



*Malta Police Force*

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# Radicalisation in Malta

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# Agenda

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- ❖ Malta's Counter Terrorism Unit.
- ❖ Radicalisation Awareness.
- ❖ The Process of Radicalisation.
- ❖ Radicalisation in Prison & Prison Intelligence.
- ❖ CTU Approach.

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# The Counter Terrorism Unit

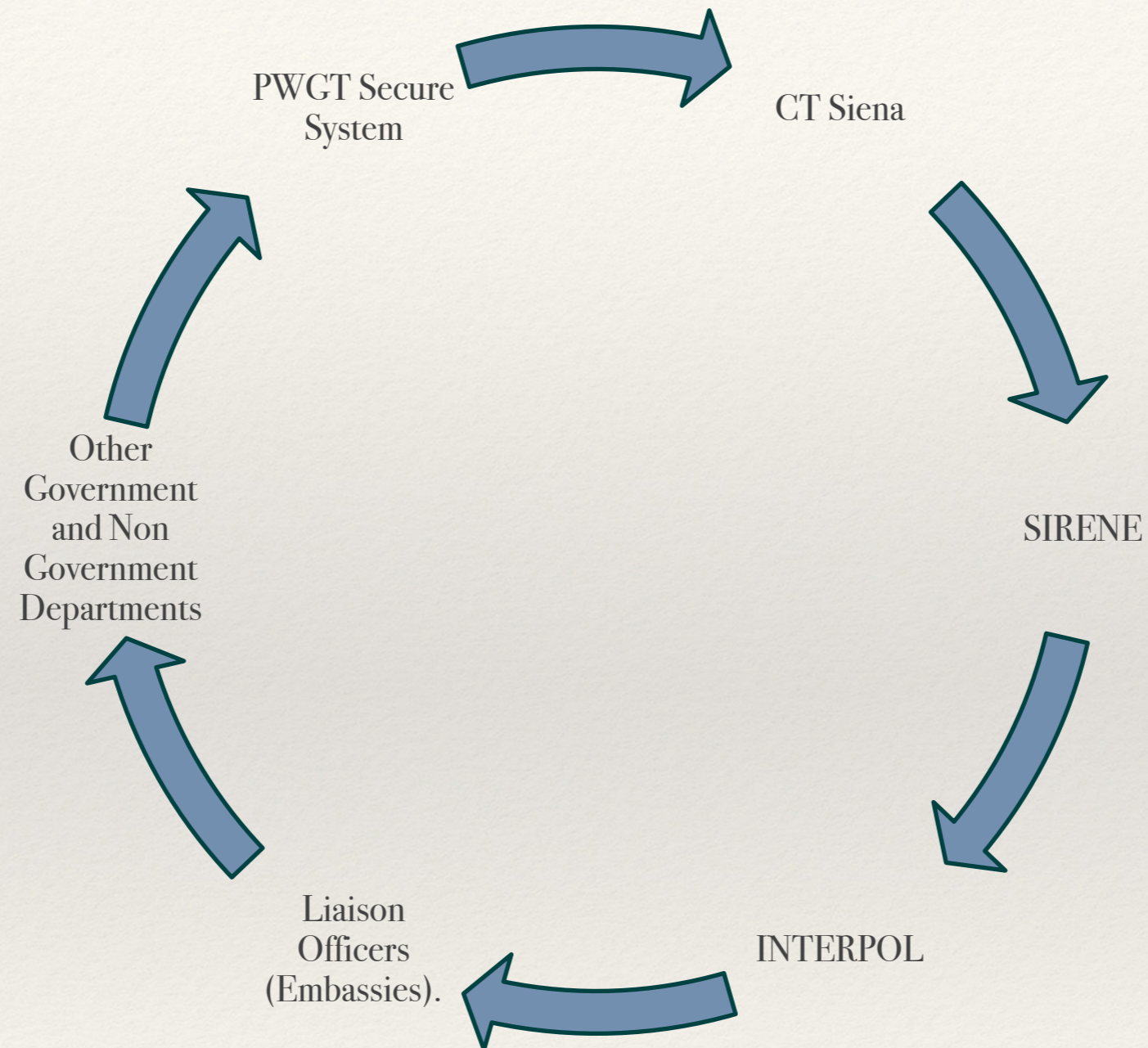
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- ❖ The Malta Police Counter Terrorism Unit was set up in May 2004, and it is manned by a small team within the Police Security Branch.
- ❖ It has been designated to have the leading role in intelligence sharing together with investigations related to terrorism incidents, however it is also involved in the investigations of offences connected to violent radicalisation.
- ❖ To carry out its duties, this Unit is usually supported by other units within the Police Force to assist in ongoing investigations.

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# Channels where Intelligence is received.

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# Radicalisation Awareness

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- ❖ RAN (Radicalisation Awareness Network).
- ❖ The COPPRA Project.
- ❖ National Strategy on Radicalisation.

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# Radicalisation

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- ❖ “Individuals or groups becoming intolerant with regard to basic democratic values like equality and diversity, as well as a rising propensity towards using means of force to reach political goals that negate and / or undermine democracy.”

(EU Council Framework Decision 2002 / 475 / JHA .)

- ❖ “It is a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that;
  1. reject and / or undermine the status quo or;
  2. reject and / or undermine contemporary ideas and expressions of freedom of choice.

(National Counter Terrorism Centre, USA)

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# The Process of Radicalisation

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- ❖ The Process of Radicalisation distinguishes four stages:
  - ❖ Pre-Radicalisation
  - ❖ Identification/Conversion
  - ❖ Indoctrination
  - ❖ Action

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# Indicators of Radicalisation

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- ❖ EVERY Police officer observations and reports can make a difference.
- ❖ Identity.
- ❖ Ideology.
- ❖ Behaviour.



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# Some Indicators

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- ❖ Changing names – Using aliases.
- ❖ Changing clothes style, often to include a specific brand.
- ❖ Change in physical appearance.
- ❖ Tattoos.
- ❖ Possession of propaganda material.
- ❖ Change in religious practices.

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# Some Indicators

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- ❖ Glorification of martyrdom or violence.
- ❖ Becoming increasingly outspoken with an extreme viewpoint.
- ❖ Social Isolation.
- ❖ Committing minor crimes out of disrespect of Government and Societies.

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# Radicalisation in Prisons

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- ❖ 'Hotbeds' of Terrorism.
- ❖ Prisons are highly unsettling environments.
- ❖ Considered of little concern or interest.
- ❖ Most Terrorists do not see themselves as criminals.
- ❖ Concentration, Separation and Isolation.

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# Prison Intelligence

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- ❖ Structured prison intelligence system.
- ❖ Ability to collect, evaluate, collate, analyze and disseminate information related to violent extremism.
- ❖ Co-operation with all stakeholders.



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# Muslim & Other Communities in Malta

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- ❖ As a unit, we have a very good relationship with the Muslim community and other communities. A dedicated officer is responsible for such meetings which are carried out on a monthly basis. Most discussions are based on cooperation between the law enforcement, CT, the Muslim and other communities.

“The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil,  
but by those who watch them without doing nothing.”

*–Albert Einstein*

