

GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRACTICAL TOOLS

DELIVERABLE 2.3

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Introduction

One of the key goals of the needs assessment which Pericles conducted amongst LEAS and families was to derive guidelines upon which we can build the tools which Pericles is currently producing.

This brief report outlines the key findings of the needs assessment per tool and suggests some conclusions which we can draw to guide the design phase. First a table presents an outline of how the findings of the needs assessment can be related to each of the tools. Subsequently a concluding chapter describes the implementation of these findings in the development of each tool. This report is based upon the results as presented in deliverable D2.2. For a full overview of the results, please refer to D2.2.

Tool	Seen as useful?	Suggestions for content
Enhanced Platform	Yes	Several respondents noted the need for both national and international cooperation, especially in the sense of a fluid transfer of information and communication about strategy. This is a need which the enhanced platform can be tailor made to meet.
Cyberspace Detection Tool	Yes	Several respondents noted the importance of cyberspace and online presence in the field of radicalisation. This tool should be designed to filter and identify radical statements.
Family Support package	Yes	<p>The needs assessment provided a great deal of content for this tool. This can be summarized into three main points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families are urgently in need of general information about radicalisation and the law enforcement agencies and other agencies they can turn to for help. • LEAs are in need of information and training about how to handle contact with families who have been affected by radicalisation and are looking to them for help. • There is a serious lack of knowledge amongst LEA personnel regarding the family backgrounds of those who radicalise, a fact which is likely to hamper their contact with such families and cannot be enhancing their understanding of cases of radicalisation. • There are concerns from families about being treated as suspects if they approach LEAs
Vulnerability Assessment Tool (VAT)	Yes but some cautionary notes	A VAT should be simple and easy to work with so as not to deliver a greater administrative burden upon LEA personnel than is necessary. At the same time it should not be over simplified, leading to a lack of nuance and in turn to a high level of incorrect results. During the design phase we need to think about which LEA personnel this is appropriate for, how it should be administered and what we would envisage being the consequences of its results.

<p>Skills and Competencies Training</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>There was a desire for training across the LEA personnel respondents. Some respondents stated a desire for regular training, others laid an emphasis upon online training. In terms of content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical implementation of the other tools developed by Pericles would be an obvious choice; • Awareness raising about the importance of having an empirical grasp of the current situation around radicalisation in their own geographical context. Impressions garnered from the media can be very misleading; • General information about radicalisation – what it is, who it affects and how it manifests itself – was the most requested topic.
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Conclusions

Enhanced platform:

- Must deliver increased connectivity between LEAs on national levels;
- Must deliver increased connectivity between LEAs on international levels;
- Must remain updated;
- Can provide a platform for the other Pericles tools, but also for the results of other European projects which address the needs of the respondents, such as TERRA, Sapphire and COPRA, as these deliver the kinds of knowledge about radicalisation which respondents request.

Cyberspace detection tool:

- Must identify and signal radical/extremist expressions on social media.

Family support package

- Should be divided into two sections, one for LEA personnel and the other for families (both will separately be discussed below);

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Family support package LEA's

- Must deliver information to LEA employees on the concerns of families affected by radicalisation;
- Must deliver information on the signs of radicalisation which a family member might notice;

- Must deliver advice on using other civil society organisation to support families in this situation
- Must deliver advice over the obstacles experienced by families in approaching law enforcement agencies and how to handle this;
- Should include tips on managing the expectations of families who approach LEAs in these circumstances.

Family Support Package Families:

- Must be tailored to the needs of families throughout the process of radicalisation – from first concerns all the way through to advice on how to deal with the death of a family member in a foreign country;
- Must cover basic information on radicalisation and warning signs;
- Must detail the kinds of organisations which can offer help;
- Must include a clear description of the role of the police – what a family can expect and what they cannot;
- Must be delivered by way of a separate website which families can visit without the concern that their visit is being monitored.

Vulnerability Assessment tool:

- Should deliver a nuanced picture, e.g. by providing a multi-agency tool;
- Should be designed to gather as complete a picture of the individual as possible;
- Should not deliver a weighty administrative task to LEA personnel.

Skills and competencies:

- Must be able to be tailor made to the geographical location in which it is to be delivered;
- Must cover basic information on radicalisation, even for target groups we might assume already have this knowledge.

General recommendations:

- From responses to our questions on which types of radicalisation our respondents were the most confronted with and which they were the most concerned about, it is clear that there can be some discrepancies on this matter. It is therefore of importance that all the tools lay great emphasis on the actual, current situation in which they are being used. Awareness raising is key here. Our tools should explicitly name this factor.
- The interplay between Islamist radicalisation and right-wing extremism is a concern amongst LEA personnel. These concerns about polarisation should be taken into account when we are developing our tools, for example by specifically naming this phenomenon in our trainings.
- Religious services, mental health services and existing national civil organisations specifically dealing with radicalisation (for example the LSE in the Netherlands) are only mentioned a few times by respondents, in answers about which civil society agencies LEA personnel currently work with, even though they can play a relevant

role in this domain.. This topic should also be addressed in the development of our tools.

- LEAs are in general lacking information about the families of those who radicalise. In order to promote a better cooperation between these groups the tools can address this lack.

Next steps

Please add here a few lines about how the consortium will be following up on these results. How is it ensured the information will be used in the tools?