



## PRACTICES IN DISENGAGEMENT AND DERADICALISATION PROGRAMMES OF TERRORIST AND EXTREMIST OFFENDERS IN THE EU AND BEYOND

### What practices are in use in disengagement and deradicalisation programs of terrorist and extremist offenders in the EU and beyond?

As part of the desk research on disengagement and reintegration practices, we collected a total of **48 disengagement and deradicalisation programmes** of terrorist and extremist offenders within the EU, Europe more broadly and world-wide. We exclusively used open-source data communicated by project partners or identified during online searches and other projects, overviews and Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) publications.

Of the **48 programmes** reviewed, 38 originated in European countries. Of these 38 programmes, 29 were from EU member states and 9 from non-EU countries. Using the practices taxonomy developed within EUTEx (see Insights 1 and 2), we discovered the following distribution of **recurring practices across the disengagement and deradicalisation programmes**, with the caveat that some programmes contain more than one practice or no identifiable practice:

- Classic social work (20%)
- Cognitive-behavioural approach (15%)
- Multi-agency cooperation (12%)
- Religious intervention (10%)
- Deradicalization (7%)
- Biographical work (7%)
- Motivational interviewing (5%)
- Other psychological approaches (5%)
- Anti-aggression/anger management (3%)
- Change talk (3%)
- Mentorship scheme (3%)
- Entertainment (3%)
- Working alliance (3%)

Based on **interviews conducted with practitioners on the methods most effective** in disengagement and rehabilitation, considering the **specificities of working with terrorist and extremist offenders** as well as the **training gaps** identified with staff, we **selected** three practices for inclusion in the **EUTEx course module on disengagement and reintegration**.



*We included three practices in the EUTEx course module on disengagement and reintegration: Working alliance, the Cognitive-behavioral approach and Motivational interviewing*

### A closer look into Europe

A total of **38 European programmes** were reviewed, whereas a programme can consist of one or more practices. Out of 88 practices contained in these programmes, the most common were:

- Classic social work (20%)
- Cognitive-behavioural approach (17%)
- Multi-agency cooperation (13%)
- Deradicalization (7%)
- Religious intervention (7%)
- Biographical work (7%)
- Change talk (5%)
- Mentorship scheme (5%)
- Motivational interviewing (5%)
- Other psychological approaches (3%)
- Working alliance (3%)
- Anti-aggression/anger management (2%)
- Entertainment (2%)

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NO. 3PRACTICES IN DISENGAGEMENT AND  
DERADICALISATION PROGRAMMES OF  
TERRORIST AND EXTREMIST OFFENDERS IN  
THE EU AND BEYOND**European Union (EU)**

Within the EU, a total of **29 programmes** with 71 practices were collected and reviewed. The most common practices in the EU were:

- Classic Social Work (21%)
- Cognitive behavioural approach (17%)
- Multi-agency cooperation (14%)
- Biographical work (8%)
- Deradicalization (7%)
- Religious intervention (7%)
- Motivational interviewing (6%)
- Other psychological approaches (4%)
- Change talk (3%)
- Mentorship scheme (3%)
- Working alliance (3%)
- Entertainment (1%)
- Anti-aggression/anger management (1%)

Something worth noticing is the fact that the **fourth most frequent practice in the EU** as compared to Europe or the entire sample is not Religious intervention or Deradicalization but **Biographical work**, which, together with the first three ranked practices confirms the emphasis in the EU on disengagement at the socio-psychological level rather than religious or ideological work. At the same time, Europe and the EU in particular put comparatively less emphasis on Entertainment and Anti-aggression/anger management.

**Outside Europe and the EU**

A total of **9 programmes** with 32 practices were collected and reviewed next to the ones originating from European countries. The most common practices in these programmes were:

- Classic social work (19%)
- Religious intervention (19%)
- Other psychological approach (9%)
- Multi-agency cooperation (9%)
- Cognitive-behavioural approach (9%)
- Deradicalization (6%)
- Entertainment (6%)
- Anti-aggression/anger management (6%)
- Biographical work (6%)
- Motivational interviewing (6%)
- Working alliance (3%)
- Mentorship scheme (0%)
- Change Talk (0%)

Despite the fact that the top frequency persists to be Classic social work, Religious intervention is as frequent as the latter. This confirms the aforementioned finding: **Religious intervention is mostly exercised outside Europe**. Interestingly, the Classic social work approach – the most persistent practice in our conducted research on the whole and at the European and EU level – is as frequently applied as Religious intervention outside Europe. Not applied practices are Mentorship scheme (0%) and Change talk (0%), which could suggest that such practices are significantly more common in Europe than elsewhere.



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## List of reviewed programmes

<p><b>European Union</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DERAD – Network social cohesion, Dialogue, Extremism-Prevention and Democracy - De-radicalisation in prisons (Austria)</li> <li>• NEUSTART Probation Service (Austria)</li> <li>• The disengagement/reengagement path (Belgium)</li> <li>• The manifestation of extremism and radicalisation inside Czech prisons (Czech Republic)</li> <li>• Back on Track (Denmark)</li> <li>• Aggredi programme (Finland)</li> <li>• PAIRS : Programme d'Accompagnement Individualisé et de Réaffiliation Sociale (France)</li> <li>• Research and Intervention on Violent Extremism (RIVE) (France)</li> <li>• EXIT - Germany</li> <li>• Hayat Deutschland (Germany)</li> <li>• Just X Berlin - Prevention and deradicalisation in Berlin prisons (Germany)</li> <li>• Kick-Off - Prevention and deradicalization in the prison and probation services (Germany)</li> <li>• KuBiBe – Culture Education Mentoring (Germany)</li> <li>• NeDiC – Network for Deradicalisation in Corrections (Germany)</li> <li>• PräRaDEx – Prevention of radicalisation, distancing from extremism (Germany)</li> <li>• Radicalisation Prevention and Deradicalisation in Prison and Probation (Germany)</li> <li>• Taking Responsibility: Breaking Away from Hate and Violence (Germany)</li> <li>• EXIT Social Cooperative Society (EXIT SCS) ONLUS (Italy)</li> <li>• Training courses on violent radicalisation and proselytism in prisons (Italy)</li> <li>• Framework Programme for Intervention in Violent Radicalisation with Islamist Inmates (Spain)</li> <li>• Individualised intervention model for juvenile offenders (Spain)</li> <li>• Risk assessment instrument in the Spanish prison (Spain)</li> <li>• Sociocultural and behavioral keys of violent radicalization (Spain)</li> <li>• Entré programme (Sweden)</li> <li>• Inclusion (The Netherlands)</li> <li>• Team TER (Terrorists, Extremists and Radicals) (The Netherlands)</li> <li>• Terrorist Wing Vught (The Netherlands)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non-EU Europe</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable community-based reintegration of Albanian nationals returning from Syria (Albania)</li> <li>• Prevention and Safe reintegration: Holistic Approach and Resilience to Violent Extremism (Albania)</li> <li>• Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism in prisons and within probation services (Phase I) (Albania)</li> <li>• HF II Regional - Enhancing penitentiaries capacities in addressing radicalization in prisons in Western Balkans and Turkey (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey)</li> <li>• Disengagement and Deradicalisation pilot programme (Turkey)</li> <li>• Mentoring Programme (Norway)</li> <li>• From Personal Transformation to Positive Social Impact: IAHV Model (Switzerland)</li> <li>• Al Furqan programme (United Kingdom)</li> <li>• E-learning: Understanding and Addressing Extremism in Prisons and Probation (find more information) (United Kingdom)</li> <li>• Healthy Identity Intervention (HII) (United Kingdom)</li> <li>• IBAANA (United Kingdom)</li> <li>• The Unity Initiative (TUI) (United Kingdom)</li> </ul>
<p><b>World-wide</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blueprint Deradikalisasi (Indonesia)</li> <li>• Rehabilitation programme (Iraq)</li> <li>• Sounding Out Programme (SOP) (Israel)</li> <li>• Tafaquhh Fiddin Programme (Malaysia)</li> <li>• Nigeria's multi-faceted approach with Interventions (Nigeria)</li> <li>• Saudi Arabia Program (Saudi Arabia)</li> <li>• Counter-Ideological programme (Singapore)</li> <li>• Sri Lanka Programme of Rehabilitation (Sri Lanka)</li> <li>• Yemen's dialogue programme (Yemen)</li> </ul>

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### EUTEx in a nutshell

What are the best practices regarding the disengagement and reintegration of terrorist and extremist offenders? How do they work and what are the challenges and gaps we are currently facing throughout Europe in this field?

The EUTEx project takes a hands-on, frontline approach, in that practices are understood as specific approaches and concrete methods beyond the level of initiatives, projects and programmes. How do psychologists in prisons across Europe work and what yields particularly good results in their experience? What new tools, training, and knowledge are needed?

EUTEx focuses on specific professionals in prison and probation who work directly with terrorist and extremist inmates, principally social workers, psychologists and educators. The aim is to develop and provide specialized and in-depth training of the train-the-trainer type.

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