

SPANISH APPROACH ON VIOLENT RADICALISM IN THE PRISON CONTEXT

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The spanish context

- Closeness to Northern Africa.
- *Al-Andalus*, cities as Ceuta y Melilla, and Caliphate of Córdoba.
- Settlement of muslim communities throughout Spain.



CONDITIONS FOR RADICALIZATION

- Frustration and resentment against society seem to be the main “psychological” traits that are regularly shared.
- The religious dimension offers a framework for personal restructuring.
- Deficient external support.
- Prison environment



RADICALIZATION PROCESS

- Radicalization through a small network of friends.
- Peer to peer
- Individual trajectories



PORTRAIT OF THE VIOLENT RADICALISTS IN OUR PRISONS

- Radicalisation is not the consequence of a long-term religious maturation.
- Their religious knowledge is low.
- No theological dimension,
- Morocco and Algeria

ACTIONS CARRIED OUT ON COUNTER-RADICALISATION



- 1) Directive 8/2014:** Identify, detect and prevent radicalisation in the prison context.
- 2) Directive 2/2016:** Programme to treat and address violent radicalism.
- 3) Directive 3/2018:** Risk assessment tool

THE THREE MONITORED GROUPS



- **Group A:** Sentenced for terror-related acts.
- **Group B:** Recruiters
- **Group C:** Vulnerable prisoners.

CONCRETE COUNTER-RADICALISATION ACTIONS



- Weekly reports from those prisons where prisoners are being monitored. Referral to Central Services in Madrid.
- Direct control by Intelligence Units (monitored and intercepted communications, observation, cell searchings, etc.)

Information from direct observation of the security staff and from regular meetings with treatment teams




THE PROGRAMME

AIMS

- To prevent recruitment activities by charismatic leaders from influencing prisoners who are particularly vulnerable.
- To minimise the chance of re-offending and maximize the chances of integration as a non-criminal citizen in society.
- To prevent individuals from committing extremist offences in the future

THE PROGRAMME

KEY FACTORS

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- There is no easy solution.
 - Flexibility of the programme
 - Prevention for vulnerables inmates


THE PROGRAMME

SHARED PRINCIPLES FOR THREE GROUPS

- Cooperation between staff of security and treatment areas is essential.
- The rehabilitation of the detainees must be a holistic, group effort, with all elements of the programme integrated effectively and complementary to one another.
- Spiritual support is allowed during the imprisonment.

THE PROGRAMME

ACHIEVEMENT INDICATORS

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- Assistance, level of performance and efforts during the intervention.
 - A gradual desistance from violent behaviour.
 - A progressive (not sudden) review of extreme beliefs.
 - A change in their commitments.

Some final considerations on the intervention

- Prevention of violence..
- Flebility of the contents.
- Religion is not considered a key factor of the programme.

SPANISH RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL ON VIOLENT RADICALISM

- ▶ It intends a dynamic risk assessment involving safety and treatment areas.
- ▶ It includes 12 indicators on violent radicalism and 27 indicators on recruitment and radicalism behaviour.
- ▶ Also intended to map treatment targets.

RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL

- WHEN?
- WHAT FOR?
- WHO?
- TARGET GROUP?

WHEN?

- Each two months.

WHAT FOR?


- To detect and assess indicators which can lead to the commission of crimes related to violent extremism.
- To enable decision makings in term of treatment systematizing intervention.
- To coordinate the different penitentiary department, particularly Security and Treatment.

WHO?

- Multidisciplinary approach: Close cooperation between treatment team and security staff.

TARGET GROUP

- HARD CORE TERRORIST INMATES
- RADICALIZED INMATES
- VULNERABLES INMATES

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- ✓ **VIOLENCE INDICATORS.**
 - ✓ **RECRUITMENT INDICATORS**
 - ✓ **RADICALIZATION INDICATORS**


CURRENT BALANCE

- Growing number of prisoners under surveillance and observation.
- Absence of regimental incidents inside the prisons.
- High number of prisoners in accordance with the public prosecution.
- Progressive recognition of the criminal activity.

RAN P&P Practitioners' working paper Approaches to violent extremist offenders and countering radicalisation in prisons and probation

Prison context

- Healthy prison environment
 - Staff prisoner relationships
 - well being and personal development
 - conditions and family contact
 - security safety and control
 - professionalism
- Risk assessment and support
- Prison regime choices: concentration, dispersal or a combination
- Rehabilitation interventions
- Staff training and support



RAN P&P Practitioners' working paper Approaches to violent extremist offenders and countering radicalisation in prisons and probation

- Probation context
 - Releasing and reintegrating VEOs
 - Barriers to reintegration
 - Staff training

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- Multi-agency approach is key: involve NGOs, communities at risk, victims, formers
- Tailor-made interventions, adapted to local circumstances, are key
- Role of the religion (as a service)
- Deradicalisation no: disengagement

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