Call for book chapter contributors

Abstract deadline: 30th September 2022

Preventing/Countering violent extremism (P/CVE) and de-radicalisation: Handbook of evidence-based practice

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Preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) has turned into a priority for governments and institutions worldwide. At the same time, there seems to be a general consensus among scholars, decision-makers, and practitioners that P/CVE and de-radicalisation policy and practice should be rationale and based on the best available evidence. Besides guaranteeing the strategic employment of limited resources, the evidence-based model prevents initiatives that have shown, through numerous evaluations, no observable evidence of effectiveness from being considered for implementation. As it was pointed out in the past, "An evidence-based approach requires that the results of rigorous evaluation be rationally integrated into decisions about interventions by policymakers and practitioners alike'' (Petrosino, 2000:635).

But beyond systematic evaluation procedures, the evidence-based model relies on the translation of basic knowledge produced in scientific environments to the field in a rational process that starts with the analysis of the problem. The subsequent development of prevention measures involves rigorous methodological steps from the design stage through the evaluation. Although the general concept of evidence-based seems to have been understood by the majority of people working in the field of P/CVE, the steps of program development might be less understood. In this regard, the book intends to offer the reader a set of explanations, and experiences that grasp the full concept of practice based on evidence.

Knowing what is effective is the greatest challenge in PVE and CVE practice. Regardless of whether the ultimate goal of action in this area is to reduce or prevent terrorist-related violence, or to respond to manifestations of violent extremism. It is clear that an effective way to evaluate CVE and PVE initiatives is needed.

One of the main difficulties is, first of all, defining the problem. This determines how radicalisation should be conceptualized, what radicalisation looks like in local communities, whether there are identifiable features of radicalisation uniformly among individuals or each case is unique, and finally how to effectively address the problem at hand. These questions are further closely related to the underlying assumptions of extremism, terrorism, and radicalisation held by the body financing or managing the activity under evaluation (Radicalisation Awareness Network, 2018: 3-4).

Therefore, this handbook on evidence-based practice related to P/CVE and de-radicalisation, focuses on the knowledge and experiences of policymakers, first-line practitioners, and academics in developing an evidence-based practice relevant to the above-mentioned areas as well as the implementation of this practice and its effective evaluation.

Readership (book's target audience)

The book targets a primary audience of practitioners and policy-makers who might have been working on P/CVE and de-radicalisation but also on other crime prevention areas. The book is in general directed to all those who want to know more about evidence-based practice and P/CVE, including academic researchers and professionals. The publication may eventually be useful for teaching purposes in higher education on topics of P/CVE in social, legal, and behavioral sciences.

Abstracts

Please, submit an intended (draft) title and a 300-400 word abstract of your intended chapter to Teresa.silva@miun.se. Abstracts will be revised and considered by both editors.

We request UK-English spelling and APA style referencing.

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Suggested topics for contributions include, but are not limited to:
- Conceptual and historical aspects of P/CVE and de-radicalisation
  - Theoretical framework
  - Known risk and protective factors
  - Past and present initiatives to P/CVE and de-radicalisation
  - Directions to the future
- Design of preventive initiatives
  - General methodological aspects (initiative components, purposeful *program-theory*)
  - Methodological aspects specific for P/CVE and de-radicalisation
  - Experiences
- Implementation of initiatives (methodologic aspects, experiences, actors, and stakeholders)
- Evaluation of initiatives (methodologic aspects and experiences)
- Evidence-based practice
- Producing evidence
- Legal aspects

Once we (the editors) have read and selected the abstracts and submitted the proposal to the publisher we will be in touch to provide further details of the chapter submission, date, and word count. At present, the intended word count for chapters is 8,000 words max.

References

Petrosin, A. (2000). How can we respond effectively to juvenile crime? *Pediatrics, 105*, 635-637.

Radicalisation Awareness Network (2018). EX POST PAPER Evidence-Based Approach Methods: Evaluation and CVE / PVE [online], 21/12/2018, 3-4. Avaliable on: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/system/files_en?file=2020-09/ran_h-sc_methods_evidence_based_approaches_21122018_en.pdf