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#9 Highlights

Experimental Labs resumed in Spain

Continuous ongoing work under WP4 and WP5 on integrating best practices, training and validation

New practical tools and guides

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ARMOUR - A radical model of resilience for young minds



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





ARMOUR updates



The first half of 2020 was dedicated to the implementation of the **ARMOUR Experimental Labs**. Although some progress was achieved with Labs organized in Romania, Spain, Greece and the Netherlands, the COVID-19 pandemic caused cancellations of already planned events and led to a major delay in the overall implementation of [Work Package 3 'Experimental Labs'](#).

Some of our partners managed to resume their work on the Experimental Labs, others – following national restrictions and specifics of the way the organization of such events may be structured – decided to postpone their implementation for the autumn of 2020.

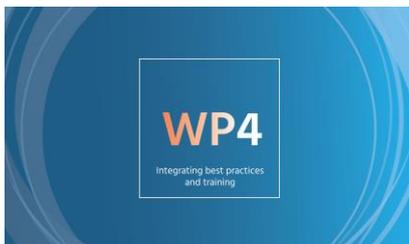
Our partners from FUNDEA belongs to the first group and announced new dates for events in Spain in July. Considering the ongoing restrictions, FUNDEA will provide webinars, as following:

1 July 2020, 5:30 – 7:00 pm, Introduction to radicalisation and its prevention through resilience

6 July 2020, 5:30 – 7:00 pm, Debate on individual's capacity towards autonomy building

8 July 2020, 5:30 – 7:00 pm, Debate on community's capacity towards community empowerment

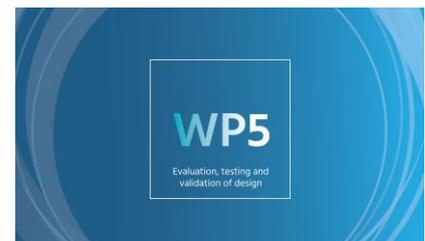
The sessions will be organized in an interactive way incorporating ARMOUR Experimental Labs' scenarios and exercises. They will offer guidelines, techniques, and digital resources to continue improving the educational practices among practitioners.

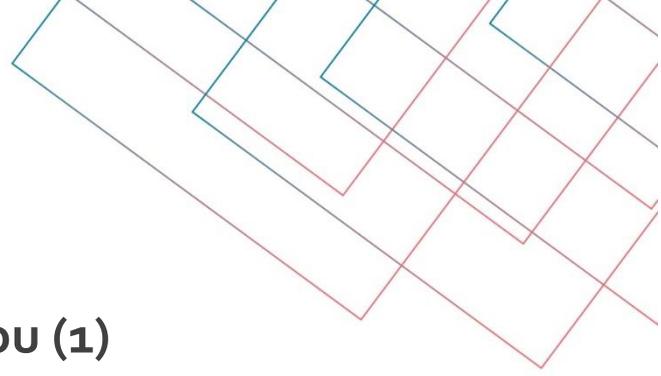


The ARMOUR Team continues the work on preparing the future training of trainers. The preliminary review of best practices in countering radicalization and polarization among young people is ongoing and covers ongoing programmes from Bulgaria, Italy, Greece, Malta, The Netherlands, Romania, and Spain.

Later, [Work Package 4 'Integrating best practices and training'](#) activities will continue with the design of the training-of-trainers' curricula incorporating the Experimental Labs' feedback and the trainings' facilitation.

[Work Package 5 'Evaluation, testing and validation of design'](#) is to carry out an impact assessment of the experimental labs. A rigorous impact assessment methodology is now in its further development and adjustment staged to reflect on the new realities of the project implementation. The impact assessment currently takes place for each Experimental Labs and will continue later with additional activities, thus closing the feedback loop towards the final ARMOUR Toolkit.





New practical tools and guides for you (1)

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!



OSCE published the [‘Understanding the role of gender in preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. Good practices for law enforcement’](#) handbook to support a gender-aware approach for the security sector in preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism.



The EU-funded BRIDGE project (‘Building resilience to reduce polarisation and growing extremism’) aimed at raising awareness among local actors and strengthening their capacity to reduce individual and collective vulnerability to radicalisation while at the same time mitigating the phenomenon of polarisation. As a result of its activities, the project produced a [methodological toolkit](#) for conducting local polarisation audits to assess polarisation at local level.

The EU-funded project [GREASE](#) critically reviews the way religion and religious diversity are governed in 23 selected countries of Europe, Asia, and the MENA region, and examines state-religion relations, highlight cases of religiously inspired radicalisation, and draw attention to vital forms of resilience. As a result, GREASE provides national dossiers consisting of profiles (6-page sketches of religious affiliation, religious freedom, state-religion relations, and religiously inspired radicalization) and detailed reports on each country.



GREASE
Religion, Diversity
and Radicalisation

VOX-Pol has launched a new section on their website, titled [Researcher Resources](#). Its purpose is to collect and categorize information for researchers working in the areas of online extremism and terrorism, including particularly graduate students, early career researchers, and those new to the field. However, it also contains entries of relevance to those with long experience in this research domain.



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



New practical tools and guides for you (2)



The EU-funded project BRaVE presented a [Toolkit](#) that allows one to gain a view of ethnic/racial, religious, socio-economic, political, and gender, sex and sexuality-based polarisation and resilience across ten EU countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, and the UK.

For details on the underlying measures and how they were constructed, a Toolkit report is produced.

Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) has proven to be one of the most important networks for first-line practitioners from around the EU dealing with prevention and countering radicalisation. Within RAN, practitioners can exchange expertise and knowledge, share lessons learnt, and identify good practices and recommendations to support the work of different stakeholders in Member States. [RAN is now looking to renew their expert pool with expert first-line practitioners.](#)



We continue our work to provide you with an innovative framework and tools for addressing societal polarization.

Are you interested in cooperating or taking part?

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

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