



# SERA

## SEcularism and RAdicalisation

A programme to better fight  
the phenomena of radicalisation in closed spaces  
(prisons, detention centres for sentenced minors, ...) but not only...

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In 2016, when SERA project was selected into ERASMUS+ under KA3 (Support for Policy reforms), the issue of « radicalisation » was somewhat different from today's.



# Evolution in mentalities

From many readings and participations in conferences  
on the topic of “de-radicalisation”

(CEP conference in The Hague -NL- 03/2017, Conference of CAPRI in  
Bordeaux -FR- 06/2017, CE Conference in Brussels – 02/2018),

Professionals are reminded that it is no more convenient to speak about:

- de-radicalisation programme "*we do not de-radicalise*"
- renunciation programme « *they will not renounce* »
- disengagement programme « *they will not disengage* »
- breaking programme, ...

...But our work is to open minds till “they” learn to build their own ideas



Erasmus+

SERA is only one part of a full process with complementary expertises that already exist but have not been linked, unfortunately.



## KEY FINDINGS from DESK RESEARCH in 2017

- Most programmes combine **one-on-one sessions** (usually with a psychologist/counsellor), alternate with **group sessions**
- Many programmes rely on a **tailored approach**
- Many programmes combine **prevention with rehabilitation**
- **Multidisciplinary team** is highly recommended to yield better results
- « **Credible** » **speakers** (such as imams, repentant people,...) may have positive impact on the success of a programme
- Involvement of **family / social networks** of the prisoner is advisable



## KEY FINDINGS from DESK RESEARCH in 2017

- If we have choice, it may be preferable to involve prisoners who will soon be released (*from 6 to 3 months at least*)
- Most of the commitments in programmes are voluntary, but that has its limits
- Completing the programme is crucial but further support should be prepared then proposed to be maintained at its term
- Programme should train « polarized » people to be able to reconsider their beliefs



## Profiles of targeted prisoners/ex-prisoners and/or Publics identified as « at risk of radicalisation/violent extremism »

*People who have planned, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts*

*People who haven't directly helped terrorists but publicly show their sympathy*

*People hardened in prison: they must be neutralized humanely as they represent a threat to society*

*Undecided people who are still in time to return to the fold of society*

*Repentant people who represent only a small number*

*Traumatized people who need health care*

*Passive people who are not cooperating with the Authorities* 7



## Best moments to work with individuals

- When they are considering to re-join or leave an extremist movement (e.g. after a violent act carried out by a radical group)
- When they are about to be released and have to reflect about their future
- While concentrating on their future, not their past, by targeting their objectives and ambitions so to help them to develop a plan to fulfil themselves





# Programmes should include

- **Ideological factors:** it's important to have speakers that are considered credible by participants
- **Emotional factors:** programmes should offer alternative means to help them deal with their psychological and material needs
- **Practical factors:** many organisations offer services which attend to the basis needs of publics and their families. It is crucial that these programmes also aid participants to find alternative solutions (e.g. job, accommodation, education,...)



# Identified dimensions to be developed

- **Psychological rehabilitation** (regular meetings with psychologist)
- **Religious rehabilitation** (discussions with imams/academics about the correct tenets of Islam)
- **Social rehabilitation** to give prisoners a chance to develop their professional skills (e.g. training/employment in prison to enhance their employability when post-released (Governments also have to ensure a number of jobs available for targeted prisoners)
- **Community involvement** as positive « radicalisation »
- **Family support** through a community-based group that offers material and emotional support



**INDIVIDUAL**

*Individual identity work  
/  
Group identity work  
with families*

*Physical Activities  
and Sports*

**COLLECTIVE**

*Beliefs*

*Education*

*Interculturality*

*Psychology*

*Social*

**SERA**  
**Methodological approach**



# Values and Topics to work on

Adaptability – Anti-hate communication – Autonomy – Civic and social attitudes – Communication – Conflict management – Critical thinking – Defense of individual rights – Dehumanising propaganda of extremists – Differences – Digital competences – Empathy – Empowerment and Awareness – Fighting prejudice and discrimination – Flexibility – Freedom – Intercultural communication – Managing diversity – Motivation – Personal identity – Problem solving – Respect – Self-determination – Self-reflection – Sense of duty – Taking responsibility – Team working – Use of medias –...



## 1st Set of Recommendations

Multidisciplinary team of professionals (educators, psychologists, religious referents, supervisors, ...) and volunteers

Monitoring is individual and reinforced while learning is personalized, individual or in group

Their attitudes are characterized by a quest for identity linked to shattered trajectories and unhealed wounds. Goals are to provide this generation of “lost” people with new perspectives.

It's necessary to innovate to hang these young persons



## 2<sup>nd</sup> set of Recommendations

It's necessary to develop the most complete toolbox possible to provide sufficient individualized answers.

Speaking groups are organized to help families to keep in touch with their loved ones, community actions are organized, corporal workshops, partnerships are woven with imams able to bring their lighting on Quran points

It's necessary to build a protective and coherent social safety network with real attachment references as resource contacts



# Mix of Programmes and Processes

Commitment Programme

Social Awareness Programme

Resilience Process

Process of letting go

Prevention programme of rocking motions  
towards violent extremism



## SEERA pedagogical sequences

*4 weeks of intensive programme renewable twice = 3 Cycles*

2 x 3 hours x 5 days (or 5 hours per day x 6 days) = 30 hours

One cycle is 4 weeks = 120 hours

2018 Oct. (4 weeks renewable twice = 360 hours – 3 cycles)





## Mainly based on Pyramid of Maslow

	1st Cycle	2nd Cycle	3rd Cycle
food, sweets, cooking and baking together, typical cultural ingredients...	18	8	5
physical wellbeing, temperature, comfort, sport, yoga, climate...	15	12	8
"stop-line", rules, indicate boundaries, safety...	4	6	4
group dynamic, cooperation, teamwork...	13	16	14
"mirror-line", reflection, read & write...	15	22	24
"value-line", circle of courage...	23	22	25
education Activities (the rest of subjects) Formal or non formal/informal	32	34	40
	<b>120</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>120</b>

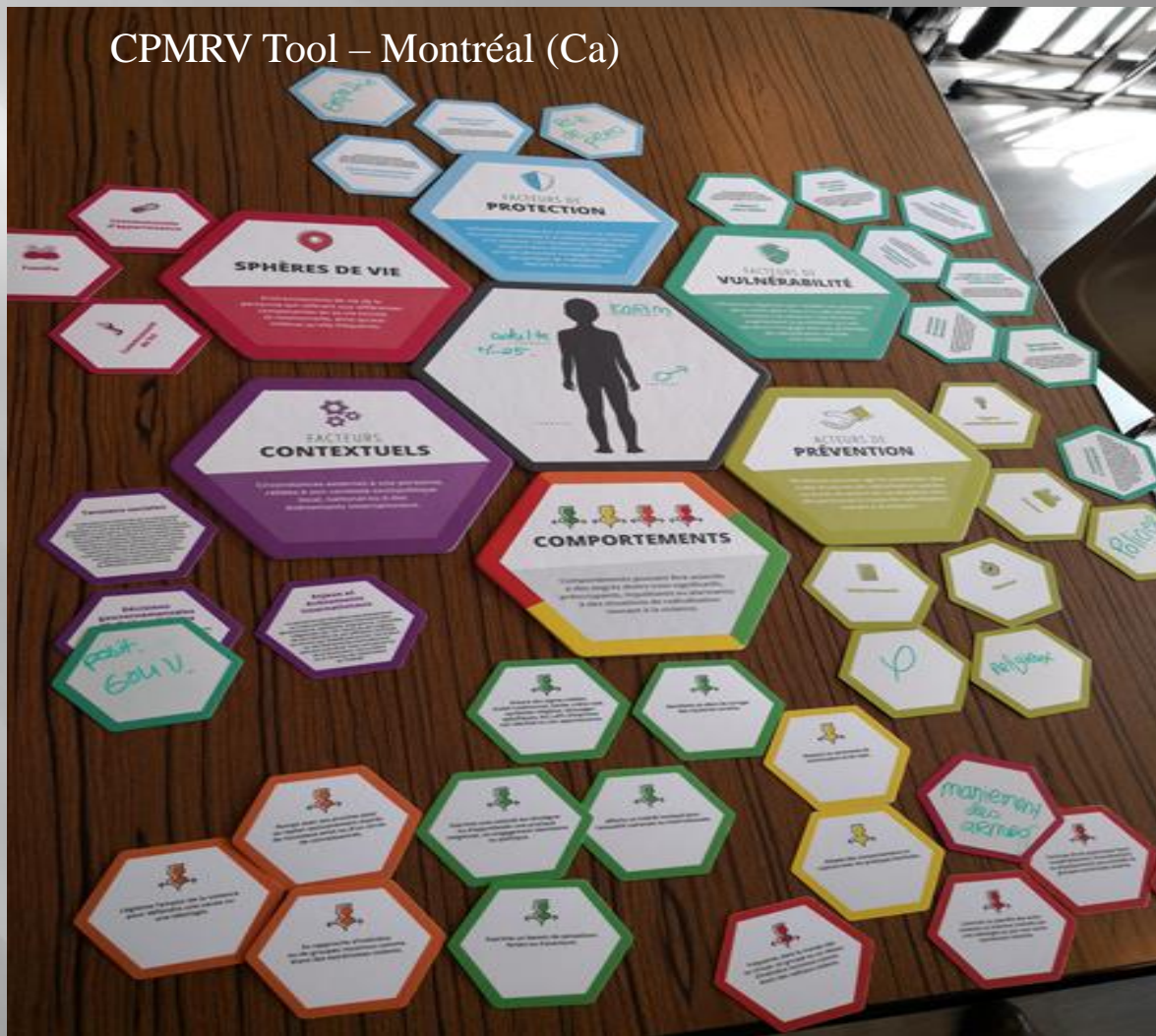


## SEERA in short future

- 1 – To create complementary sequences to reach one-year session
- 2 – *Bridging upstream / downstream programs*
- 3 – To design training course for professionals

# SERA Project

CPMRV Tool – Montréal (Ca)



**Individual  
Assessment  
after SERA  
3-cycle training**



# Manual for User and SERA e-Catalog



Thank you for your attention

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<http://www.euro-cides.eu/SERA/>