



## SERA Project

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001/003

### SERA FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT – Malta 2019

The final conference was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Fifty-two people attended the conference. We had a good mixture of professions, with people coming from the Malta Police (3); the Correctional Services (prisons) (6); the department of probation and parole (13); the Malta Armed Forces (1); the Detention Services (2); The Ministry for Home Affairs (6); the Ministry for Education (1); the Ministry for Health (3); Social Work services (FSWS and LEAP (6); the GU clinic (1); an NGO that works with prisoners – *Mid-Dlam ghad-Dawl* (3) and the University of Malta (7). This was a good mix of professions, both from the law enforcement and the control/care professions, Non Governmental organisations university lecturers, researcher and ministries.

The conference started at 9:00 hours and ended at 13:00 hours with a networking lunch. We started the conference by giving an overview of the project and an explanation of radicalisation in prison. This was followed by the video-conference, where the Maltese speaker – Professor Andrew Willis gave an overview of the problems that the UK is facing vis-à-vis radicalised prisoners. The main emphasis was the problems faced within the prisons but also the problems faces with integration.

Following the coffee break another three speakers gave presentations. The speakers where from: The Malta Police (the intelligence gathering unit); the Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security and a member of the University of Malta who is working on an EU financed programme called FAIR. This project has created a course for prison officers to deal with the phenomenon of radicalisation.

The overall atmosphere was very positive. We were pleasantly surprised that we manage to attract a good amount of people on a very specific type of subject. The interest seems to be very high for such conferences. Although the actual danger from radicalised persons in Malta is low professionals feel that one must be ready in order to address these issues should the matter arise. The networking lunch also proved to be very fruitful as people go the opportunity to mingle and speak with others that work with the same type of people, but from different points.

