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## #10 Highlights

Experimental Labs  
conducted in Spain

Continuous ongoing work  
under WP4 and WP5

ARMOUR at RADPol2020!

New practical tools and  
guides

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## ARMOUR - A radical model of resilience for young minds



Newsletter #10  
July - Aug 2020

Learn more about the  
project, its design and  
structure, the partners  
involved and the most  
recent news at  
[www.armourproject.eu](http://www.armourproject.eu)!



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## ARMOUR updates

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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. They were organized in a different fashion and attended by a group of 15 participants with different background (students, academics, social workers, and researchers).

The first webinar, held 1 July 2020, provided for [an introduction to radicalisation and its prevention through resilience](#). It started with an introduction to the ARMOUR Project and a variety of aspects on radicalisation to provide some theoretical backgrounds on the issue. All participants expressed positive feedback both being interested in the topic and feeling motivated for the next sessions.

The ['Debate on individual's capacity towards autonomy building' webinar](#), held 6 July 2020, explored the issues of coaching and parenting, anger management and critical thinking. The scenarios and exercises offered aim to help practitioners to develop skills and strategies that could support their work with young people and/or their family members to better understand triggers, behaviour, decisions, and reactions, enabling them to prevent them from becoming an active part of the radicalisation/polarisation process.

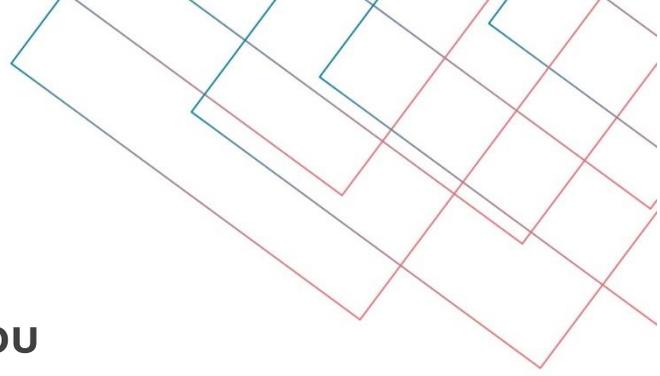
The community perspective was explored in the ['Debate on community's capacity towards community empowerment' webinar](#), held 8 July 2020, with focus on the importance of the narrative, conflict resolution and debate and simulation techniques. The scenarios and exercises are applicable in interventions targeted at young individuals that are either vulnerable to or in the process of radicalisation and aim to advise, promote, and assist participants in internalizing the skills necessary for positive resolve of tensed situations and conflicts.

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Translations and special online versions of the Experimental Labs materials are envisaged.

The ARMOUR Team also continued their work under [Work Package 4 'Integrating best practices and training'](#) and [Work Package 5 'Evaluation, testing and validation of design'](#) to ensure timely implementation of the project as best as possible.





## 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!



After three year of collaborative research, MINDb4ACT presented a 'Cluster of Policy Briefs' with a summary of the efforts the consortium undertook to achieve the European expectations. The report aims at showing the complexity of the project, analysing the topic of radicalisation from different angles, and reaching diverse audiences (i.e., academics, policymakers, private sector, stakeholders, private sector).



RESOLVE's research [toolkits and trainings for researcher and non-researcher audiences](#) seek to provide participants with instructive resources, tools, and avenues for the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and best practices for those conducting and using research to address violent extremism.

The GREASE project has developed [a set of socio-political indicators](#) for assessing [how religious diversity is governed in different parts of the world](#). These Indicators (metrics) can be applied using the GREASE Toolkit and relate to four key vectors: degree of political secularism, governance of religious diversity, level of (violent) religious radicalization, and efforts to address such radicalization.



**GREASE**  
Religion, Diversity  
and Radicalisation

In 2020, the RAN is developing [a series of 'roadmaps'](#) which establish how the RAN will tackle some of the priority P/CVE issues of the day: violent right-wing extremism, returning foreign terrorist fighters, in-prison rehabilitation, and Islamist extremism. The roadmaps are live documents, hosted on the RAN website, which will be regularly updated to inform practitioners on future activities in 2020 and beyond.

Radicalisation Awareness Network



Further information on tools, articles, and events can be found in [our website's News Section](#).



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## ARMOUR at RADPol2020!



The RADPol2020 conference, titled “Radicalisation in Central and Eastern Europe – trends, challenges and opportunities to counteract”, was held as a series of online events on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020, and 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020. The event was a joint effort of three European projects: [CHAMPIONS](#), [MINDb4ACT](#) and [BRaVE](#). A summary of the conference, including video recordings and presentations, is available [here](#).



Dr. Cristina Ivan, “Mihai Viteazul” National Intelligence Academy, presented during the third webinar focusing on the need for multi-agency approaches and/or multi-stakeholder collaboration. She provided a concrete example for such collaboration illustrating the work done in the ARMOUR project and presenting in detail the Experimental Labs developed. The audience appreciated the approach presented and further discussed its application.

**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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