

**COUNTER-NARRATIVE RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION
AND YOUTH FIRST LINE WORKERS
DRAFT PROPOSAL OUTLINE**

1 Rationale for the Project

Many different forms of extremism are on the rise across Europe and it is acknowledged that radicalisation towards violent political extremism and terrorism is a growing problem in this context. In order to tackle radicalisation, a wider community-based approach is needed that goes beyond the tools and actors of a traditional security strategy. It is vital to ensure that first line workers coming into contact with young people (teachers, youth workers, health practitioners, social workers, etc.) have the know-how, tools, resources and confidence to help prevent radicalisation at an early stage. This must be done in ways that are sensitive to their working norms and practices.

Within this community-based approach, there is a need to conduct counter-narrative work that helps to reduce the attractiveness of political extremist/terrorist propaganda. There is currently a lack of effective counter-narrative resources; governments struggle to deliver this, and the challenge is to find legitimate voices that can appeal to vulnerable young people.

This project is uniquely well-placed to meet the challenge of producing and disseminating effective counter-narrative tools for the purpose of counter-radicalisation because – through the AVE network – ISD has access to victims and former extremists to act as the voice of counter-narratives, and project partners collectively have access to good practice in their production and dissemination, including specifically to education and youth front line practitioners.

The project will produce a series of short, compelling films, produced by specialist filmmakers to appeal to the Internet-driven youth market, supported by an online multi-lingual educational resource guide tailored for the needs of teachers, youth workers and others coming into contact with young people.

2 Project Objectives

The project will seek to meet the following objectives:

- TO CREATE A UNIQUE EDUCATION RESOURCE for counter-radicalisation based on testimonies of victims, formers, family members, friends and practitioners
- TO ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF EDUCATION PRACTITIONERS in formal and informal learning spaces to help counter radicalisation and support young people through the provision of effective counter-narrative resources and training materials in their use

- TO ACT AS A CATALYST FOR IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL RESPONSES ACROSS ALL EU member states through products that are available via the project website and dissemination strategies, with the option to translate into additional local languages
- TO ENSURE LONG-TERM SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION PRACTITIONERS by creating a network for peer support, production of good practice, and lessons learned to local, national, EU policy levels

3 Project Outputs and Methodology

This 2-year project, led by ISD, has expert partners who produce multi-media products to influence attitude change (DR), produce effective educational resources to tackle intolerance and promote pro-social behavior (TFP), work at grassroots with education practitioners (VINK, Cultures Interactive, Violence Prevention Network, Foundation For Peace, West London Initiative and the Political Capital Institute). ISD's Against Violent Extremism (AVE) network of European victims and former extremists will help to create and disseminate the products and guide. ISD has expert subject knowledge and access to policy makers. The project works in 4 member states but resources will be available online for all member states and designed to allow translation into other languages.

The project will deliver the following **outputs**:

A) PRODUCE EDUCATION RESOURCE

SIX 4-6 MIN COUNTER-NARRATIVE FILMS to tell compelling and emotionally engaging stories of those affected by violent extremism/terrorism (victim/former/family member/friend/practitioner). They will be informed by good practice, cover different extremisms, available in local languages and produced to catch the attention of young people used to viewing well-produced content online

MULTI-LINGUAL ONLINE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE GUIDE to provide teachers/youth/community workers with tools to use the films (printable study guide, lesson plans, teaching strategies, discussion points, associated bibliography of print/web-based materials) that are easy to use without specialist training. It will help students to connect the films' stories with the choices they confront

B) TRAINING

PRODUCTION OF TRAINING VIDEO AND ONLINE E-LEARNING TRAINING RESOURCE to ensure that training in the use of the resources can be accessed as widely as possible and to enhance the sustainability of the project and its outputs

TRAIN THE TRAINER WORKSHOPS in 4 member states to produce cadre of practitioners to roll out resource involving partner orgs, NGOs, education associations and local authorities. Two train the trainer workshops will be held in UK, Germany, Denmark and Hungary.

C) NETWORK/SUSTAINABILITY

WEBINARS to offer support after train the trainer/training workshops

PRODUCTION OF GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE ON COUNTER-NARRATIVES to inform future collation/dissemination of victims/formers testimonials

ONLINE E-LEARNING TRAINING RESOURCE to ensure the materials are widely accessible

EVENTS launch event in Brussels; dedicated PPN meeting on counter-narratives

D) DISSEMINATION

ONLINE project website; via local partners, education/community/umbrella orgs, local authorities; social media; webinars

OFFLINE via local partners and as above; specialist outreach; RAN working groups; PPN; EC/CTC; training; press/media; Brussels launch event

The project will deliver through the following **methodology**:

A) PRODUCTS

Product planning meetings to develop detailed film production plans; pre-interview briefing/consent; filming/photography/audio collection; stock material collection; online and in person focus groups in 4 countries; post-production; delivery of product website; creation online resource content; collation bibliography material

B) TRAINING

8 train the trainer workshops (2 in UK, 2 in Germany, 2 in Denmark, 2 in Hungary); 2 webinars; online e-learning training resource, including training video

C) NETWORKS/SUSTAINABILITY

8 train the trainer workshops; online e-learning training resource, including training video; 2 webinars; background research/focus group for good practice guide; dissemination; Brussels launch event; PPN meeting

For more information about this proposal, please contact Rachel Briggs, Research and Policy Director, rbriggs@strategicdialogue.org or +44 (0)7720 402395.