement to hatred and most particularly of Islamophobia. The SG highlighted the importance of human rights education as a “fundamental component of any measure taken to address discrimination, prejudice and intolerance, thus preventing and combating violent extremism and radicalisation in a sustainable and proactive way”.

Addressing radicalisation leading to terrorism and violent extremism is a common priority for both the CoE and the EU. Therefore, joining forces and with EU funding, a Project on Radicalisation Prevention has started at the end of 2017 targeting those countries most affected by the phenomena of terrorism and radicalisation. The project included the development of a new **HELP course on Radicalisation Prevention**.



Learning Objectives:

- Understand the phenomenon of Radicalisation and the **role of justice professionals** in the context of radicalisation prevention.
- Understand the **European standards** in the area of criminal justice response to radicalisation leading to violent extremism and terrorism.

- c) Understand the relevant provisions of international/European legal framework and case law concerning RP and the use of evidence in counter-terrorism cases.
- d) Apply in practice the relevant provisions of the ECHR and Council of Europe standards concerning radicalisation prevention and the use of evidence in counter-terrorism cases.

Target audience

The curriculum is primarily intended for the following categories of professionals in the EU member States and beyond:

- Judges & prosecutors
- Prison and probation staff.

Course outline (8 modules)

1. **Introduction:** overview and concepts (key actors, general focus, action against radicalisation and its limitations, new challenges and legal gaps)
 2. **The International and European legal framework** (legal instruments from the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the European Union; radicalisation prevention and human rights: ECtHR jurisprudence).
 3. **Generic module for judges and prosecutors on issues related to the criminal process** (the radicalisation process: personal features, alternative measures to detention, direct v virtual contact, radicalizing others, self-indoctrination, travelling abroad, contribution to a terrorist organisation).
 4. **Specific module for judges and prosecutors: gathering and use of evidence in counter-terrorism cases** (human rights standards regarding the use of traditional and special investigation techniques; the role of judge and prosecutors in its application in the context of terrorist cases; the role of international cooperation in the recognition and use of evidence in different countries).
 5. **Generic module for prison and probation staff** (cooperation between prison and probation services; security and protection v management of the environment; radicalisation prevention and intervention methods; staff management).
 6. **Specific module for prison staff** (radicalisation in prison; from detection to evaluation; intervention methods).
- Specific module for prison staff (probation and radicalisation; specific skills for probation officers; reinsertion projects and obstacles; minors and other specific groups; work on risks and resources).

7. **Foreign Prisoners** (developed by EuroPris) (effective communication for foreign prisoners; improvement of the prison regime; context with the external world; re-settlement and rehabilitation; staff-related matters: selection, training, specialisation).

Development of the course

The course was developed by the European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (**HELP**) of the Council of Europe with the financial support of the European Union-DG JUST under the EU-CoE project “Radicalisation Prevention” and in close cooperation with Europris

Acces the free online course

The first two modules of the course are published on the HELP online platform <http://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/>.

To access these two modules (in English), you will need to open a HELP account if you have not yet done so (2 minutes).