



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...

ERASMUS+ Project n° 580247-EPP-1-2016-1-FR-EPPKA3-IPI-SOC-IN



Preambles



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.





PARIS Declaration, March 17, 2015
signed by 26 EU education Ministers

Declaration on Promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education



... without forgetting the well known terrorist attacks in Brussels, London, Berlin, Barcelona, Paris, and so many others in the last 4 years.



Evolution in mentalities

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

(CEP conference in The Hague -NL- 03/2017, Conference of CAPRI in
Bordeaux -FR- 06/2017, EU Conference in Brussels – 02/2018)
and various EU projects’ meetings organized in different countries),

**due to the phenomena of extreme violence and also because the
problematics have changed**, institutions and professionals during these
last years have felt the need to revise semantics.

When SERA was selected (2016)
by the European Commission,
it was common to speak of "de-radicalisation".

Since, through reinforcements of acts, analyzes,
findings, ... vocabulary has changed.

However, it is not so much the definition that interests
us today as the content of what remains constantly to
reflect to meet the ever-changing needs.

At that time (2016) too, SERA was only addressed to prisons environment but now (2019) we know that SERA is as much for prisons as for prevention and even protection.

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

PREVENTION

- KNOWLEDGE of INDICATORS
- RISK ASSESSMENT
- PROTECTION (before)

REPRESSION

- SENTENCE
- DANGEROUSNESS
- SECURITY
- NEEDS (during, after)

- Training of all categories of professionals (and also volunteers) working with “radicalized” people and/or People at risk of radicalization
- Risk assessment and dangerousness
- Reconciliation programme that includes post-release reintegration into society with follow-up

Profiles of targeted prisoners/ex-prisoners and/or Publics identified as « at risk of radicalization/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 Authorities₁₂

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

- Most of the commitments in programmes are voluntary, but that has its limits; it's important to build confidence with someone
- 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

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 (*from 6 to 3 months at least*)
- 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 but also other religions with specialists)
- **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 (and Governments have to ensure a number of jobs available for targeted prisoners)
- **Community involvement** as positive « radicalization »
- **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

SERA
Methodological approach

Beliefs

Education

Interculturality

Psychology

Social



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.

2nd 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



SERA 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
	120	120	120



Manual for User and SEIRA e-Catalog



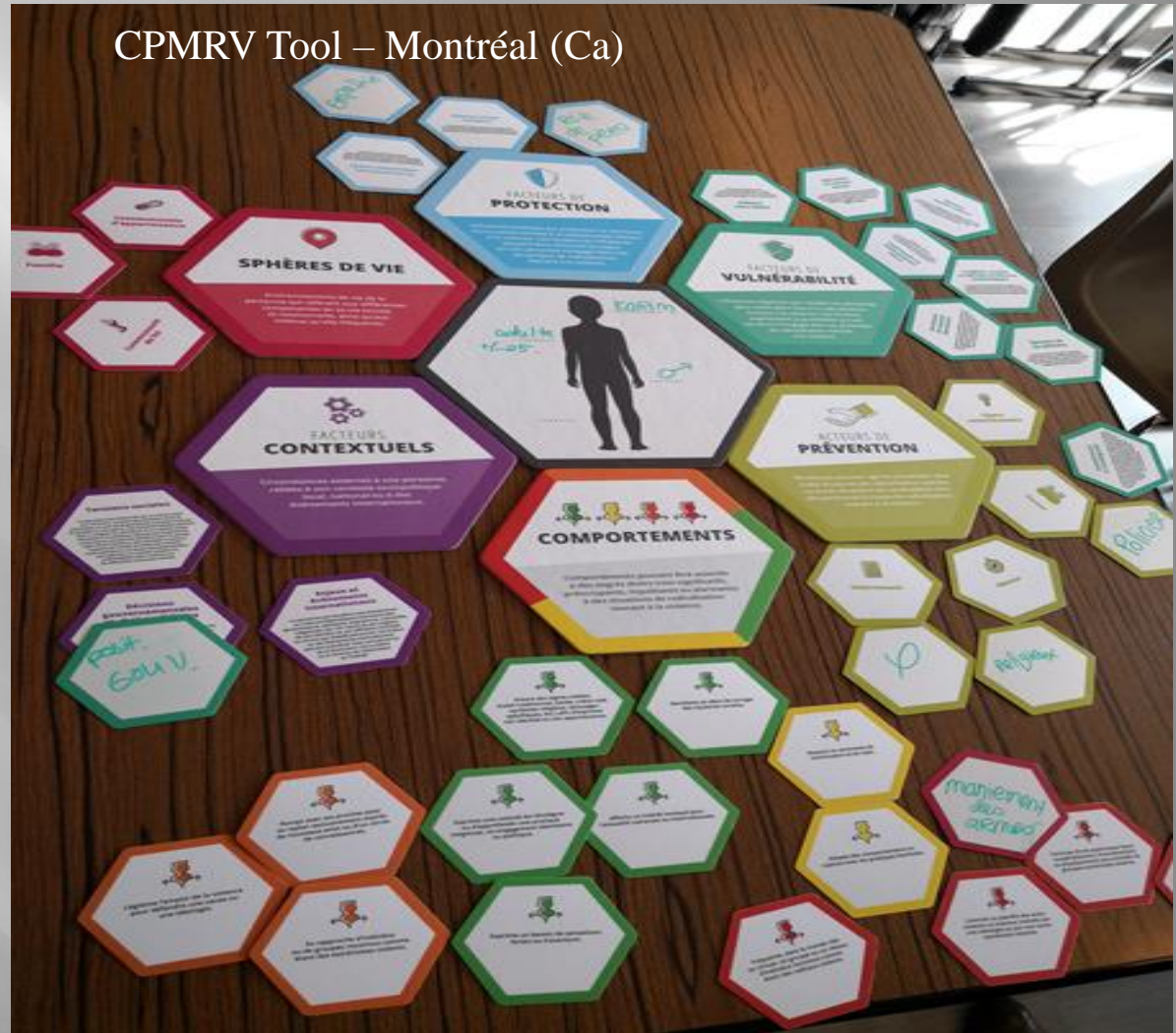
SERA since 09.2018

- 1 – Complementary sequences were added to reach one-year session
- 2 – Bridging upstream / downstream programs*
- 3 – Soon, To design training course for professionals

SERA Project

**Individual
Assessment
after SERA
3-cycle training
then
periodically
(at least 3 to 4
times)**

CPMRV Tool – Montréal (Ca)





SERA structured programme over 52 weeks is :

- 360 hours of open-mindedness and awareness
- 62 (up to 130 hours) of education to civic and moral values
- 80 hours of valorization (16 transversal skills) through guided physical and sports activities
- 20 hours of health education through sport
- 150/200 hours of interviews with clinical psychologist and yoga practices to complete
- 525 hours of professional training (30 weeks) including the preparation and validation of a professional project before release



SERA could thus become a reconciliation programme (in the broad sense) on the following conditions:

- **a multidisciplinary team of specialists**
- **an involvement of governments to create protected jobs with wages**
- **a permanent accompaniment of a professional having the confidence of the "reconciled"**



Thank you for your attention

dominique.antony@cegetel.net

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