

www.armourproject.eu

Rolling up sleeves for some hard work

We continue our efforts to provide first line practitioners working with children and youth with an innovative framework for addressing societal polarization.

Do you want to know more about the project or any of our activities?

Are you interested in cooperating?

Or maybe you want to take part in one of our future experimental labs or trainings?

Get in contact via office@armourproject.eu or follow us online!



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ARMOUR - A radical model of resilience for young minds

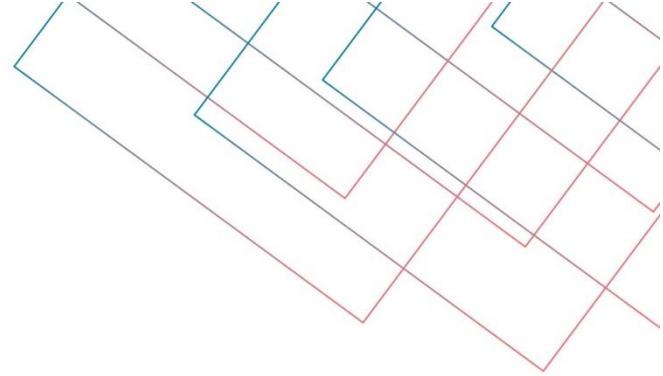


Newsletter #5

September -
October 2019

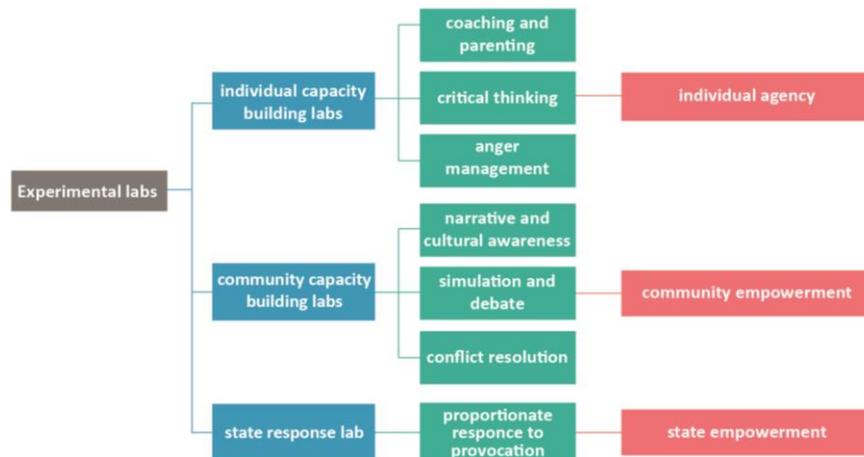
Learn more about the project, its design and structure, the partners involved and the most recent news at www.armourproject.eu!





ARMOUR updates

In the beginning of September, the ARMOUR Team got back together to continue the work under the project with focus on finalizing the project [research activities](#) and continued the hard work on the curricula and content development of the [Experimental Laboratories](#).



ARMOUR participated in a **Poster Contest** organized under the umbrella of the [XXVIII Conference of the Spanish Association of Professors of International Law and International Relations](#), this year entitled: “New world, new Europe. The redefinition of the European Union in the Brexit era”. The event takes place in Grenada, Spain, from 18 to 20 September 2019. The conference covered topics such as: the distinction between the public and private spheres in international and European society; the judicialization of values in international and European society; the EU and the crisis of multilateralism; the redefinition of the judicial space and internal security in the *Brexit* era; etc. The Euro-Arab Foundation for Higher Studies (FUNDEA) represented the ARMOUR Project at the event.

On 24 September 2019, ARMOUR released its [first press release](#) reflecting on the prelude between the research activities under Work Package 2 ‘Mapping challenges, needs, innovative solutions required in the process of prevention and de-radicalization’ and the design of the core project tools under Work Package 3 ‘Experimental labs’, while – at the same time – introducing the audience to the project and its goals.

The University of Malta organized the second ARMOUR focus group on 31 October 2019 in collaboration of the Ministry for Education and Employment. The focus group was attended by several educational practitioners, ranging from assistant heads of schools, counsellors, guidance teachers and ethics teachers. The discussion centred around issues of radicalization among children and young people and how that impacts the school environment. Participants also shared their thoughts on methods that can be used for the early identifications of radicalization and polarization and worked together with the ARMOUR research team in identifying potential solutions for addressing this problem within Malta.





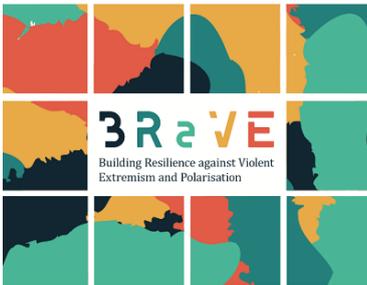
New practical tools and guides for you

ARMOUR continues building a repository of guidelines, tools, articles, etc. developed by third parties and identified by the ARMOUR Consortium as best practices in the social polarization field for first line practitioners working with children and youth. Some new entries are shown below!



The VOX-Pol Network of Excellence is a FP7-funded academic research network focused on researching the prevalence, contours, functions, and impacts of violent online political extremism and responses to it.

They provide for [a series of publications](#) in the field.



BRaVE is aimed at systematising existing knowledge and assessing the impact of policies and practices in preventing extreme ideologies and polarisation in European societies. The [BRaVE Interactive Map](#) allows you to discover relevant projects, studies, policies and institutions which aim to tackle violent extremism and polarisation.

MINDb4ACT works to improve current counter-violent extremism policies generating new ones connecting through collaboration ecosystems to co-design interventions, research actions, exchanges, strategic-policy exercises, training courses and pilot projects based on social innovation and civic engagement schemes. MINDb4ACT has launched a [digital database of court cases](#) and [a case studies catalogue](#) on radicalization, security and human rights.

[ConnectFutures](#) provides for interesting trainings materials, various multimedia content, and research reports. The organization have developed a diverse range of courses to increase understanding about the law, the path into and out of violent extremism, hate crime, gangs, and youth violence, and other intersecting safeguarding concerns, and the practical actions to help prevent and identify risk and vulnerability, available for both adults and young people.



This project was funded by the European Union's Internal Security Fund — Police, under Grant Agreement No. 823683.



ARMOUR presented at the Cranfield University's Symposium on Countering Violent Extremism

On October 22nd - 23rd Dr. Aitana Radu and Ms. Giulia De Vita from the University of Malta attended the [Cranfield University's Symposium on Countering Violent Extremism](#), where they represented the ARMOUR project with a presentation on 'Prevention of Radicalization Among Young People: Building on Best Practices to Design a Multi-Stakeholder Approach in Malta'.

The Symposium organized in the context of the upcoming independent PREVENT review was a good opportunity for practitioners and academia working on CVE-related issues to meet and exchange their knowledge and experiences. The panels addressed a wide variety of topics ranging from promising practices in preventing violent extremism inside and outside the UK to identifying and countering far right online propaganda.

The University of Malta team used Malta as a case study to discuss the wider CVE model designed within the ARMOUR project. The Experimental Laboratories were given as an example of a potentially successful practice that could be adopted across Europe as part of community cohesion building initiatives.

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